

OFFICE OF REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS FY 2014



**U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Office of Refugee Resettlement**





TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
KEY FEDERAL ACTIVITIES	
Congressional Consultations	1
ORR Domestic Programs	2
Performance Outcomes for Eligible Populations*	3
INTRODUCTION	4
I. ORR DOMESTIC PROGRAMS	6
Eligible Populations	6
<i>Amerasians</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Cuban and Haitian Entrants.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Asylees.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Special Immigrants</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Other Categories Eligible for ORR Assistance and Services.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Initiatives, Highlights, and Collaborations.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Unaccompanied Children</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Introducing, the CNCS Refugee AmeriCorps</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Case Management.....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Anti-Trafficking in Persons</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Partnership Building</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Health Initiatives.....</i>	<i>9</i>
ORR Domestic Programs	10
<i>Table I-1: ORR Appropriation FY 2014</i>	<i>10</i>
1. State Administered Program	11
• <i>Cash and Medical Assistance</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Table I-2: CMA, Social Services and Targeted Assistance Obligations 2014 (by State in dollars)*</i>	<i>11</i>
• <i>Social Services</i>	<i>13</i>
• <i>Targeted Assistance</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Table I-3: Targeted Assistance 2013 (by County).....</i>	<i>13</i>
2. Unaccompanied Refugee Minors	14
<i>Legal Authority.....</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>FY 2014 Program Statistics.....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Chart I-1: FY 2014 URM by Geographic Region.....</i>	<i>16</i>

Chart I-2: FY 2014 URM by Category of Eligibility.....	17
Chart I-3: FY 2014 URM by Category of Placement Type	17
3. Alternative Programs	18
Public/Private Partnerships.....	18
Wilson/Fish Alternative Program.....	18
Table I-4: Wilson/Fish Grantees.....	20
Resettlement Agencies Matching Grant Program.....	21
Table I-5: Breakdown of Match Grant Enrollment by Immigration Status	23
Table I-5a: Church World Service (CWS).....	23
Table I-5b: Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the U.S.A. (EMM)	23
Table I-5c: Ethiopian Community Development Council (ECDC)	24
Table I-5d: Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)	24
Table I-5e: International Rescue Committee (IRC).....	24
Table I-5f: Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS)	24
Table I-5g: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)	25
Table I-5h: U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI)	25
Table I-5i: World Relief (WR).....	25
Table I-5j: Highlights of All Local Service Providers with More Than 140 Enrollments	26
4. State Administered Program Outcomes	29
• Partnerships to Improve Employment and Self-Sufficiency Outcomes.....	29
• Performance Summary.....	29
Table I-6: FY 2013 and FY 2014 Performance Outcomes for All States and California Counties.....	31
5. Discretionary Grants.....	38
• Individual Development Account Program	38
Table I-7: FY 2014 Individual Development Account Grantees	39
• Targeted Assistance Discretionary Grants.....	40
Table I-8: FY 2014 Targeted Assistance Discretionary Grantees	41
• Technical Assistance	42
Table I-9: FY 2014 Technical Assistance Grantees.....	42
• Microenterprise Development Program	43
Table I-10: FY 2014 Microenterprise Development Program Grantees	44
• Refugee Home-Based Child Care Microenterprise Development Program.....	44
Table I-11: HBCC-MED Grantees FY 2014.....	46
Table I-12: FY 2014 Refugee Agricultural Partnership Program Grantees	48
• Preferred Communities Program.....	49
Table I-13: FY 2014 Preferred Communities Program Grantees	51
• Ethnic Community Self-Help Program	53
Table I-14: FY 2014 Ethnic Community Self-Help Program Grantees	55
• Refugee Health Promotion.....	56
Table I-15: FY 2014 Refugee Health Promotion Program Grantees.....	56
• Cuban/Haitian Grants.....	58
Table I-16: FY 2014 Cuban/Haitian Discretionary Program Grantees.....	58
• Refugee School Impact	58
Table I-17: FY 2014 Refugee School Impact Program Grantees	59
• Services for Elderly Refugees.....	60
Table I-18: FY 2014 Services to Elderly Refugees Program Grantees	60
• Services for Survivors of Torture Program	61
Table I-19: FY 2014 Survivors of Torture Program Grantees.....	62

6. Victims of Trafficking	64
Table I-20: FY 2014 Certification and Eligibility Letters	64
Table I-21: Top Five Countries of Origin of Adult Victims of Trafficking Who Received Certification Letters in FY 2014.....	65
Table I-22: Top Four Countries of Origin of Child Victims of Trafficking Who Received Eligibility Letters in FY 2014.....	65
Table I-23: Individual Clients Who Received Case Management Services via Per Capita Grants in FY 2014	66
Table I-24: Breakdown of All Victims Served Under Per Capita Grants in FY 2014.....	66
Table I-25: Types of Calls Received by the NHTRC in FY 2014.....	68
7. Unaccompanied Children Program	70
• Program Expansion	70
Chart I-4: FY 2014 Unaccompanied Children Referrals by Month.....	72
• Gender of Unaccompanied Children.....	72
Chart I-5: Unaccompanied Children—Country of Origin	73
Chart I-6: Sponsor Relationship to Unaccompanied Children in FY 2014.....	73
Table I-27: Total Number of UC Released to Sponsors by State in FY 2014.....	75
• Child Advocates	76
• Monitoring Results	77
8. U.S. Repatriation Program	78
• Program Statistics	78
Table I-28: Summary of Services Provided FY 2012 through FY 2014.....	78
• Repatriation Loan Collection and Loan Waivers.....	78
II. REFUGEES IN THE UNITED STATES	79
IIA. NATIONALITY OF U.S. REFUGEE POPULATION	79
Table II-1: Summary of Refugee Arrivals by Region for FY 2009-FY 2014	80
Table II- 2: Countries by Region.....	80
Table II-3: Summary of Admissions for Near East/South East Asia for FY 2009-FY 2014	81
Table II-4: Summary of Admissions East Asia for FY 2009-FY 2014	82
Table II-5: Summary of Admissions for Africa for FY 2009-FY 2014.....	82
Table II-6: Summary of Refugee Arrivals for FY 2014.....	83
• Geographic Location of Refugees	83
Table II-7: Summary of Refugee Arrivals by State for FY 2009-FY 2014.....	84
Table II-8: Summary of Refugee Arrivals by State for FY 2014.....	85
Secondary Migration	86
IIB. EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE STATISTICS	87
The Annual Survey of Refugees 2014	87
Overview: Economic Adjustment	87
• Measures of Employment	88
• Employment Status	88
Table II-10: Employment Status of ASR Respondents by Survey Year and Gender	90
Chart II-1: Employment Rate of Refugees and U.S. Population by Survey Year.....	91
TABLE II-11: Employment Status of Selected Refugee Groups by Gender: 2014 Survey.....	91
Chart II-2: Reason not looking for Work for Refugees 16 years or older.....	92
Other Measures of Employment Experiences.....	93
Chart II-3: Percent of Refugees Who Worked in the Year Prior to the Survey and Average Number of Weeks Worked, by Year of Arrival.....	93
TABLE II-12: Work Experience of Adult Refugees by Year of Arrival: 2014 Survey.....	93
Chart II-4: Elapsed Time to First Job for Refugees Who Have Worked by Survey Year.....	94
• Factors Affecting Economic Integration	94

- *Education, English Language, and Training* 95
 - Table II-13: Education and English Proficiency Characteristics of Selected Refugee Groups* 95
 - Table II-14:– English Language Proficiency and Acquisition, By Year of Arrival*..... 96
 - Chart II-5b: Percent of Refugees Speaking English “Well or Very Well” At Arrival and 2014 Survey, By Year of Entry* 98
 - Chart II 5c: Employment Rate (EPR) by Year of Arrival and English Language Proficiency, Fall 2014*..... 99
 - Table II -15: English Language and Job Training Received by Selected Refugee Groups by Year of Arrival: 2014 Survey*..... 100
- *Sources of Income and Support*..... 101
 - Table II-16: Average Hourly Wages, Home Ownership, and Source of Income, by Year of Arrival* 102
 - Table II-17: Average Hourly Wages, Home Ownership, and Source of Income, by Survey Year*..... 102
 - Table II-18: Source of Medical Coverage by Selected Refugee Groups and Year of Arrival* 103
 - Table II-19: Source of Medical Coverage by Selected Refugee Groups and Year of Survey*..... 104
- *Public Assistance Utilization by ASR 2014 Households* 105
 - Table II-20: Public Benefits Utilization by Year of Arrival, 2014 Survey* 105
 - Chart II-6: Public Benefits Receipt by Year of Arrival, 2014 Survey*..... 106
 - Table II-21: Public Assistance Utilization by Selected Refugee Groups*..... 107
 - Table II-22: Public Assistance Utilization by Selected Refugee Groups by Year of Survey* 107

IIC. SUMMARY 109

TECHNICAL NOTES

HISTORY/PURPOSE OF THE ANNUAL SURVEY OF REFUGEES 110

Eligible Arrival Cohorts 110

Table II-23: Arrival Time Frames, Cohort Years, and ASR 2014 Cohort N and Response Rate..... 111

Table II-24: Unweighted Number of ASR 2014 Households, by Calendar Year of U.S. Arrival..... 111

Cohort Sampling and Non-Response..... 111

Geographical Representativeness 112

Table II-25: Major Subpopulations by Geographic Region (Percent of ASR 14 Households) 112



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 Fiscal Year (FY) 2014, from October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014. It is the forty-seventh in a series of reports to Congress on refugee resettlement in the United States (U.S.) since FY 1975 and the thirty-fourth to cover an entire year of activities carried out under the comprehensive authority of the Refugee Act of 1980.

The following information is submitted in compliance with 8 U.S.C. §1232(c)(6)(D), which requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to annually report to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, on the activities undertaken to authorize the appointment of independent child advocates for trafficking victims and vulnerable unaccompanied children.

KEY FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

Congressional Consultations

Following consultations with Congress, the President set a worldwide refugee admission ceiling at 70,000 for FY 2014. This included 17,500 for Africa, 14,700 for East Asia, 1,000 for Europe, 4,300 for Latin America and the Caribbean, and 32,500 for the Near East Asia and South Asia.

OFFICE OF REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT (ORR) POPULATIONS SERVED IN FY 2014*

Refugees	70,000
SPECIAL IMMIGRANT VISA ARRIVALS (SIVs)	13,000
CUBAN-HAITIAN ENTRANTS	32,000
ASYLEES	25,000
VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING	700
UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN	58,000

* Numbers are rounded



Photo: Courtesy of USCRI

Refugee Population Profile

- Refugees from Near East Asia and South Asia constituted the largest percentage of arrivals between FY 2009 and FY 2014. Forty-nine percent of the 403,000 refugees who arrived in the U.S. between FY 2009 and FY 2014 have fled from nations of Near East Asia and South Asia.
- Iraq was the country of origin for the largest number of refugee arrivals between FY 2009 and FY 2014. Ninety-eight thousand refugees came from Iraq, followed by 97,000 from Burma, 73,000 from Bhutan, 34,000 from Somalia, 23,000 came from Cuba and the remainder totaling 78,000 came from other countries.



- Refugee arrivals in FY 2014, included 20,000 from Iraq, 15,000 from Burma, 9,000 from Somalia, 8,000 from Bhutan, and 5,000 from the Democratic Republic of Congo. The remaining 13,000 arrivals came from 52 other countries ([see Table II-6](#)).
- Texas (7,000) received the largest number of arrivals in FY 2014, followed by California (6,000), New York (4,000), Michigan (4,000), and Florida (4,000). The remaining 45,000 refugee arrivals went to other states (with the exception of Wyoming). The State of Wyoming does not participate in the State Administered Refugee Resettlement Program.

ORR Domestic Programs

- **Appropriations:** In FY 2014, the Secretary executed her transfer authority to provide approximately \$44 million to the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) for a total appropriation level of \$1.528 billion. This funding was issued to providers specializing in services for refugee populations, SIVs, Cuban-Haitian entrants, asylees, victims of trafficking, and unaccompanied children.
- **Refugee Cash and Medical Assistance:** Grants totaling \$294.1 million awarded to states to provide up to eight months of assistance to newly arriving refugee populations.
- **Resettlement Agency Matching Grant Program:** Cooperative agreements awarded to voluntary resettlement agencies totaled \$65.3 million. Under this program, federal funds are matched by national voluntary resettlement agencies to provide employment related assistance and services to refugees, and other eligible populations.
- **Wilson/Fish Alternative Projects:** Grants totaling \$27.0 million awarded to 12 state-wide Wilson/Fish projects and one county-wide project for cash and medical assistance.
- **Social Services:** Formula grants awarded to states and non-profit organizations (for Wilson/Fish Alternative Program states) totaled \$80.0 million for a broad range of services for refugees, such as English language training and employment services. Discretionary grants awarded on a competitive basis to public and private non-profit agencies to address critical issues facing refugees and other eligible populations totaled \$68.7 million.
- **Targeted Assistance:** Formula grants awarded to states for counties with large numbers of refugees totaled \$47.6 million to supplement available services to assist refugees in securing employment.
- **Refugee Health Promotion:** Grants totaling \$4.6 million awarded to state and local health departments to support coordination and promotion of refugee health.
- **Anti-Trafficking in Persons Program:** Grants and contracts awarded to non-profit and local government organizations totaled \$10.8 million to identify and assist foreign-born victims of human trafficking in becoming certified and accessing benefits to the same extent as refugees.
- **Survivors of Torture Program:** Grants to non-profit organizations totaled \$10.5 million to provide services to survivors of torture, including treatment, rehabilitation, and social and legal services.
- **Unaccompanied Children (UC) Program:** Grants and contracts to organizations to provide shelter care and other services for approximately 58,000 children totaled \$884.6 million.
- **Program Support:** ORR obligated \$35.0 million to support salary and benefits, overhead, IT support, monitoring and other various support costs.



Performance Outcomes for Eligible Populations*

- Caseload of those services provided in FY 2014 totaled 97,530, representing a 10 percent increase from FY 2013 (89,025).
- Entered Employment totaled 46,114 or 47 percent of the total caseload (97,530), representing a two percent decrease from FY 2013 (43,915 or 49 percent of total caseload of 89,025).
- Terminations due to Earnings totaled 14,294 or 54 percent of those entering employment who had received cash assistance. This was a one percent increase from FY 2013 (13,077 or 53 percent).
- Reductions due to Earnings totaled 3,290 or 12 percent of those entering employment who had received cash assistance. This was a three percent decrease from FY 2013 outcome (3,620 or 15 percent).
- Average Wage at Placement for those entering full-time employment was \$9.59, a \$0.14 increase from the average wage in FY 2013 (\$9.45).
- Employment Retention totaled 35,191 for a retention rate of 77 percent, representing a two percent increase from FY 2013 outcome (31,742 or 75 percent).
- Entered Employment with Health Benefits reached 23,719 or 63 percent of those entering full-time employment having health benefits available through their employer. This was a two percent increase from FY 2013 (21,848 or 61 percent).

*Note: ORR eligible populations include Refugees, SVs, Cuban-Haitian Entrants, Asylees, and Victims of Trafficking. Outcomes apply to overall populations.

INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT PROGRAM KIBROM MILASH AND TIRHAS HAILU—ERITREA

Kibrom Milash and Tirhas Hailu, are originally from Eritrea. They became refugees in 2008 when they fled to Ethiopia where they lived in a refugee camp for five years. In the camp, they started and ran a successful restaurant and café.

The family resettled to the U.S. in 2013 and soon began working on opening a restaurant. They enrolled in the ASSETS IDA program, and saved \$4,000.00 of their own money which was then matched with a \$4,000 IDA grant. Kibrom and Tirhas then used the combined \$8,000 to equip a commercial kitchen for their new restaurant featuring Eritrean and Ethiopian cuisine.

They are delighted to report that the restaurant has been very successful and they look forward to its continued growth!



Photo credit: Anita Brunner of Jannus, Inc.



INTRODUCTION

Consistent with the mission of the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) of promoting the economic and social well-being of children, youth, families and communities, the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) remains wholly committed to its humanitarian obligation to serve the most vulnerable populations in this country. ORR carries out this mission through its various grants and services, administered at the state government level and via non-profit organizations, within an extensive public-private partnership network.

The commitment to helping refugees and other vulnerable populations — including asylees, Cuban/Haitian entrants, unaccompanied refugee minors, victims of torture, unaccompanied children, victims of human trafficking, and repatriated U.S. citizens — remains as strong as ever. ORR understands that refugees have inherent capabilities and it strives to provide the benefits and services necessary to help refugees and other vulnerable populations become self-sufficient and integrated members of American society.

Over the past several years, ORR programs have expanded significantly, creating policy and procedural challenges for the office and its partners. ORR operates six multifaceted programs: Unaccompanied Children, Anti-Trafficking in Persons, Refugee Resettlement, Survivors of Torture, Unaccompanied Refugee Minors, and Repatriation. With the increasing need to manage day-to-day activities and simultaneously develop and interpret policies, regulations, and initiatives, these programs require significant on-going policy development, analysis, and liaison with several federal partners. As a result, ORR created a new, distinct Division of Policy, to advise the Director and Division heads on policy initiatives, and navigate the growing and challenging mandates of these programs.

In FY 2014, ORR continues to receive significant increases in referrals from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The unanticipated rate of referrals required the Unaccompanied Children's (UC) program to expand physical capacity and staffing through the use of temporary facilities, and stretched funding authorization at a historic rate. In total, ORR placed 57,496 children in 124 facilities in 15 states by the end of the fiscal year. Nearly 20,000 children were placed during May and June alone, representing 34 percent of the annual total for FY 2014.

During the height of the summer influx, ORR coordinated with the Department of Defense (DoD) to use temporary space on three DoD installations (Fort Sill in Oklahoma, Port Hueneme Naval Base in California, and Joint Base San Antonio (Lackland) in Texas). ORR remains grateful for the assistance of DHS and the Department of Defense, which was instrumental in helping ORR attend to the critical protection needs of the children by providing temporary shelter on the three bases.

In FY 2014, the Division of Refugee Health (DRH) launched several key initiatives to support refugee health and wellness, refining ORR's vision for refugee health. This vision includes refugee health-related outreach and education to the refugee resettlement network, initiated with a Somali women's health video series, which will be followed by a similar series targeting Congolese women. In on-going response to the high rate of suicides among Bhutanese refugees, DRH created a mental health video set to be released in Spring 2015. DRH also sponsored a Mental Health First Aid training for 120 Bhutanese community leaders, in continuing efforts to address the issue of suicide, and strengthen existing resources within the community.

Outreach to stakeholders remained a key priority for the office, to support and facilitate strategic placement and successful integration of refugees in our communities. In FY 2014, as in previous years, ORR promoted col-

laboration at the local level by participating in joint stakeholder meetings with its counterparts at the Department of State's Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM). During the year, ORR leadership traveled to meet with a wide range of city and state officials, health providers, local resettlement agencies, ethnic community leaders, and refugees in Florida, Texas, Pennsylvania, Georgia, and California, in addition to welcoming many others when they visited Washington, DC.

ORR further expanded the Preferred Communities Program to focus on populations needing intensive case management, to include those with special medical and mental health conditions. The program now supports services in 120 locations to ensure those most at risk have a successful path to self-sufficiency.

ORR and its grantee, the Ethnic Community Self Help Program, received several accolades in FY 2014, including recognition from the National Security Council for convening an informational call—and civil society listening session—for U.S. Government principals on the topic of Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting. Also, during the White House National Convening on Immigrant and Refugee Integration, held in July 2014, ORR current and former grantees Somali Family Service of San Diego, Refugee Family Services, and the Tucson International Alliance of Refugee Communities were recognized for their work to support ethnic communities.

Expanding its return to a regional office structure, ORR added four new regional representatives (RR) in FY 2014: Boston, Massachusetts; Chicago, Illinois; Dallas, Texas, and San Francisco, California. The new RRs joined those in Atlanta, Georgia and Denver, Colorado, in an initiative that continues to grow. In addition to their regular state analyst duties, ORR regional representatives conduct broad local outreach and engagement with refugees and resettlement stakeholders, and work with federal, state, and local partners to align services and ensure that services are being provided with the best interests of refugees in mind. The regional representative model is one that ORR hopes to expand in other key locations across the country.

ORR has been actively engaged in outreach and partnership efforts to a range of federal entities, including within ACF/HHS. Using a client-centered approach, ORR's goal is to build partnerships that will better serve refugees and other eligible ORR populations who may otherwise not be considered within mainstream programs and initiatives. Promoting integration by connecting refugees to critical mainstream resources and raising awareness that serving refugees requires a community-wide engagement across this nation; ORR remains fully engaged to this end, and welcomes partnerships to carry out this critical mission.



Photo credit: ORR

ORR visited a dairy farm in Arizona



I. ORR DOMESTIC PROGRAMS

The Refugee Act of 1980, established the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), and outlined the United States' commitment to humanitarian relief through resettlement of persons fleeing persecution based on race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion. The law explicitly states that the "objectives of this Act are to provide a permanent and systematic procedure for the admission to this country of refugees of special humanitarian concern to the United States, and to provide comprehensive and uniform provisions for the effective resettlement and absorption of those refugees who are admitted."

Since the passage of the Act, over three million refugees from more than 70 countries have been given safe haven in the U.S., along with the possibility of a new beginning, and freedom from persecution and displacement. ORR's mission is to link these newly-arrived populations to key resources to maximize their potential in the U.S., and to become integrated and successful members of American society.

Eligible Populations

Amerasians

The admission numbers for refugees included in this chapter include individuals admitted under the Amerasian Homecoming Act of 1988.

Amerasians are children born in Vietnam to Vietnamese mothers and American fathers and are admitted as immigrants, rather than refugees; however, these youths and their immediate relatives are entitled to the same ORR-funded services and benefits. Since fiscal year FY 1988, 76,000 Vietnamese have been admitted to the U.S. under this provision. In FY 2014, the U.S. government admitted 12 Amerasians.

Cuban and Haitian Entrants

Congress created the Cuban/Haitian Entrant Program under Title V of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980. The law provides for a program of reimbursement to participating states for cash and medical assistance to Cuban and Haitian entrants under the same conditions and to the same extent as such assistance and services for refugees under the refugee program. The first recipients of the new program were the approximately 125,000 Cubans who fled the Castro regime in the Mariel boatlift of 1980.

By law, an entrant, for the purposes of ORR-funded benefits, is a Cuban or Haitian national who is (a) paroled into the U.S., (b) in unexpired exclusion or deportation proceedings, or (c) an applicant for asylum.

Under the terms of a bilateral agreement between the U.S. and Cuba, up to 20,000 Cuban immigrants are allowed to enter the U.S. directly from Cuba annually. These individuals include Havana Parolees who are eligible for ORR-funded benefits and services in states that have a Cuban/Haitian Entrant Program. In FY 2014, the U.S. government admitted 32,000 Cuban/Haitians.

Asylees

On June 15, 2000, ORR published State Letter 00-12, which revised its policy on program eligibility for persons granted asylum. In 1996, Congress revised federal welfare programs to use date of admission, rather than date of physical entry, in determining an alien's legal status. Accordingly, ORR now uses the date that asylum is granted as the initial date of eligibility for ORR-funded services and benefits. In FY 2014, ORR provided such services to 25,000 asylees.



Special Immigrants

Starting on December 26, 2007, pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-161), Iraqi and Afghan Special Immigrants (SIVs) became eligible for refugee benefits and services for up to six months; up to 500 principal applicants could be admitted to the U.S. each year. With the signing into law of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 ((Pub. L. 110-181) on January 28, 2008, the ceiling for potential Iraqi SIV admissions grew to 5,000 principal applicants, and Iraqi SIVs became eligible for benefits and services for up to eight months. On December 19, 2009, Iraqi and Afghan SIVs became eligible for the same benefits and services as refugees and for the same time period as refugees. In FY 2014, 13,000 Iraqi and Afghan SIVs were admitted to the U.S. (9,000 and 4,000 respectively).



Photo: Courtesy of EMM-MN

Other Categories Eligible for ORR Assistance and Services

All persons admitted as refugees or granted asylum while in the U.S. are eligible for refugee benefits. Certain other persons admitted to the U.S. or granted status under other immigration categories also are eligible for refugee benefits. Certain persons deemed to be victims of a severe form of trafficking, though not legally admitted as refugees, are eligible for ORR-funded benefits to the same extent as refugees.

Initiatives, Highlights, and Collaborations

Unaccompanied Children

Late in FY 2014 the number of unaccompanied children referred by DHS grew beyond anticipated rates. In order to minimize the number of UC pending placement in excess of 24 hours, ORR opened temporary short-term Emergency Reception Centers (ERC) including three centers on military bases in the states of Texas, Oklahoma, and California. ORR also increased permanent bed capacity and approved 21 new urgent sole source grants. During FY 2014, ORR funded 78 shelter, 21 transitional foster care, nine staff-secure, one therapeutic staff-secure, five secure programs, two residential treatment center care, and eight long term foster care programs. By August, ORR resumed caring for all children in permanent facilities, and closed the temporary beds established on military bases.



Introducing, the CNCS Refugee AmeriCorps

ORR is pleased to announce the establishment of a new partnership with the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)—the agency that supports The AmeriCorps program, the Refugee AmeriCorps is an entirely new initiative, which places former refugees in positions at resettlement agencies to work directly with new arrivals. The goal is to improve the self-sufficiency and well-being of refugee populations and promote successful local integration. Implementation of this project will begin in FY 2015.

Case Management

In addition to sponsoring the new Refugee AmeriCorps initiative, ORR's Preferred Communities Program focuses on populations requiring intensive case management. ORR expanded programs and funding to include those with special medical and mental health conditions, serving over 8,500 refugees in 120 sites nationwide. One example is the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society's Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM) development of local site capacity to serve LGBT populations and refugees with complex mental health needs in Denver, CO, Grand Rapids, MI, and Boise, ID.

Anti-Trafficking in Persons

The ORR Division of Anti-Trafficking in Persons (ATIP) continued its grant funding to Polaris Project to operate the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC), a national, toll-free hotline that works to protect victims of human trafficking in the United States by providing callers with a range of services, including crisis intervention, tip reporting, and comprehensive resources, as well as training and technical assistance for the human trafficking field and those who wish to get involved. In FY 2014, the NHTRC received over 34,000 phone calls. HHS also distributed free of charge approximately 800,000 pieces of original, branded public awareness materials publicizing the NHTRC in 2014.

Unaccompanied Refugee Minors

The Unaccompanied Refugee Minors (URM) program continued to grow, with close to 1,700 children served in the program in FY2014, from 49 different countries. Reporting and data management was a key focus for the URM Team. In FY2014, they incorporated new electronic reporting forms (ORR-3 and 4) into the URM database. This change will provide ORR with more accurate and timely data about the URM population and, in the future, information on whether they are accomplishing their goals of independence.

Partnership Building

ORR was actively engaged in outreach and partnership efforts to a range of federal entities, including within ACF/HHS. Using a client-centered approach, ORR's goal was to build partnerships that will better serve refugees and other eligible ORR populations who may otherwise not be considered within mainstream programs and initiatives. ORR is promoting integration by connecting refugees to critical mainstream resources and raising awareness that serving refugees requires a community-wide engagement across this nation, particularly for programs and agencies responding to the health, education and human service needs of low-income and underserved populations. These initiatives include several historic firsts for ORR, including:

A [Dear Colleague letter](#) sent by the Office of Community Services to its Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) stakeholders, announcing a partnership between OCS and ORR. This letter—the first of its kind at ACF—encourages partnerships between the CSBG and refugee resettlement networks, emphasizing that CSBG lead agencies and their partners can help support refugee resettlement by linking them to community services projects, technical assistance resources, funding opportunity announcements, and outreach/partnership initiatives.



ORR and the Office of Child Care (OCC) released a joint [Information Memorandum](#) (IM) to lead agencies administering child care programs under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act. The purpose of this memorandum—the first of its kind in ACF—is to create linkages between the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) lead agencies and the refugee resettlement networks. It offers strong encouragement to partner at the state, regional and local levels to increase refugee families' access to high-quality child care and guidance about collaboration opportunities.

Health Initiatives

ORR considers health to be a vital component of successful resettlement. The Division of Refugee Health (DRH) oversees the Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA) and Refugee Medical Screening programs. DRH is also responsible for two grant programs:

Preventive Health (renamed the Refugee Health Promotion) and the Services for Survivors of Torture.

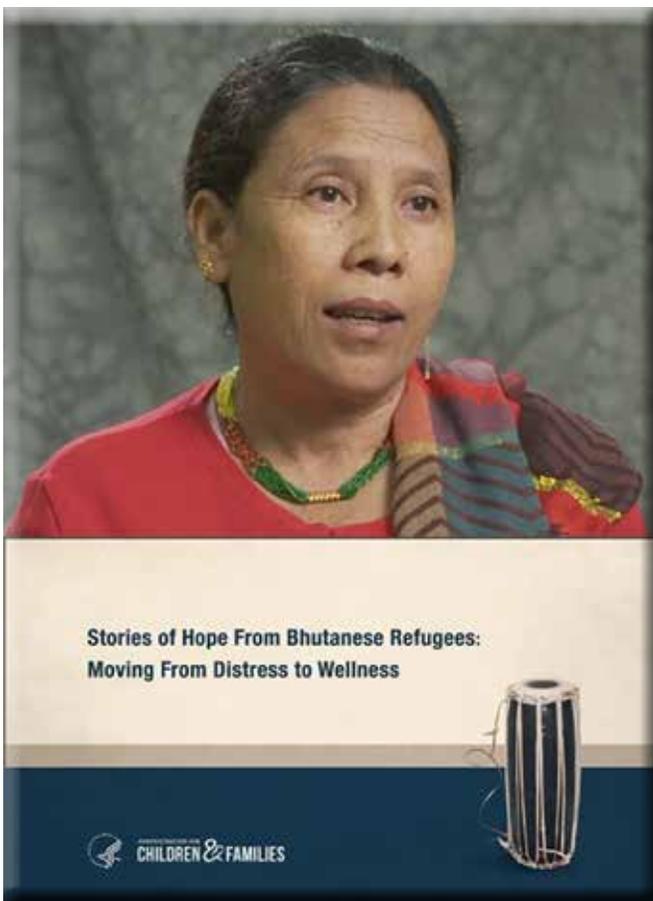


Photo credit: ORR

In FY 2014, ORR continued to engage federal, state, and non-governmental partners to promote refugee health, especially around the topics of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), health education, medical screening, and mental health. ORR released a women's health video series directed towards Somali refugees; developed a video to promote health and wellness among Bhutanese refugees, particularly those experiencing emotional distress; and started work on a women's health video series aimed at Congolese refugees. Leveraging inter-agency collaboration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) translated emergency preparedness booklets developed by ORR into 14 refugee languages.

ORR continued to build and enhance collaboration and partnerships around refugee health to enhance access to mainstream services, address emotional well-being, and reduce health disparities. DRH continued working with other HHS federal agencies on priority issues, including with the CDC on refugee medical screening, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) on refugee suicide prevention, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on barriers to refugees in the Federally-Facilitated Marketplace.



ORR Domestic Programs

In FY 2014, the refugee and entrant assistance program was funded under the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2013 (Pub. L. 113-6). The enacted appropriation level to support refugees and other eligible populations was \$593.6 million. The enacted appropriation level also included \$12.0 million for the Victims of Trafficking Program and \$10.7 million for the Services for Survivors of Torture program. Finally, the enacted appropriation level for the Unaccompanied Children (UC) Program was \$868.0 million. In addition, the Secretary provided an additional \$43.9 million to support the needs of the UC program. The total ORR enacted appropriation for FY 2014, including the Secretary’s transfer level was \$1,528.2 million. The [ORR Appropriation Table I-1](#) below explains the FY 2014 appropriations by line-item.

The domestic refugee resettlement program consists of five separate resettlement approaches:

1. The State-Administered Programs
2. The Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program
3. The Alternative Programs
4. State Administered Program Outcomes, and
5. Discretionary Grant Programs

Table I-1: ORR Appropriation FY 2014

Transitional and Medical Services	\$391,477,000
Social Services	\$149,927,000
Refugee Health Promotion	\$4,600,000
Targeted Assistance	\$47,601,000
Victims of Torture	\$10,735,000
Victims of Trafficking	\$12,000,000
TOTAL REFUGEE APPROPRIATION	\$616,340,000
Unaccompanied Children Program	\$911,848,000
TOTAL ORR APPROPRIATION	\$1,528,188,000

New budget authority only. Does not include prior year funds available for FY 2014 authorization.

Note: *These numbers represent the full enacted FY 2014 program budgets that support benefits and services as well as administrative costs.*



Photo: Courtesy of UNHCR



1. State Administered Program

Federal resettlement assistance to refugees is provided primarily through the state-administered refugee resettlement program. States provide transitional cash and medical assistance and social services, as well as maintain oversight for the care of unaccompanied refugee minors.

Refugee Cash and Medical Assistance

Most refugees enter the U.S. without income or assets with which to support themselves during their first few months. Families with children under 18 are eligible for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. Refugees who are aged, blind, or disabled may receive assistance from the federally administered Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program. Refugees who are children; pregnant women; adults, age 65 or older, blind, or disabled may be eligible for Medicaid if they otherwise meet the eligibility criteria in the state including income and state residency requirements. ORR does not reimburse states for the costs of the TANF, SSI, and Medicaid programs for assistance provided to these refugees.

Refugees who meet the income and resource eligibility standards of these programs but are not otherwise categorically eligible -- such as single adults, childless couples, and two-parent families in certain states—may receive benefits under the Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) and Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA) programs. Eligibility for RCA and RMA is restricted to the first eight months a refugee is in the U.S. For asylees, the eligibility period begins the month that asylum is granted.

In FY 2014, ORR obligated \$294.1 million to reimburse states for their costs for the RCA and RMA programs, associated state administration costs, and costs for services for unaccompanied refugee minors. Cash and Medical Assistance (CMA) allocations are presented below in [Table I-2: CMA, Social Services, and Targeted Assistance Obligations](#).

Table I-2: CMA, Social Services and Targeted Assistance Obligations 2014 (by State in dollars)*

STATE	CMA	SOCIAL SERVICES	TARGETED ASSISTANCE	TOTAL
ALABAMA	120,000	107,272	0	227,272
ALASKA	0	82,962	0	82,962
ARIZONA	11,000,000	2,109,928	1,467,689	14,577,617
ARKANSAS	17,388	75,000	0	92,388
CALIFORNIA	22,900,000	7,475,642	4,468,655	34,844,297
COLORADO	6,900,000	1,506,816	679,101	9,085,917
CONNECTICUT	966,688	361,944	134,956	1,463,588
DELAWARE	38,658	75,000	0	113,658
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	1,265,605	233,064	0	1,498,669
FLORIDA	78,000,000	20,644,345	12,016,490	110,660,835
GEORGIA	5,470,096	1,991,466	1,342,667	8,804,229
HAWAII	30,000	75,000	0	105,000
IDAHO	1,800,000	622,020	372,410	2,794,430
ILLINOIS	6,420,069	1,987,608	1,052,398	9,460,075
INDIANA	3,500,000	1,121,720	602,740	5,224,460
IOWA	915,838	562,982	205,263	1,684,083



STATE	CMA	SOCIAL SERVICES	TARGETED ASSISTANCE	TOTAL
KANSAS	1,000,000	389,342	64,330	1,453,672
KENTUCKY	0	1,619,490	938,772	2,558,262
LOUISIANA	150,000	205,282	0	355,282
MAINE	503,151	307,152	68,983	879,286
MARYLAND	11,000,000	1,589,392	977,193	13,566,585
MASSACHUSETTS	11,689,588	1,456,654	883,784	14,030,026
MICHIGAN	14,000,000	3,327,344	1,810,983	19,138,327
MINNESOTA	2,752,000	2,545,188	827,650	6,124,838
MISSISSIPPI	1,205,000	75,000	0	1,280,000
MISSOURI	1,960,000	974,704	434,115	3,368,819
MONTANA	200,000	75,000	0	275,000
NEBRASKA	2,900,000	767,106	394,661	4,061,767
NEVADA	0	889,812	522,493	1,412,305
NEW HAMPSHIRE	675,000	284,770	66,520	1,026,290
NEW JERSEY	2,112,410	362,330	55,981	2,530,721
NEW MEXICO	1,450,000	217,630	94,305	1,761,935
NEW YORK	9,500,000	3,589,733	2,501,826	15,591,559
NORTH CAROLINA	4,200,000	1,781,554	846,154	6,827,708
NORTH DAKOTA	1,297,820	417,124	102,928	1,817,872
OHIO	8,000,000	2,491,552	921,174	11,412,726
OKLAHOMA	1,026,404	348,826	0	1,375,230
OREGON	2,300,000	786,014	506,298	3,592,312
PENNSYLVANIA	12,300,000	2,207,168	1,245,696	15,752,864
RHODE ISLAND	125,000	99,168	0	224,168
SOUTH CAROLINA	264,297	112,288	0	376,585
SOUTH DAKOTA	527,092	459,956	228,073	1,215,121
TENNESSEE	0	1,244,812	568,730	1,813,542
TEXAS	37,612,337	7,036,818	4,078,905	48,728,060
UTAH	5,800,000	835,406	527,354	7,162,760
VERMONT	491,497	272,808	95,126	859,431
VIRGINIA	6,905,000	1,475,752	256,385	8,637,137
WASHINGTON	8,709,456	1,903,102	1,159,159	11,771,717
WEST VIRGINIA	67,406	75,000	0	142,406
WISCONSIN	4,000,000	743,954	353,561	5,097,515
WYOMING	0	0	0	0
SUB TOTAL:	\$294,067,800	\$80,000,000	\$42,873,508	\$416,941,308

* Note: The State of Wyoming does not participate in the State Administered Refugee Resettlement Program.



Social Services

ORR provides funding for a broad range of social services to refugees, through both states and private, non-profit organizations. With these funds, states provide services to help refugees obtain employment and achieve economic self-sufficiency and social integration as quickly as possible. After deducting funds used to support programs of special interest to Congress, ORR allocates approximately 70 percent of the remaining social service funds on a formula basis. Social services are provided only to refugees who have resided in the U.S. for fewer than 60 months.

Formula obligations vary each year according to each state’s proportion of total refugee arrivals during the previous two fiscal years. States with small refugee populations receive a minimum floor amount of \$75,000. In FY 2014, ORR obligated \$80.0 million to both state-administered and Wilson/Fish Alternative program states under the social services formula program.

In addition to these funds, ORR obligated social service funds to a variety of discretionary grant programs. A discussion of these discretionary awards may be found in the Discretionary Grants section.

Targeted Assistance

The targeted assistance program funds employment and other services for refugees who reside in counties with large refugee populations. The targeted assistance program provides such counties with supplementation of other available service resources to help the local refugee population obtain employment with less than one year’s participation in the program.

In FY 2014, ORR obligated \$47.6 million for targeted assistance activities for refugees and entrants. Of this amount, \$42.8 million was awarded by formula to 37 states on behalf of the 96 counties eligible for targeted assistance grants. Funds not allocated in the formula program were awarded to states through the Targeted Assistance Discretionary Program. A discussion of these discretionary awards may be found in the Discretionary Grants section.

Table I-3: Targeted Assistance below presents the amount of funds awarded to qualifying individual counties. The amounts awarded to states under the allocation formula are provided in [Table I-2: CMA, Social Services, and Targeted Assistance Obligations](#).

Table I-3: Targeted Assistance 2013 (by County)

COUNTY	STATE	COUNTY	STATE	COUNTY	STATE
MARICOPA	AZ	PIMA	AZ	ALAMEDA	CA
LOS ANGELES	CA	ORANGE	CA	SACRAMENTO	CA
SAN DIEGO	CA	SAN FRANCISCO	CA	SANTA CLARA	CA
STANISLAUS	CA	DENVER	CO	HARTFORD	CT
ARAPAHOE	CO	NEW HAVEN	CT	BROWARD	FL
COLLIER	FL	DUVAL	FL	HILLSBOROUGH	FL
LEE	FL	MIAMI-DADE	FL	ORANGE	FL
PALM BEACH	FL	PINELLAS	FL	DEKALB	GA
FULTON	GA	POLK	IA	ADA	ID
TWIN FALLS	ID	COOK	IL	DUPAGE	IL
KANE	IL	WINNEBAGO	IL	MARION	IN
WYANDOTTE	KS	FAYETTE	KY	JEFFERSON	KY



COUNTY	STATE	COUNTY	STATE	COUNTY	STATE
WARREN	KY	HAMPDEN	MA	MIDDLESEX	MA
SUFFOLK	MA	WORCESTER	MA	BALTIMORE	MD
BALTIMORE CITY	MD	MONTGOMERY	MD	PRINCE GEORGES	MD
CUMBERLAND	ME	EATON	MI	INGHAM	MI
KENT	MI	MACOMB	MI	OAKLAND	MI
WAYNE	MI	HENNEPIN	MN	RAMSEY	MN
JACKSON	MO	SAINT LOUIS	MO	ST. LOUIS CITY	MO
DURHAM	NC	GUILFORD	NC	MECKLENBURG	NC
WAKE	NC	CASS	ND	DOUGLAS	NE
LANCASTER	NE	MERRIMACK	NH	UNION	NJ
BERNALILLO	NM	CLARK	NV	CLARK	NV
ALBANY	NY	BRONX	NY	ERIE	NY
KINGS	NY	MONROE	NY	NEW YORK	NY
NEW YORK CITY	NY	ONEIDA	NY	ONONDAGA	NY
QUEENS	NY	RICHMOND	NY	CUYAHOGA	OH
FRANKLIN	OH	HAMILTON	OH	SUMMIT	OH
CLACKAMAS	OR	MULTNOMAH	OR	WASHINGTON	OR
ALLEGHENY	PA	DAUPHIN	PA	ERIE	PA
LANCASTER	PA	PHILADELPHIA	PA	MINNEHAHA	SD
DAVIDSON	TN	BEXAR	TX	DALLAS	TX
HARRIS	TX	POTTER	TX	TARRANT	TX
TRAVIS	TX	DAVIS	UT	SALT LAKE	UT
UTAH	UT	ALEXANDRIA	VA	ARLINGTON	VA
FAIRFAX	VA	FALLS CHURCH	VA	HENRICO	VA
CHITTENDEN	VT	CLARK	WA	KING	WA
SNOHOMISH	WA	SPOKANE	WA	MILWAUKEE	WI

2. Unaccompanied Refugee Minors

The Unaccompanied Refugee Minors (URM) program was developed in 1979 to address the needs of thousands of children from Southeast Asia who entered the U.S. as refugees without a parent or guardian to care for them. The Refugee Act of 1980 (Pub. L. 96-212) established the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) and grants authority for child welfare services as provided through the URM program. Congress passed additional legislation authorizing certain other categories of unaccompanied children who may be determined eligible for URM services. Organizationally, the URM program falls under ORR's Division of Children's Services (DCS).

Legal Authority

Refugees and Asylees—The Refugee Act of 1980 (Pub. L. 96-212) authorizes ORR to provide child welfare services/benefits for refugees and asylees.



Cuban/Haitian Entrants—The Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980 (Pub. L 96-422) authorizes ORR to provide the same services/benefits available to refugees for Cuban and Haitian entrants.

Victims of Trafficking—The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (Pub. L 106-386) authorizes ORR to provide the same services/benefits as available to refugees for victims of a severe form of human trafficking.

Certain Children with Special Immigrant Juvenile Status—The Trafficking Victims Protection and Reauthorization Act of 2008 (Pub. L 110-457) extends URM eligibility and child welfare services/benefits described in The Refugee Act to Special Immigrant Juveniles who were in the custody of ORR or receiving services as Cuban or Haitian entrants at the time a dependency order was signed.

Minors with U-Status—The Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (Pub. L 113-4) extends URM eligibility and child welfare services/benefits to minor victims of crime who have received U visa status.

The URM program focuses its efforts on ensuring the availability of long-term placement and child welfare services to support the individualized social and economic self-sufficiency goals for eligible youth consistent with federal, state, and local mandates. Youth admitted to the URM program are placed with public and non-public licensed child welfare programs and are eligible to receive the same range of child welfare benefits and services as offered to non-refugee children. ORR works with states on program implementation and oversight. States contract with the local child welfare agencies that provide services to unaccompanied refugee minors.

Depending on their individual needs, the youth are placed in home foster care, group care, semi-independent living, independent living, therapeutic foster care or residential treatment. ORR reimburses costs incurred on behalf of each child until the month after his or her eighteenth birthday or such higher age as is permitted under the state's Title IV-B Plan of the Social Security Act, including some costs associated with independent living services and benefits.

Services provided through the URM program include:

- Appropriate and least restrictive placement
- Assistance with social adjustment
- Career planning and employment
- Education and vocational training
- English language training
- Family tracing and reunification
- Health care
- Mental health care
- Preparation for independent living and social integration
- Preservation of ethnic and religious heritage

Changes in legislation since FY 2008 have impacted the growth of the URM program. In FY 2009, approximately 950 youth were served by the URM program. Due to an increase in the number of referrals of minors with Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, the URM program in FY 2014 experienced an 80 percent increase in youth served from FY 2009. The demographic of youth being referred to the program has also changed. Whereas previously the majority of the population arrived directly from overseas refugee camps, during FY 2014, almost half of all new arrivals were referred from ORR's Unaccompanied Children's (UC) program within the United States. In congruence with this change, URM plans to assess its current placement and well-being options to ensure sufficient and appropriate capacity to serve these youth.



In FY 2014, ORR issued policy (SL 14-01) on U visa status that outlined the eligibility of U visa recipients for the URM program. To date no youth with U visas have entered the URM program, however ORR anticipates future arrivals of minors with U visas which will be reflected in the demographic composition of those served.

ORR implemented the release of a new web-based data reporting system during FY 2014. This system was developed to improve data collection, accuracy, analysis, and reporting. States and their URM contracted providers are now able to upload data directly to this system which helps to capture information on the outcomes of youth served by the URM program.

FY 2014 Program Statistics

In FY 2014, there were 15 states that administered and oversaw 20 URM programs in 24 locations. Approximately 1,700 youth received services while in the URM program across those states. Of that number, 370 youth were new arrivals into the program, both directly from overseas and as referred from ORR's UC program. Of the youth served in FY 2014, the top six countries of origin included: Burma, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, and Eritrea.

Youth in the URM program resided in the following locations in FY 2014: Phoenix, AZ; Fullerton, CA; Moreno Valley, CA; San Jose, CA; Colorado Springs, CO; Denver, CO; Washington, DC; Miami, FL; Boston, MA; Worcester, MA; Lansing, MI; Grand Rapids, MI; Jackson, MS; Fargo, ND; Rochester, NY; Syracuse, NY; Philadelphia, PA; Fort Worth, TX; Houston, TX; Salt Lake City, UT; Richmond, VA; Roanoke, VA; Tacoma, WA; Seattle, WA.

[Refer to Chart I-1: FY 2014 URM by Geographic Region, Chart I-2: FY 2014 URM by Category of Eligibility and Chart I-3: FY 2014 URM by Category of Placement Type](#)

Chart I-1: FY 2014 URM by Geographic Region

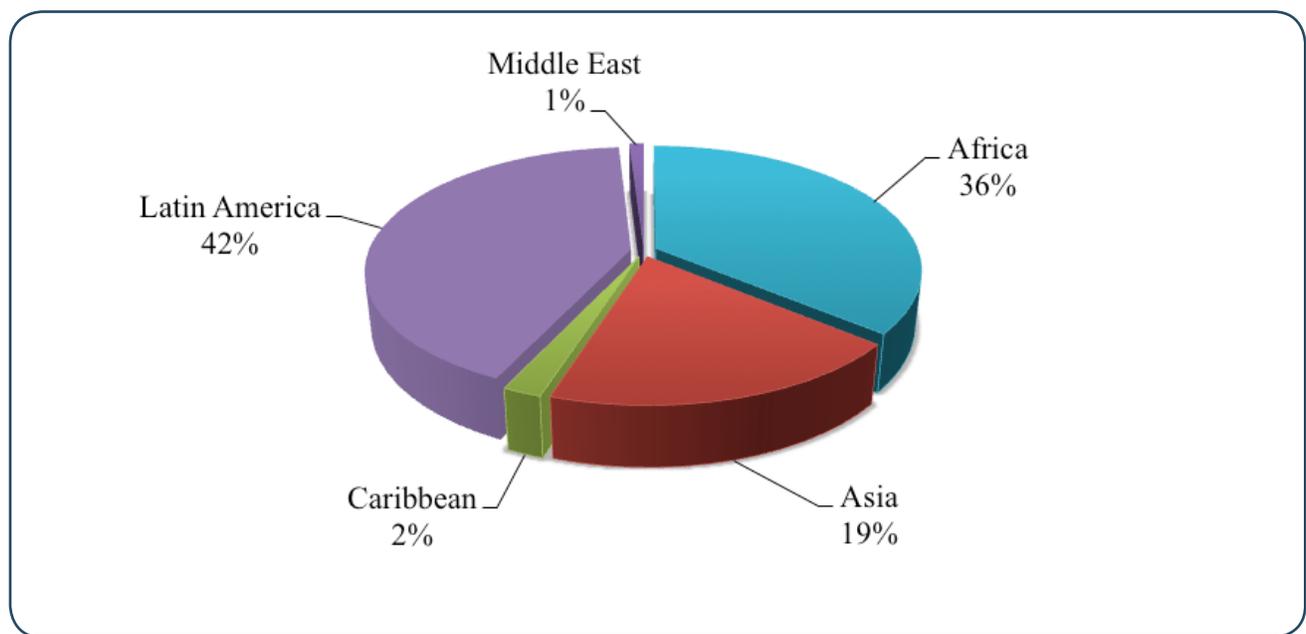




Chart I-2: FY 2014 URM by Category of Eligibility

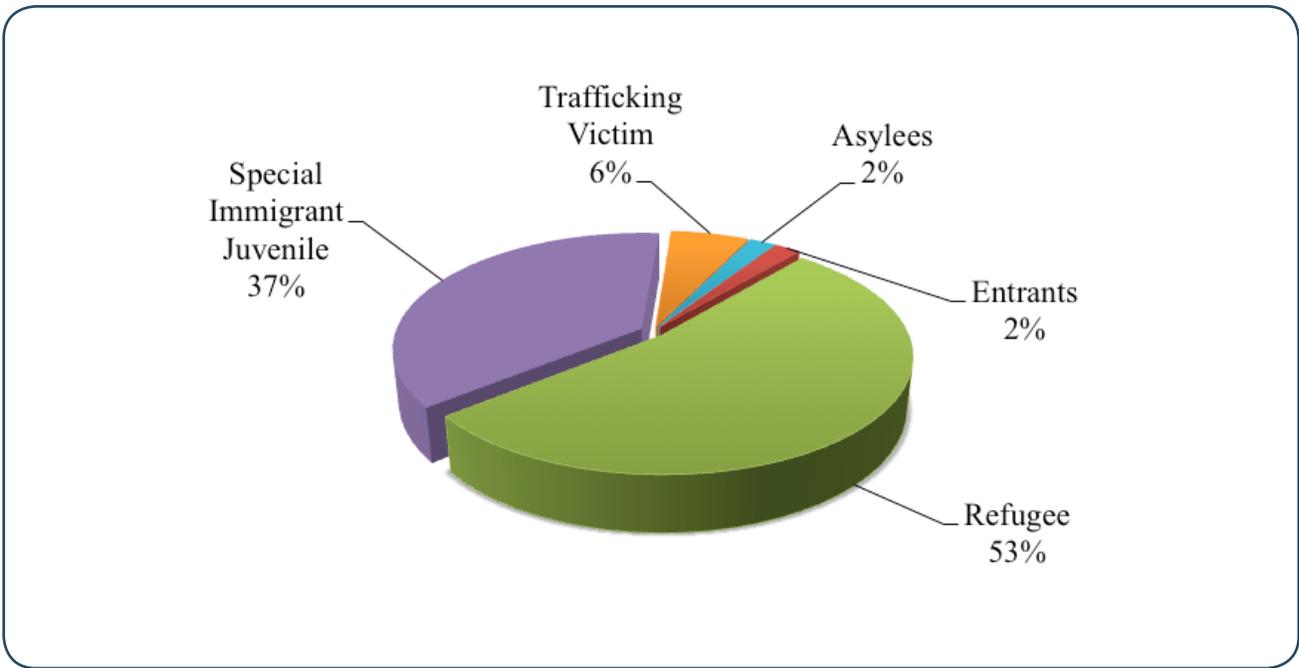
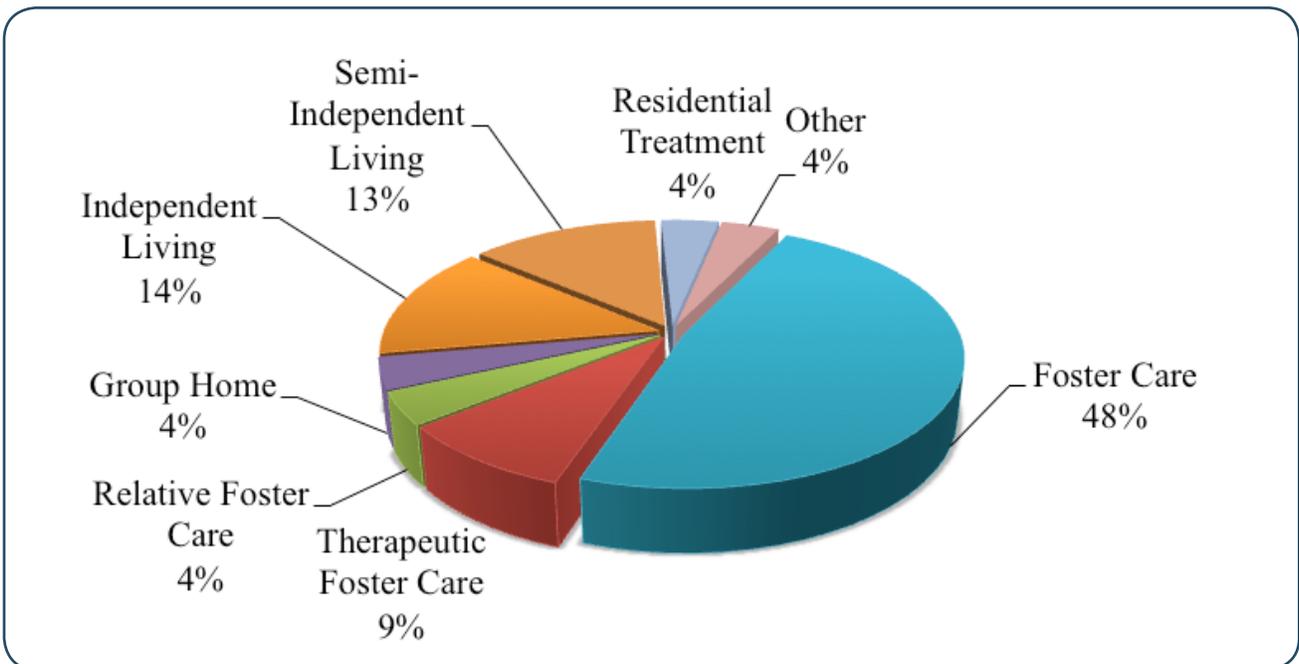


Chart I-3: FY 2014 URM by Category of Placement Type





3. Alternative Programs

Public/Private Partnerships

ORR regulations governing refugee cash assistance offer states flexibility and choice in how refugee cash assistance and services could be delivered to refugees not eligible for TANF or SSI.

States have the option of entering into a partnership with local resettlement agencies to administer the program through a public/private Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) program. The partnerships facilitate the successful resettlement of refugees by integrating cash assistance with resettlement services and ongoing case management. Through these public/private RCA programs, states are permitted to include employment incentives that support the refugee program's goal of family self-sufficiency and social adjustment in the shortest possible time after arrival. To be eligible for the public/private RCA program, a refugee must meet the income eligibility standard jointly established by the state and local resettlement agencies in the state. The goal of the public/private partnership is to promote more effective and better quality resettlement services through linkages between the initial placement of refugees and the refugee cash assistance program while maintaining state responsibility for policy and administrative oversight.

Five states have been approved to operate public/private partnerships: Maryland, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Oregon, and Texas. States and local resettlement agencies are encouraged to look at different approaches and to be creative in designing a program that will help refugees to establish a sound economic foundation during the eight-month RCA period.

For an explanation of each program measure and the outcomes for public/private partnership programs, see the section entitled, [Partnerships to Improve Employment and Self-Sufficiency Outcomes](#).

Wilson/Fish Alternative Program

The Wilson/Fish amendment to the Immigration and Nationality Act directed the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to develop alternatives to the traditional state-administered refugee resettlement 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 allows projects to establish or maintain a refugee program in a state where the state is not participating in the refugee program or is withdrawing from all or a portion of the program.

The Wilson/Fish authority also provides public or private non-profit agencies the opportunity to develop new approaches for the provision of cash and medical assistance, social services, and case management.

Wilson/Fish projects are funded from the Transitional and Medical Services (TAMS) line item. FY 2014 obligations for the Wilson/Fish program totaled \$27.0 million (see [Table I-4](#)). However total funding for the FY 2014 budget period (9/30/2013 – 9/29/2014) was \$36.9 million which includes both current and prior year funds.

Wilson/Fish alternative projects typically contain several of the following elements:

- 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 agency that is culturally and linguistically equipped to work with refugees.
- Innovative strategies for the provision of cash assistance, through incentives, bonuses, and income disregards which are tied directly to the achievement of employment goals outlined in the client self-sufficiency plan.

In FY 2014, ORR funded 13 Wilson/Fish programs which operate in the following 12 states and one county: Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, and San Diego County, CA. Each program is unique in its structure and operation, but all work to fill the role of a typical state-administered refugee assistance program.

In FY 2014, the Wilson/Fish program entered Year 4 of a five year project period. WF continued to implement two new program components: enhanced case management (ECM) for refugees with special needs and RCA differential payment for TANF-eligible refugees.

In FY 2014, ORR continued on-site monitoring and provided technical assistance to Wilson/Fish agencies. As ORR continues to roll-out the regional representative structure, a primary goal is to enhance monitoring of State and Wilson/Fish Programs to ensure compliance and provide technical assistance.

In FY 2014, approximately 25,312 clients received services and assistance through the Wilson/Fish program of which 16,165 received cash and medical assistance and 13,128 received employment services.



Photo: Courtesy of UNHCR



For an explanation of each program measure and the outcomes for each project, see the section entitled, [Partnerships to Improve Employment and Self-Sufficiency Outcomes on page 29](#). For a list of Wilson/Fish grantees, refer to [Table I-4: Wilson/Fish Grantees](#) below.

Table I-4: Wilson/Fish Grantees

STATE/COUNTY GRANTEE	WF-CMA FY 2014 OBLIGATIONS	RCA DIFFERENTIAL PAYMENT FOR TANF ELIGIBLE	RMA FUNDSTO WILSON/FISH GRANTEE	STATE WITHDRAWAL FROM REFUGEE PROGRAM	COORDINATION OF STATE-WIDE REFUGEE PROGRAM
Alabama—Catholic Social Services of Mobile	\$270,429	No	Yes	Yes –partial (State RMA oversight began on 4/1/14)	Yes
Alaska—Catholic Social Services Anchorage	\$603,391	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Colorado—Colorado Dept. of Human Services	\$2,160,290	Yes	No	No	Yes
Idaho—Mountain States Group	\$1,717,962	Yes	No	Yes-partial (State maintains RMA oversight)	Yes
Kentucky—Catholic Charities of Louisville	\$3,503,381	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Louisiana—Catholic Charities Diocese of Baton Rouge	\$735,401	No	No	Yes-partial (State maintains RMA oversight)	Yes
Massachusetts—Massachusetts Office of Refugees and Immigrants	\$2,421,588	No	No	No	Yes
Nevada—Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada	\$4,533,680	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
North Dakota—Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota	\$1,169,544	Yes	No	Yes-partial (State maintains RMA oversight)	Yes



STATE/COUNTY GRANTEE	WF-CMA FY 2014 OBLIGATIONS	RCA DIFFERENTIAL PAYMENT FOR TANF ELIGIBLE	RMA FUNDSTO WILSON/FISH GRANTEE	STATE WITHDRAWAL FROM REFUGEE PROGRAM	COORDINATION OF STATE-WIDE REFUGEE PROGRAM
San Diego—Catholic Charities Diocese of San Diego	\$2,862,580	No	No	No	No (CA Dept. of Social Serv.)
South Dakota—LSS of South Dakota	\$619,890	No	No	Yes-partial (State maintains RMA oversight)	Yes
Tennessee—Catholic Charities of Tennessee, Inc.	\$6,021,491	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Vermont—USCRI	\$380,373	No	No	No	No (VT Agency for Human Services)

Resettlement Agencies Matching Grant Program

The Resettlement Agencies Matching Grant Program (MG) was created in 1979 as an intensive case management program with the objective to fast track new arrivals toward economic self-sufficiency within four to six months (120 – 180 days) of program eligibility, without accessing public cash assistance. Enrollment in MG is available to all ORR-eligible populations meeting minimum employability requirements to the extent funding is available. However, clients must be enrolled within 31 days of becoming eligible to ensure adequate services are provided and self-sufficiency is achieved and maintained within the period of eligibility. As demand for MG Program services continues to exceed available funding, enrollment is not available to all those eligible and desirous of program services.

Client services provided through the Resettlement Agencies Matching Grant Program include, but are not limited to, case management, employment services, housing and utilities, food, transportation, cash allowance, health and medical, English language training, social adjustment, and other support services.

The MG Program is designed to work in concert with the Reception and Placement (R&P) program for refugees offered by the Department of State (DOS), and the Cuban & Haitian Entrant Reception and Placement (R&P) program offered by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Thus, funding under the MG Program is open only to those resettlement agencies that already provide R&P services through a cooperative agreement with the DOS or DHS. Congress confirmed this approach to the program in the 1986 Refugee Assistance Extension Act.

In FY 2014, nine national resettlement agencies and their networks of 234 offices in 42 states offered MG services with FY 2014 federal funding totaling \$65.3 million. As a demonstration of community support, grantees were required to match the federal grant with cash and in-kind contributions of goods and services totaling at least \$32.656 million, or



\$1 for every \$2 federal. The nine agencies receiving federal funding in FY 2014 and their performance information are founded at [Tables 1-5a through 5i](#).

In FY 2014, 29,787 refugees, Cuban/Haitian entrants, asylees, special immigrant visa holders (SIVs), certified victims of human trafficking, and Amerasians were served through the MG Program. Refugees accounted for 71.6 percent of all enrollments, Cuban/Haitian entrants 13.5 percent, asylees 5.1 percent, and SIVs 9.5 percent. As participation in MG is offered as an alternative to accessing public cash assistance, the program is most attractive in those states with low TANF rates or TANF eligibility factors that are unfavorable to ORR populations. For instance, while 31 percent of all arriving refugees to states offering MG chose to enroll, rates varied from 65 percent in Georgia to 11 percent in Minnesota.

ORR collects statistical reports on a trimester basis. These reports include both performance and outcome data. Overall program performance improved in FY 2014, with 76 percent of enrollees achieving economic self-sufficiency when the program services period ended 180 days from the start of their eligibility. In guidelines provided to grantees, economic self-sufficiency is defined as earning a total family income at a level that enables the case unit to support itself without receipt of a cash assistance grant. In practice, this means having earnings that exceed the income eligibility level for receipt of a TANF cash assistance grant in the state and the ability to cover the family living expenses. Note that a minimum of one case member must be employed; benefits without cash payments such as SNAP, Medicaid, and RMA are allowable and do not affect the recipient's self-sufficiency status. Employment rates also improved with MG service providers finding employment for 56 percent of all employable adults within 120 days at an average hourly wage of \$9.16. This resulted in a 64.3 percent self-sufficiency rate for all enrolled individuals at day 120.

Immigrant categories shifted in FY 2014 due to a surge in enrollment of SIVs. Non-refugees now account for 28.4 percent of program enrollees. For a complete breakdown of Matching Grant enrollment by immigration status, refer to [Table I-5](#).

MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM MUSA NDAGIZA—THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

My name is Musa Ndagiza from the Democratic Republic of Congo, and I arrived in Erie, Pennsylvania last June 2014, after many long years of living in a refugee camp. Although I arrived to the United States with a strong understanding of the English language, I still faced many challenges. First, I arrived with my mother and 6 younger siblings – all under 18. As the main provider for my family it was important that I learn all of the new systems as quickly as possible. I struggled with transportation, understanding taxes and direct deposit, and general cultural adjustment issues. Overall, it was stressful and I didn't understand how I would ever be successful. However, because of the support of my case managers at the International Institute of Erie, and my active participation in the Matching Grant Program, I am happy to say that I am employed at two jobs – one full-time and another part-time – and I have my driver's license. I recently purchased a car, my brothers and sisters are doing well in school, and my mother is enjoying our new home and community.



Photo credit withheld by request



Table I-5: Breakdown of Match Grant Enrollment by Immigration Status

STATUS	FY 2014		FY 2013
	TOTAL ENROLLED	PERCENT OF TOTAL	PERCENT OF TOTAL
REFUGEE	21,334	71.6%	77.3%
ASYLEES	1,532	5.1%	7.5%
CUBAN/HAITIAN ENTRANT	4,012	13.5%	13.5%
SIV	2,828	9.5%	1.4%
VICTIM OF TRAFFICKING	52	0.2%	0.2%
AMERASIAN	0	0.0%	0.0%
TOTAL	29,787		100.00%

The following nine tables highlight performance measures for each of the nine agencies. The last table highlights performance for all 65 local service provider sites serving 140 or more individuals.

Table I-5a: Church World Service (CWS)

TOTAL FEDERAL AWARD: \$5,885,000 (30 LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDER SITES IN 18 STATES)			
MEASURES	CASES	INDIVIDUALS	PERCENTAGE
ENROLLED	1,042	2,675	
SELF-SUFFICIENT AT 120 DAYS	643	1,606	64%
OVERALL SELF-SUFFICIENCY AT 180 DAYS	723	1,902	83%
ENTERED EMPLOYMENT AT 120 DAYS		742	60%
AVERAGE FT HOURLY WAGE AT 120 DAYS		\$9.38	
EMPLOYER HEALTH BENEFITS OFFERED AT 120 DAYS		338	53%

Table I-5b: Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the U.S.A. (EMM)

TOTAL FEDERAL AWARD: \$4,241,600 (21 LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDER SITES IN 16 STATES)			
MEASURES	CASES	INDIVIDUALS	PERCENTAGE
ENROLLED	704	1,929	
SELF-SUFFICIENT AT 120 DAYS	452	1,301	64%
OVERALL SELF-SUFFICIENCY AT 180 DAYS	1,258	1,463	77%
ENTERED EMPLOYMENT AT 120 DAYS		444	60%
AVERAGE FT HOURLY WAGE AT 120 DAYS		\$8.83	
EMPLOYER HEALTH BENEFITS OFFERED AT 120 DAYS		220	55%



Table I-5c: Ethiopian Community Development Council (ECDC)

TOTAL FEDERAL AWARD: \$2,059,200 (12 LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDER SITES IN 12 STATES)			
MEASURES	CASES	INDIVIDUALS	PERCENTAGE
ENROLLED	346	936	
SELF-SUFFICIENT AT 120 DAYS	197	552	72%
OVERALL SELF-SUFFICIENCY AT 180 DAYS	255	742	81%
ENTERED EMPLOYMENT AT 120 DAYS		230	47%
AVERAGE FT HOURLY WAGE AT 120 DAYS		\$9.73	
EMPLOYER HEALTH BENEFITS OFFERED AT 120 DAYS		131	66%

Table I-5d: Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)

TOTAL FEDERAL AWARD: \$1,566,400 (12 LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDER SITES IN 7 STATES)			
MEASURES	CASES	INDIVIDUALS	PERCENTAGE
ENROLLED	319	712	
SELF-SUFFICIENT AT 120 DAYS	190	421	66%
OVERALL SELF-SUFFICIENCY AT 180 DAYS	215	438	69%
ENTERED EMPLOYMENT AT 120 DAYS		220	54%
AVERAGE FT HOURLY WAGE AT 120 DAYS		\$9.80	
EMPLOYER HEALTH BENEFITS OFFERED AT 120 DAYS		77	41%

Table I-5e: International Rescue Committee (IRC)

TOTAL FEDERAL AWARD: \$9,143,200 (20 LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDER SITES IN 13 STATES)			
MEASURES	CASES	INDIVIDUALS	PERCENTAGE
ENROLLED	1,705	4,168	
SELF-SUFFICIENT AT 120 DAYS	1,171	2,915	70%
OVERALL SELF-SUFFICIENCY AT 180 DAYS	1,282	3,137	80%
ENTERED EMPLOYMENT AT 120 DAYS		1,357	53%
AVERAGE FT HOURLY WAGE AT 120 DAYS		\$9.10	
EMPLOYER HEALTH BENEFITS OFFERED AT 120 DAYS		573	52%

Table 1-5f: Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS)

TOTAL FEDERAL AWARD: \$7,530,600 (30 LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDER SITES IN 18 STATES)			
MEASURES	CASES	INDIVIDUALS	PERCENTAGE
ENROLLED	1,240	3,423	
SELF-SUFFICIENT AT 120 DAYS	822	2,212	66%
OVERALL SELF-SUFFICIENCY AT 180 DAYS	966	2,606	78%
ENTERED EMPLOYMENT AT 120 DAYS		945	60%



TOTAL FEDERAL AWARD: \$7,530,600 (30 LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDER SITES IN 18 STATES)			
MEASURES	CASES	INDIVIDUALS	PERCENTAGE
AVERAGE FT HOURLY WAGE AT 120 DAYS		\$9.17	
EMPLOYER HEALTH BENEFITS OFFERED AT 120 DAYS		527	63%

Table I-5g: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)

TOTAL FEDERAL AWARD: \$18,977,200 (65 LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDER SITES IN 30 STATES)			
MEASURES	CASES	INDIVIDUALS	PERCENTAGE
ENROLLED	3,589	8,714	
SELF-SUFFICIENT AT 120 DAYS	1,850	4,328	55%
OVERALL SELF-SUFFICIENCY AT 180 DAYS	2,455	5,756	69%
ENTERED EMPLOYMENT AT 120 DAYS		2,481	50%
AVERAGE FT HOURLY WAGE AT 120 DAYS		\$8.88	
EMPLOYER HEALTH BENEFITS OFFERED AT 120 DAYS		1,051	53%

Table I-5h: U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI)

TOTAL FEDERAL AWARD: \$11,501,600 (28 LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDER SITES IN 22 STATES)			
MEASURES	CASES	INDIVIDUALS	PERCENTAGE
ENROLLED	2,187	5,228	
SELF-SUFFICIENT AT 120 DAYS	1,443	3,391	71%
OVERALL SELF-SUFFICIENCY AT 180 DAYS	1,556	3,679	81%
ENTERED EMPLOYMENT AT 120 DAYS		1,727	64%
AVERAGE FT HOURLY WAGE AT 120 DAYS		\$9.13	
EMPLOYER HEALTH BENEFITS OFFERED AT 120 DAYS		794	55%

Table I-5i: World Relief (WR)

TOTAL FEDERAL AWARD: \$4,404,400 (16 LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDER SITES IN 8 STATES)			
MEASURES	CASES	INDIVIDUALS	PERCENTAGE
ENROLLED	734	2,002	
SELF-SUFFICIENT AT 120 DAYS	451	1,252	71%
OVERALL SELF-SUFFICIENCY AT 180 DAYS	494	1,327	79%
ENTERED EMPLOYMENT AT 120 DAYS		590	61%
AVERAGE FT HOURLY WAGE AT 120 DAYS		\$9.25	
EMPLOYER HEALTH BENEFITS OFFERED AT 120 DAYS		342	68%



Table I-5j: Highlights of All Local Service Providers with More Than 140 Enrollments

GRANTEE	CITY	STATE	ENROLLED CLIENTS	ECONOMICALLY SELF-SUFFICIENT AT DAY 120	EMPLOYABLE EMPLOYED AT DAY 120	AVERAGE WAGE (FULL-TIME)	HEALTH BENEFITS OFFERED THROUGH EMPLOYMENT	ECONOMICALLY SELF-SUFFICIENT AT DAY 180
IRC	Phoenix	AZ	467	66%	44%	\$8.62	81%	89%
LIRS	Phoenix	AZ	217	35%	53%	\$8.45	11%	83%
CWS	Phoenix	AZ	202	36%	55%	\$8.62	12%	79%
IRC	Tucson	AZ	178	40%	39%	\$8.13	22%	79%
USCCB	Phoenix	AZ	292	34%	30%	\$8.73	42%	69%
IRC	Sacramento	CA	147	76%	70%	\$10.56	0%	83%
USCCB	Glendale	CA	350	47%	47%	\$9.51	3%	70%
IRC	Oakland	CA	176	48%	43%	\$9.43	59%	61%
USCCB	San Diego	CA	152	8%	22%	\$9.69	80%	6%
ECDC	Denver	CO	157	87%	53%	\$10.56	98%	94%
LIRS	Denver	CO	179	70%	55%	\$9.73	74%	75%
CWS	Doral	FL	509	90%	82%	\$9.17	10%	96%
USCCB	Miami Springs	FL	482	73%	55%	\$9.24	1%	91%
WRRS	Miami	FL	140	87%	77%	\$8.37	74%	91%
LIRS	Miami	FL	345	81%	89%	\$9.22	15%	87%
USCRI	Miami	FL	1271	71%	65%	\$9.01	15%	85%
LIRS	Tampa	FL	442	73%	83%	\$8.35	51%	85%
IRC	Miami	FL	640	63%	48%	\$8.92	27%	85%
WRRS	Jacksonville	FL	140	82%	68%	\$8.80	94%	83%
DFMS	Miami Springs	FL	357	70%	81%	\$8.80	22%	82%
USCCB	Orlando	FL	165	47%	41%	\$8.40	37%	76%
USCCB	West Palm Beach	FL	234	54%	44%	\$9.38	7%	60%
IRC	Atlanta	GA	623	75%	53%	\$9.10	84%	84%
USCCB	Atlanta	GA	184	65%	61%	\$9.16	77%	82%
LIRS	Atlanta	GA	375	77%	59%	\$9.02	83%	75%
WRRS	Stone Mountain	GA	345	68%	54%	\$9.20	95%	75%
CWS	Atlanta	GA	170	69%	61%	\$9.02	83%	74%
DFMS	Atlanta	GA	142	85%	72%	\$8.92	89%	73%
USCRI	Des Moines	IA	185	63%	37%	\$10.07	98%	83%
USCCB	Rockford	IL	145	14%	21%	\$10.68	85%	25%
DFMS	Indianapolis	IN	150	82%	83%	\$9.36	82%	91%
CWS	Indianapolis	IN	165	70%	57%	\$9.77	81%	90%



GRANTEE	CITY	STATE	ENROLLED CLIENTS	ECONOMICALLY SELF-SUFFICIENT AT DAY 120	EMPLOYABLE EMPLOYED AT DAY 120	AVERAGE WAGE (FULL-TIME)	HEALTH BENEFITS OFFERED THROUGH EMPLOYMENT	ECONOMICALLY SELF-SUFFICIENT AT DAY 180
USCCB	Indianapolis	IN	267	63%	48%	\$8.72	87%	76%
USCRI	Bowling Green	KY	177	97%	79%	\$9.61	91%	85%
USCCB	Louisville	KY	166	77%	52%	\$8.86	97%	75%
IRC	Baltimore	MD	291	73%	56%	\$8.70	81%	76%
IRC	Silver Spring	MD	168	53%	52%	\$8.78	60%	67%
CWS	Grand Rapids	MI	150	32%	46%	\$9.88	65%	90%
LIRS	Grand Rapids	MI	175	63%	53%	\$11.22	76%	79%
USCRI	Dearborn	MI	300	69%	63%	\$8.28	55%	77%
LIRS	Troy	MI	225	80%	46%	\$8.69	73%	76%
DFMS	Troy	MI	193	66%	34%	\$8.46	61%	65%
USCCB	Lansing	MI	214	69%	59%	\$9.26	73%	64%
USCRI	Kansas City	MO	263	57%	35%	\$9.20	82%	88%
USCRI	St. Louis	MO	296	82%	72%	\$8.56	64%	83%
USCRI	Raleigh	NC	188	74%	77%	\$8.60	65%	67%
IRC	Elizabeth	NJ	157	57%	55%	\$8.76	13%	69%
USCRI	Brooklyn	NY	224	86%	86%	\$10.84	54%	91%
USCCB	Brooklyn	NY	352	91%	87%	\$9.63	9%	91%
USCRI	Albany	NY	200	69%	56%	\$9.03	66%	69%
USCCB	Syracuse	NY	151	51%	52%	\$8.76	54%	54%
USCCB	New York	NY	268	66%	61%	\$9.70	39%	75%
USCRI	Akron	OH	177	96%	95%	\$8.81	89%	94%
USCCB	Cleveland	OH	185	48%	45%	\$8.76	32%	63%
HIAS	Columbus	OH	160	76%	57%	\$9.12	0%	62%
CWS	Lancaster	PA	142	65%	46%	\$9.44	67%	81%
USCRI	Philadelphia	PA	250	70%	59%	\$8.89	42%	69%
USCRI	Erie	PA	231	54%	44%	\$7.89	60%	61%
USCCB	Erie	PA	140	63%	45%	\$7.71	102%	48%
WRRS	Nashville	TN	196	70%	51%	\$8.51	11%	79%
USCCB	Nashville	TN	260	51%	42%	\$8.73	85%	72%
IRC	Dallas	TX	371	97%	59%	\$8.56	43%	93%
IRC	Abilene	TX	108	94%	68%	\$8.01	58%	93%
USCCB	Fort Worth	TX	303	87%	71%	\$8.57	4%	85%
ECDC	Houston	TX	204	72%	45%	\$9.24	47%	81%
USCCB	Dallas	TX	375	63%	51%	\$8.44	85%	80%



GRANTEE	CITY	STATE	ENROLLED CLIENTS	ECONOMICALLY SELF-SUFFICIENT AT DAY 120	EMPLOYABLE EMPLOYED AT DAY 120	AVERAGE WAGE (FULL-TIME)	HEALTH BENEFITS OFFERED THROUGH EMPLOYMENT	ECONOMICALLY SELF-SUFFICIENT AT DAY 180
USCCB	Austin	TX	204	66%	57%	\$9.00	47%	79%
USCRI	Houston	TX	391	62%	44%	\$9.95	25%	78%
WRRS	Fort Worth	TX	187	80%	64%	\$9.29	41%	76%
USCCB	Houston	TX	480	44%	42%	\$9.76	130%	76%
USCCB	San Antonio	TX	470	53%	33%	\$8.44	73%	75%
IRC	Salt Lake City	UT	196	65%	48%	\$9.47	39%	74%
USCCB	Salt Lake City	UT	413	17%	45%	\$8.99	42%	63%
USCCB	Arlington	VA	182	48%	47%	\$11.94	55%	62%
WRRS	Spokane	WA	173	71%	61%	\$10.47	60%	84%
WRRS	Kent	WA	288	56%	58%	\$10.05	50%	73%

MATCHING GRANT—AFGHANISTAN

M and his family were resettled through Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) in 2014. He and his wife have three children, all born in Kabul where the family lived until moving to the U.S. An SIV holder from Afghanistan, M worked for 16 years as a driver for a U.S. military contractor, the World Food Programme, and the U.S. Embassy in Afghanistan. During his time with the U.S. military contractor, M was responsible for transportation and translation as field specialists disabled land mines throughout Afghanistan. M moved to the U.S. because it was no longer safe to remain in Kabul. With the assistance of LIRS, M was enrolled in the Matching Grant program and secured a front desk position at a bustling community center. He now welcomes hundreds of refugee community members each week to the center, assisting them with referrals to community resources and introductions to the community programs offered.



Photo has been cropped to protect the individual's identity. Photo: Courtesy of LIRS



4. State Administered Program Outcomes

Partnerships to Improve Employment and Self-Sufficiency Outcomes

States and counties have been required to establish annual outcome goals aimed at continuous improvement in the following six outcome measures:

- **Entered Employment**, defined as the entry of an active employment services participant into unsubsidized full or part-time employment. This measure refers to the unduplicated number of refugees who enter employment at any time within the reporting period, regardless of how many jobs they enter during the reporting period.
- **Terminations Due to Earnings**, defined as the closing of a cash assistance case due to earned income from employment in an amount that exceeds the state's eligibility standard for the case based on family size, rendering the case over-income for cash assistance. For those clients enrolled in TANF rather than ORR-funded cash assistance programs, the cash assistance termination decision would be based on whether or not the earned income is in an amount "predicted to exceed" the state's TANF payment income standard. This measure is calculated using as the denominator the total number of refugees receiving cash assistance who entered employment.
- **Reductions Due to Earnings**, defined as a reduction in the amount of cash assistance that a case receives as a result of earned income. As with the cash assistance termination rate noted above, the cash assistance reduction rate is computed using as the denominator the total number of individuals receiving cash assistance who entered employment.
- **Average Wage at Employment**, 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 initial placement. This measure refers to the number of refugees who are employed 90 days after initial employment, regardless of how many jobs they enter during the reporting period. This is a measure of continued employment in the labor market, not retention of a specific job.
- **Entered Employment with Health Benefits Offered**, defined as a full-time job with health benefits, offered within six months of employment, regardless of whether the refugee actually accepts the coverage offered.

Performance Summary

The increasingly diverse demographics of the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program present ongoing challenges and many refugee populations require extended employability services in order to enter the U.S. labor market and integrate into U.S. society. In order to address these challenges, ORR continues to implement the new regional structure, collaborating with states and Wilson/Fish agencies to better communicate ORR priorities and to share knowledge of promising practices that can be transferred across programs.

The three states with largest employability caseloads (Florida 27,454, Texas 9,735 and California 9,075), representing 47 percent of the total U.S. caseload, reported low outcomes (Florida 38 percent, Texas 46 percent and California 31 percent), and thus significantly influenced overall national outcomes.

Twenty-five states exceeded their entered employment rate for FY 2014. Three states had the same entered employment rate as in FY 2013. Also, 25 states increased the rate of refugees terminating their cash assistance over the previous year.

Twenty-five states improved their job retention rates over the previous year. Retention rates over 90 percent were



reported in Louisiana, Iowa, California, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Alaska, North Carolina, Nebraska, Wisconsin, North Dakota, Arkansas, Alabama, District of Columbia, and Rhode Island.

Also, 29 states improved the rate of refugees entering full-time employment offering health benefits. In FY 2014, 39 states improved their average wage from FY 2013. Twenty-four states reported higher wages than the average aggregate wage for all states (\$9.59).

ORR also tracked the cost per job placement. This measure is the ratio of the total funds used by the state for employment services divided by the number of refugees entering employment during the fiscal year. The average unit cost for all states in FY 2014 was \$1,650.22 per job placement. This represented a \$1.82 increase from the FY 2013 average unit cost of \$1,648.40.

The aggregate data tables below summarize the FY 2013 and FY 2014 performance outcomes for all states and California counties. 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 employability related activities for the purpose of assisting the refugee to find or retain employment. For job retentions, each goal and outcome is expressed as a percent of the total number of refugees who entered employment during the fiscal year. Terminations and reductions are described as a percent of the total number of refugees receiving cash assistance who entered employment. Health benefits availability is presented as a percentage of the total number of refugees who entered full time employment.



Table I-6: FY 2013 and FY 2014 Performance Outcomes for All States and California Counties

ALL STATES (AGGREGATE)	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	89,025		97,530	
Entered Employments	43,916	49%	46,114	47%
Terminations	13,077	53%	14,294	54%
Reductions	3,620	15%	3,290	12%
Average Wage	\$9.45		\$9.59	
Retentions	31,742	75%	35,191	77%
Health Benefits	21,848	61%	23,719	63%

ARKANSAS	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	80		79	
Entered Employments	34	43%	34	43%
Terminations	4	36%	4	31%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$9.35		\$9.55	
Retentions	32	94%	33	92%
Health Benefits	30	97%	27	100%

ALABAMA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	119		103	
Entered Employments	85	71%	87	84%
Terminations	13	20%	8	11%
Reductions	40	63%	44	59%
Average Wage	\$9.41		\$8.80	
Retentions	96	99%	71	97%
Health Benefits	48	62%	47	57%

COLORADO	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	1,486		1,494	
Entered Employments	1,068	72%	1,219	82%
Terminations	694	92%	685	86%
Reductions	63	8%	110	14%
Average Wage	\$9.93		\$10.41	
Retentions	895	86%	1,150	86%
Health Benefits	776	81%	825	77%

ALASKA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	154		167	
Entered Employments	82	53%	77	46%
Terminations	16	23%	25	38%
Reductions	49	71%	36	55%
Average Wage	\$9.31		\$9.57	
Retentions	68	91%	57	95%
Health Benefits	17	31%	28	47%

CONNECTICUT	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	590		523	
Entered Employments	309	52%	359	69%
Terminations	18	9%	35	15%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$10.30		\$10.34	
Retentions	240	75%	301	75%
Health Benefits	132	64%	147	67%

ARIZONA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	1,227		1,616	
Entered Employments	715	58%	928	57%
Terminations	353	90%	420	75%
Reductions	22	6%	46	8%
Average Wage	\$8.41		\$8.50	
Retentions	493	82%	784	85%
Health Benefits	392	65%	427	56%

DELAWARE	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	70		55	
Entered Employments	44	63%	49	89%
Terminations	4	67%	0	0%
Reductions	1	17%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$9.40		\$9.20	
Retentions	11	85%	39	80%
Health Benefits	29	83%	32	86%



DIST. OF COLUMBIA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	575		415	
Entered Employments	200	35%	213	51%
Terminations	111	61%	19	13%
Reductions	30	17%	22	15%
Average Wage	\$10.57		\$10.62	
Retentions	157	99%	222	96%
Health Benefits	71	62%	114	65%

FLORIDA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	20,741		27,454	
Entered Employments	9,058	44%	10,359	38%
Terminations	4,210	96%	4,866	96%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$8.64		\$8.64	
Retentions	5,685	64%	6,615	65%
Health Benefits	4,352	50%	4,953	49%

GEORGIA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	2,569		2,734	
Entered Employments	998	39%	951	35%
Terminations	43	90%	88	80%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$8.63		\$8.90	
Retentions	739	85%	868	88%
Health Benefits	581	67%	714	77%

HAWAII	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	31		17	
Entered Employments	31	100%	6	35%
Terminations	0	0%	0	0%
Reductions	0	0%	4	100%
Average Wage	\$9.37		\$7.31	
Retentions	16	52%	5	83%
Health Benefits	6	100%	0	0%

IDAHO	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	387		547	
Entered Employments	299	77%	323	59%
Terminations	123	68%	144	56%
Reductions	21	12%	48	19%
Average Wage	\$8.80		\$8.66	
Retentions	259	81%	261	88%
Health Benefits	91	51%	65	34%

ILLINOIS	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	2,008		2,047	
Entered Employments	985	49%	1,028	50%
Terminations	473	58%	459	58%
Reductions	199	24%	334	42%
Average Wage	\$9.24		\$10.86	
Retentions	573	60%	819	85%
Health Benefits	686	79%	505	92%

INDIANA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	2,074		1,665	
Entered Employments	1,312	63%	1,144	69%
Terminations	330	43%	258	31%
Reductions	85	11%	50	6%
Average Wage	\$9.44		\$9.69	
Retentions	610	60%	803	77%
Health Benefits	932	74%	968	86%

IOWA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	547		294	
Entered Employments	300	55%	220	75%
Terminations	57	68%	79	100%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$9.37		\$9.46	
Retentions	226	77%	260	95%
Health Benefits	248	95%	146	87%

KANSAS	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	674		814	
Entered Employments	343	51%	475	58%
Terminations	76	78%	134	66%
Reductions	16	16%	38	19%
Average Wage	\$11.28		\$11.23	
Retentions	199	59%	390	82%
Health Benefits	160	62%	264	74%

KENTUCKY	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	2,286		2,589	
Entered Employments	1,302	57%	1,372	53%
Terminations	794	73%	794	75%
Reductions	143	13%	102	10%
Average Wage	\$9.26		\$9.42	
Retentions	959	79%	1,148	85%
Health Benefits	793	71%	890	78%



LOUISIANA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	299		238	
Entered Employments	77	26%	141	59%
Terminations	59	100%	129	100%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$8.98		\$8.96	
Retentions	61	53%	135	91%
Health Benefits	14	25%	17	17%

MINNESOTA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	1,858		1,694	
Entered Employments	1,220	66%	1,049	62%
Terminations	272	34%	230	34%
Reductions	224	28%	166	25%
Average Wage	\$9.15		\$9.69	
Retentions	926	82%	950	79%
Health Benefits	233	27%	203	27%

MAINE	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	372		662	
Entered Employments	148	40%	131	20%
Terminations	41	29%	40	41%
Reductions	7	5%	7	7%
Average Wage	\$9.82		\$9.41	
Retentions	77	96%	87	76%
Health Benefits	3	3%	27	36%

MISSISSIPPI	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	32		40	
Entered Employments	24	75%	10	25%
Terminations	5	50%	5	100%
Reductions	5	50%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$8.75		\$8.95	
Retentions	6	75%	4	80%
Health Benefits	9	69%	3	33%

MARYLAND	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	1,263		1,258	
Entered Employments	1,044	83%	917	73%
Terminations	123	17%	143	25%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$9.91		\$10.07	
Retentions	895	87%	854	85%
Health Benefits	581	73%	522	73%

MISSOURI	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	766		791	
Entered Employments	310	40%	427	54%
Terminations	72	69%	84	65%
Reductions	26	25%	20	15%
Average Wage	\$8.80		\$9.06	
Retentions	234	80%	297	76%
Health Benefits	235	89%	247	81%

MASSACHUSETTS	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	1,680		1,655	
Entered Employments	1,221	73%	1,229	74%
Terminations	479	54%	516	59%
Reductions	327	37%	276	31%
Average Wage	\$10.17		\$10.21	
Retentions	948	76%	1,076	85%
Health Benefits	670	88%	771	89%

MONTANA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	7		6	
Entered Employments	0	0%	4	67%
Terminations	0	0%	0	0%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$0.00		\$9.50	
Retentions	0	0%	3	75%
Health Benefits	0	0%	2	100%

MICHIGAN	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	4,716		3,361	
Entered Employments	1,630	35%	1,566	47%
Terminations	369	40%	441	50%
Reductions	456	50%	369	41%
Average Wage	\$8.81		\$8.86	
Retentions	1,207	80%	1,205	79%
Health Benefits	229	21%	420	37%

NEBRASKA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	1,074		1,041	
Entered Employments	579	54%	573	55%
Terminations	174	91%	169	81%
Reductions	18	9%	4	2%
Average Wage	\$10.29		\$9.60	
Retentions	409	89%	496	91%
Health Benefits	494	95%	473	96%



NEVADA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	1,524		1,736	
Entered Employments	846	56%	966	56%
Terminations	189	32%	218	32%
Reductions	5	1%	18	3%
Average Wage	\$10.04		\$10.38	
Retentions	428	53%	548	54%
Health Benefits	500	78%	484	70%

NORTH CAROLINA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	1,955		1,744	
Entered Employments	1,417	72%	1,532	88%
Terminations	494	88%	510	89%
Reductions	70	12%	61	11%
Average Wage	\$8.54		\$8.77	
Retentions	1,346	90%	982	92%
Health Benefits	1,116	89%	1,220	90%

NEW HAMPSHIRE	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	400		427	
Entered Employments	309	77%	273	64%
Terminations	73	63%	69	74%
Reductions	43	37%	24	26%
Average Wage	\$9.35		\$9.69	
Retentions	166	86%	153	70%
Health Benefits	88	48%	136	70%

NORTH DAKOTA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	345		543	
Entered Employments	248	72%	348	64%
Terminations	115	51%	177	61%
Reductions	15	7%	21	7%
Average Wage	\$8.76		\$9.50	
Retentions	186	97%	208	96%
Health Benefits	156	81%	226	99%

NEW JERSEY	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	714		696	
Entered Employments	207	29%	205	29%
Terminations	44	41%	45	42%
Reductions	28	26%	33	31%
Average Wage	\$9.36		\$11.21	
Retentions	135	87%	154	84%
Health Benefits	75	48%	59	40%

OHIO	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	2,523		2,982	
Entered Employments	849	34%	953	32%
Terminations	166	35%	253	49%
Reductions	235	50%	200	39%
Average Wage	\$8.82		\$9.46	
Retentions	430	76%	284	36%
Health Benefits	208	30%	243	32%

NEW MEXICO	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	235		209	
Entered Employments	75	32%	44	21%
Terminations	10	20%	16	43%
Reductions	3	6%	8	22%
Average Wage	\$8.58		\$8.69	
Retentions	29	78%	35	92%
Health Benefits	10	36%	28	93%

OKLAHOMA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	343		346	
Entered Employments	269	78%	266	77%
Terminations	120	68%	188	100%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$9.39		\$10.23	
Retentions	193	80%	251	93%
Health Benefits	203	79%	244	96%

NEW YORK	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	2,287		2,132	
Entered Employments	1,246	54%	1,522	71%
Terminations	3	1%	3	1%
Reductions	294	99%	190	62%
Average Wage	\$9.36		\$11.00	
Retentions	646	70%	436	81%
Health Benefits	305	31%	294	25%

OREGON	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	1,435		1,474	
Entered Employments	952	66%	1,015	69%
Terminations	360	88%	379	90%
Reductions	50	12%	42	10%
Average Wage	\$9.32		\$9.54	
Retentions	684	71%	694	68%
Health Benefits	415	49%	661	72%



PENNSYLVANIA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	2,029		2,280	
Entered Employments	1,270	63%	1,400	61%
Terminations	417	79%	502	84%
Reductions	76	14%	37	6%
Average Wage	\$8.92		\$9.29	
Retentions	968	80%	1,142	89%
Health Benefits	781	78%	894	78%

TENNESSEE	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	1,127		1,790	
Entered Employments	853	76%	1,053	59%
Terminations	136	29%	363	43%
Reductions	302	64%	229	27%
Average Wage	\$8.72		\$9.06	
Retentions	654	78%	713	64%
Health Benefits	568	76%	682	71%

RHODE ISLAND	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	156		194	
Entered Employments	70	45%	76	39%
Terminations	8	20%	24	59%
Reductions	13	32%	5	12%
Average Wage	\$9.40		\$9.65	
Retentions	55	95%	63	90%
Health Benefits	34	67%	47	80%

TEXAS	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	7,539		9,735	
Entered Employments	4,762	63%	4,437	46%
Terminations	90	3%	134	4%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$8.93		\$9.24	
Retentions	4,508	83%	4,829	83%
Health Benefits	3,189	72%	3,539	87%

SAN DIEGO (W/F)	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	1,659		1,419	
Entered Employments	675	41%	656	46%
Terminations	326	50%	313	51%
Reductions	29	4%	70	11%
Average Wage	\$9.29		\$9.37	
Retentions	383	83%	469	83%
Health Benefits	115	41%	194	57%

UTAH	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	703		583	
Entered Employments	350	50%	353	61%
Terminations	20	43%	23	36%
Reductions	4	9%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$8.52		\$9.02	
Retentions	253	82%	288	80%
Health Benefits	210	83%	133	46%

SOUTH CAROLINA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	153		217	
Entered Employments	65	42%	44	20%
Terminations	1	33%	5	56%
Reductions	2	67%	1	11%
Average Wage	\$8.31		\$10.00	
Retentions	62	81%	25	71%
Health Benefits	50	82%	14	44%

VERMONT	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	276		223	
Entered Employments	169	61%	169	76%
Terminations	42	91%	51	96%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$10.05		\$10.01	
Retentions	163	84%	131	77%
Health Benefits	86	58%	97	65%

SOUTH DAKOTA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	952		910	
Entered Employments	618	65%	431	47%
Terminations	235	79%	166	75%
Reductions	61	21%	27	12%
Average Wage	\$10.13		\$9.87	
Retentions	362	82%	337	68%
Health Benefits	448	82%	283	73%

VIRGINIA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	1,718		1,343	
Entered Employments	1,367	80%	1,107	82%
Terminations	212	73%	104	62%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$9.74		\$9.79	
Retentions	1,056	77%	815	71%
Health Benefits	729	69%	588	70%



WASHINGTON	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	2,567		3,133	
Entered Employments	1,155	45%	994	32%
Terminations	510	75%	295	52%
Reductions	57	8%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$10.19		\$10.29	
Retentions	753	63%	672	71%
Health Benefits	211	29%	231	41%

WEST VIRGINIA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	25		24	
Entered Employments	7	28%	24	100%
Terminations	1	14%	1	4%
Reductions	5	71%	5	21%
Average Wage	\$14.00		\$9.66	
Retentions	2	100%	2	14%
Health Benefits	0	0%	3	27%

WISCONSIN	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	791		956	
Entered Employments	426	54%	548	57%
Terminations	222	88%	291	89%
Reductions	23	9%	28	9%
Average Wage	\$9.36		\$9.66	
Retentions	381	90%	441	91%
Health Benefits	265	73%	342	70%

State of California

CALIFORNIA (AGGREGATE)	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	9,884		9,075	
Entered Employments	2,292	23%	2,807	31%
Terminations	370	19%	389	16%
Reductions	573	30%	615	25%
Average Wage	\$10.02		\$10.07	
Retentions	1,848	78%	2,586	93%
Health Benefits	274	28%	240	21%

California Counties

ALAMEDA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	397		545	
Entered Employments	219	55%	242	44%
Terminations	8	8%	1	1%
Reductions	13	13%	4	3%
Average Wage	\$10.09		\$10.19	
Retentions	212	81%	199	92%
Health Benefits	77	48%	87	48%

LOS ANGELES	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	2,878		2,651	
Entered Employments	815	28%	852	32%
Terminations	166	22%	170	21%
Reductions	244	33%	203	25%
Average Wage	\$9.64		\$9.75	
Retentions	853	98%	852	98%
Health Benefits	6	2%	0	0%

ORANGE	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	633		652	
Entered Employments	94	15%	108	17%
Terminations	33	38%	30	28%
Reductions	0	0%	0	0%
Average Wage	\$10.67		\$10.30	
Retentions	66	75%	89	77%
Health Benefits	14	40%	17	39%



Photo: Courtesy of Georkis Ramos Quintana



SACRAMENTO	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	770		926	
Entered Employments	364	47%	437	47%
Terminations	43	21%	92	32%
Reductions	40	19%	34	12%
Average Wage	\$10.01		\$10.24	
Retentions	300	90%	375	89%
Health Benefits	113	36%	75	19%

STANISLAUS	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	377		281	
Entered Employments	64	17%	61	22%
Terminations	9	20%	6	12%
Reductions	6	13%	3	6%
Average Wage	\$8.72		\$9.70	
Retentions	48	76%	45	75%
Health Benefits	17	63%	12	86%

SAN DIEGO	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	4,489		3,765	
Entered Employments	539	12%	961	26%
Terminations	37	7%	43	4%
Reductions	262	49%	354	37%
Average Wage	\$8.92		\$9.56	
Retentions	282	44%	905	95%
Health Benefits	10	11%	3	2%

SAN FRANCISCO	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	56		48	
Entered Employments	34	61%	17	35%
Terminations	2	6%	4	24%
Reductions	1	3%	1	6%
Average Wage	\$11.76		\$14.50	
Retentions	5	63%	25	96%
Health Benefits	3	30%	1	20%

SANTA CLARA	FY 2013		FY 2014	
Caseload	284		207	
Entered Employments	163	57%	129	62%
Terminations	72	47%	43	38%
Reductions	7	5%	16	14%
Average Wage	\$12.66		\$10.82	
Retentions	82	72%	96	83%
Health Benefits	34	48%	45	70%



Photo: Courtesy of UNHCR

* Note: Wyoming does not participate in the refugee resettlement program.



5. Discretionary Grants

During FY 2014, ORR continued to fund a wide range of discretionary grants targeting individuals and communities with special needs. Unlike formula social service programs, these funds are awarded competitively and may provide services to refugees who have been in the U.S. for more than 60 months (five years).

Individual Development Account Program

Individual Development Accounts (IDA) are matched savings accounts available for the purchase of specific assets. Under the IDA program, the matching funds, together with the refugee's own savings, are available for purchasing one (or more) of four savings goals: home purchase, microenterprise capitalization, post-secondary education or training, and purchase of an automobile if necessary for employment or educational purposes. The purchase of a computer in support of a refugee's education or micro-business also is allowed.

Under the ORR-funded program, grantees provide matched savings accounts to participating refugees, whose annual income is less than 200 percent of the poverty level and whose assets, exclusive of a personal residence and one vehicle, are less than \$10,000. Grantees provide matches of up to \$1 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.

INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT PROGRAM KAW KU HTOO AND DEH MUE—BURMA

Kaw Ku Htoo and Deh Mue are refugees from Burma. They lived in the same refugee camp in Thailand for 16 years, but they did not meet there. They met while attending an orientation for newly arrived refugees in Boise, Idaho. They studied English together, found employment, fell in love, got married, and had a baby girl. They determined the next step in their new American life would be to buy a house. Enrolling in the IDA program and diligently saving soon made it possible for them to make a down payment with their savings and the IDA match. They wanted a new house and contracted to have one built for them and their daughter, Laura. Kaw Hu Htoo was separated from his parents while fleeing Burma. He has learned that they are now in a camp in Thailand and has hopes of bringing them to the U.S.



Photo: Courtesy of Anita Brunner of Jannus, Inc.



The IDA grantees provide basic financial training which is intended to assist refugees in understanding the American financial system. Topics that are covered can include credit ratings, checking and savings accounts, investments, bank usage, and interest rates. The IDA grantees also provide training focused on the specific savings goals.

Program Outcomes

Note: ORR does not currently require specific quantitative data from its IDA grantees. Grantees voluntarily submit data as part of their reporting process to assist in showing progress towards annual goals. Therefore, data presented below may not be representative of the entire program. New reporting requirements for future grants have been submitted to OMB for clearance.

Participant Characteristics. The ORR IDA program focuses its efforts on the refugee community that may benefit the most from the program. For FY 2014, all participants saving for homes and microenterprises must be in the country for five years or less at the time of enrollment. For all other asset goals, participants must be in the country three years or less at the time of enrollment.

Program participation continues to mirror resettlement demographics. Most participants are from Burma, Bhutan, and various countries in Africa. Currently, there are over 3,120 refugees enrolled or have completed the ORR IDA program with the current grantees. Of those reporting data to ORR, over \$2 million worth of assets were purchased in FY 2014.

In FY 2014, ORR awarded 22 IDA grant continuations totaling \$4.6 million. For a list of grantees, refer to [Table I-6: FY 2014 Individual Development Account Grantees](#) below.

Table I-7: FY 2014 Individual Development Account Grantees

GRANTEE	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
Coastal Enterprise, Inc.	Maine	\$230,000
Catholic Charities of Santa Clara	California	\$204,000
Pan-African Community Association	Wisconsin	\$150,000
Jewish Family and Children Services	Kentucky	\$200,000
Diocese of Olympia	Washington	\$152,000
Economic and Community Development, Inc.	Ohio	\$200,000
International Institute of Boston	Massachusetts	\$230,000
International Institute of Buffalo	New York	\$200,000
Hmong American Partnership	Minnesota	\$245,000
Women’s Opportunity and Resource Center	Pennsylvania	\$200,000
International Rescue Committee	Texas	\$200,000
Business Outreach Center Network	New York	\$245,000
Lao Family and Community Development	California	\$200,000
Mountain States Group, Inc.	Idaho	\$200,000
Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization	Oregon	\$215,000



GRANTEE	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
Center for Community Development for New Americans	New York	\$245,000
International Rescue Committee, Inc.	Arizona	\$132,535
Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment	California	\$225,000
U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants, Inc.	North Carolina	\$245,000
International Institute of Metropolitan St. Louis	Missouri	\$244,795
Alliance for African Assistance	California	\$224,670
Community Enterprise Development Services	Colorado	\$212,000

Targeted Assistance Discretionary Grants

The purpose of the Targeted Assistance Discretionary Grant Program (TAG-D) is to address the employment needs of refugees that cannot be met with the Formula Social Services or Formula Targeted Assistance Grant Programs. TAG-D assists newly arrived refugees and specific refugee populations with compelling situations who, for various reasons, have been unable to make the transition to economic self-sufficiency.

Activities supplemented the existing employability services to help refugees achieve economic self-sufficiency.

- Service providers in FY 2014 addressed three priority areas: employment, case management, and social adjustment services.
- FY 2014 was the second year of the three-year grant project period and ORR continued to fund 25 grantees with a total of \$4.7 million. The range of funding was between \$150,000 and \$300,000. The majority of funding (\$3.3 million) was awarded to applicants to serve eligible populations in counties that did not qualify for TAG formula funding for case management and social adjustment services. A list of grantees and funding amounts is provided in [Table I-8](#).
- The TAG-D program served populations who are hard to reach and thus finding greater difficulty integrating, including refugees residing in the U.S. longer than five years, refugee women who are not literate in their native language, and the elderly. Through vocational training and extensive case management, programs helped increase employability and job placement of service recipients.

A major strength of the TAG-D programs is their ability to tailor services to the specific refugee needs in a certain geographic area, which is critical to the success of the program. Grantees utilize a wide variety of services to complement other programs and services geared to increase refugee self-sufficiency. Most grantees provide vocational English as a Second Language and employability services along with intensive case management. Based on local needs, some grantees provide orientation and conflict management training, family services, and various specific employment training programs such as a certified nursing assistant program. Grantees' efforts are focused to address service recipients' major challenges which include low literacy levels, health issues, cultural differences, transportation, childcare, and client expectations. Program effectiveness is measured and reported on trimester basis, and is included in the annual outcomes report under section [Partnerships to Improve Employment and Self-sufficiency Outcomes](#).



Table I-8: FY 2014 Targeted Assistance Discretionary Grantees

GRANTEE	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
Arizona Department of Economic Security	Arizona	\$150,000
California Department of Social Services	California	\$275,000
State of Connecticut	Connecticut	\$175,000
Iowa Department of Human Services	Iowa	\$150,000
Mountain States Group, Inc.	Idaho	\$150,000
Catholic Charities of Louisville Inc.	Kentucky	\$150,000
Maine Department of Health and Human Services	Maine	\$175,000
Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants	Massachusetts	\$186,225
Maryland Department of Human Resources	Maryland	\$150,000
Michigan Department of Human Services	Michigan	\$175,000
Missouri Department of Social Services	Missouri	\$150,000
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services	North Carolina	\$200,000
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services	Nebraska	\$150,000
New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services	New Hampshire	\$175,000
New Jersey Department of Human Services	New Jersey	\$150,000
New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance	New York	\$300,000
Ohio Department of Job & Family Services	Ohio	\$200,000
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	\$225,000
Rhode Island Department of Human Services	Rhode Island	\$175,000
Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota	South Dakota	\$150,000
Texas Health and Human Services Commission	Texas	\$300,000
State of Utah, Department of Workforce Services	Utah	\$175,000
Vermont Agency of Human Services	Vermont	\$150,000
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services	Washington	\$200,000
Wisconsin Department of Children and Families	Wisconsin	\$250,000



Technical Assistance

ORR supports the work of its grantees and other refugee service providers through three technical assistance cooperative agreements with organizations qualified to provide expertise in fields central to refugee resettlement. ORR's intent through this technical assistance support is to equip refugee-serving agencies with the best help for continuous improvement in programs, in their capacity to serve refugees, and impact refugee lives and economic independence.

In FY 2014, ORR awarded three grants for a total amount of \$637,632. For a list of grantees, refer to [Table I-9: FY 2014 Technical Assistance Grantees](#) below. In FY2014, the three technical assistance providers provided the following:

Welcoming America activities included:

- Distributed two training toolkits, and hosted virtual training on five ways to foster a greater welcoming environment for refugees.
- Hosted a webinar series that included approaches and opportunities celebrating refugees, event messages, how to engage local leaders in refugee welcome, and fostering refugee empowerment in community building effort.
- Provided local capacity building training for the States of Georgia, New Hampshire, and Tennessee.
- Provided in-depth local capacity building to key communities.

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services activities included:

- Worked with states, counties, resettlement agencies, and ethnic-community based organizations, workforce development boards, and policy and policy-makers in their efforts to help refugees gain economic stability and fully participate in the American dream.
- Responded to direct requests for information and technical assistance, using a variety of cost effective platforms to educate and inform refugee service providers throughout the country.
- Developed a website that hosts a series of webinars, including an e-learning institute targeting both service providers and refugees.

ICF International:

- Provided analytical and grants management functions, technical assistance on strengthening connections between ORR and partner networks, and development of videos and print media in common refugee languages related to refugee health.
- Supported ORR efforts to foster collaboration among refugee, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.
- Developed a webinar series that included models of collaboration with stakeholders.
- Published three models of best practices that can be replicated throughout the country.
- Conducted a series of five webinars that provided support to resettlement agencies, and federal partners.
- Developed a video on emotional wellness for Bhutanese refugees.

Table I-9: FY 2014 Technical Assistance Grantees

GRANTEE	CITY, STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
ICF International, LLC	Fairfax, VA	\$273,132
Welcoming America, Inc.	Decatur, GA	\$170,100
Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services	Baltimore, MD	\$194,400

Microenterprise Development Program

MICROENTERPRISE PROJECT: REKAN—IRAQ



Photo: Courtesy of International Institute of St. Louis

Rekan, 28, and his family were forced to flee their homeland of Northern Iraq when the US military began its withdrawal, since his brother had worked for the US Armed Forces as a translator. Starting over was a challenge for Rekan. He applied for more than 100 jobs during his first seven months in St. Louis while attending English language classes. His first job in the US was working in the deli department at a local grocery store.

Three years later, a microloan from ORR helped Rekan open his new car dealership, Best Used Cars. His mission is to provide fellow immigrants with affordable, reliable used cars — thus contributing to economic progress and integration in St. Louis. His business has been open for two years and now is helping ORR IDA participants buy their first cars.

Many newly arrived refugees are interested in starting small businesses to improve their lives. However, as new arrivals, they possess few personal assets and lack credit histories and acceptable credit scores to meet commercial lending standards. The Microenterprise Development (MED) program focuses on assisting refugees in overcoming these challenges. Typically, microenterprise projects include components of training and technical assistance in business skills and small business management, provision of capital, and funds for administration and revolving loan and loan loss reserve.

MED projects are intended to: (1) assist recently arrived entrepreneurial refugees in becoming economically self-sufficient by owning and managing a small business, (2) assist refugee-serving organizations in starting and/or expanding their capacities to provide microenterprise services to refugees, and (3) enhance the integration of refugees into the mainstream economy.

In FY 2014, ORR awarded 22 MED continuation grants totaling \$4.5 million. They operated in 20 states. The agencies are located in both rural and urban settings and in areas with both high and low concentrations of refugees. No new grants were awarded in FY 2014.

In FY 2014, over 2,000 refugees from many different countries were served in the microenterprise program. These services included business training; pre-loan and post-loan technical assistance; and providing financing to start, expand, or strengthen a business.

Loan Funds: During FY 2014, refugee entrepreneurs received 544 loans totaling approximately \$4.0 million to start new businesses and/or expand or maintain existing businesses. This represents an average loan amount of about \$7,308. Approximately 30 percent of the total loans disbursed were provided from the ORR revolving loan fund, while



the remaining 70 percent were disbursed from other sources such as other federal agencies--Small Business Administration (SBA) and Community Development Financial Institutions Funds (CDFI), financial institutions, grants, and personal savings.

Microenterprise as Job Creation: The above-mentioned businesses have created and retained 1,205 jobs that employed other low-income refugees, often family members.

Monitoring and Evaluation: ORR staff conducted seven on-site monitoring visits focusing on case management, verification of eligibility of clients for services, and progress of projects toward meeting objectives.

In summary, FY 2014 projects have enrolled over 2,000 refugees and provided more than 16,000 hours of pre-loan and post-loan technical assistance including business training, marketing, inventory control and management, and one-on-one mentoring. In addition, projects made 544 loans disbursing almost \$4.0 million, and leveraged over \$8.9 million from other sources. These businesses created/retained 1,205 jobs, mostly for other low income refugees. To see some of the many success stories, [visit our website](#).

Table I-10: FY 2014 Microenterprise Development Program Grantees

GRANTEE	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
Diocese of Olympia	Washington	\$225,000
Massachusetts Office of Refugee & Immigrants	Massachusetts	\$250,000
Women's Opportunities Resource Center	Pennsylvania	\$195,000
Hmong American Partnership	Minnesota	\$230,000
Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services	Michigan	\$207,733
Mountain States Group	Idaho	\$125,000
Coastal Enterprises, Inc.	Maine	\$125,000
International Rescue Committee	Utah	\$220,000
The University of North Carolina at Greensboro	North Carolina	\$216,267
Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment (PACE)	California	\$208,964
Economic & Community Development Institute	Ohio	\$242,982
Center for Community Development for New Americans	New York	\$242,982
Jewish Vocational Service & Employment Center	Kentucky	\$169,123
Women's Economic Self-sufficiency	New Mexico	\$194,385
International Rescue Committee	California	\$170,087
Opening Doors, Inc.	California	\$184,666
Community Enterprise Development Services	Colorado	\$242,982
International Rescue Committee	Arizona	\$170,087
SNAP Financial Access	Washington	\$210,120
ECDC Enterprise Development Group	Virginia	\$242,982



GRANTEE	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
Anew America Community Corporation	California	\$200,000
International Institute of Metropolitan St. Louis	Missouri	\$239,982

Refugee Home-Based Child Care Microenterprise Development Program

Under the MED umbrella, many refugee women successfully launched family child care (FCC) businesses, often caring for refugee children in their neighborhoods. Their aptitude for this market niche prompted ORR to create the designated refugee home-based child care microenterprise development program HBCC-MED in FY 2011.

Refugee women with young children at home have had difficulty accessing the job market and remain mostly unemployed. These women, identified as a particularly vulnerable segment of the refugee population, have been unlikely to find employment or gain access to capital or training through other mainstream programs without the assistance of refugee-serving agencies. These challenges can be overcome with high quality FCC and MED trainings, providing opportunities for those operating FCC businesses and those seeking appropriate child care. The project targets eligible refugee women, but is open to eligible refugee men as well.

The two main objectives of the HBCC-MED are to: (1) help refugees to achieve economic self-sufficiency by becoming licensed HBCC providers; and (2) ease the shortage of licensed culturally and linguistically competent HBCC providers.

HOME-BASED CHILD CARE: AMINA MUDEY—SOMALIA

Amina Mudey is a refugee from Somalia. The ongoing civil war in her country prevented Amina from attending school and cost her many family members. Amina's family encouraged her to leave Somalia and try for a better life somewhere else. They believed that Amina's outgoing personality would help her to succeed.

Amina completed the Alliance for African Assistance Family Child Care Training Program in three months and was successfully licensed. Two months later she was caring for 11 children. Amina says that the program has given her "the training I needed to prepare myself to open my own business."

"I am living the American dream," Amina says. "I learned English, I got my driver's license and a car, and now I have my own business. I am super excited about what the future holds for me! In America, anything is possible and I am in the right place!"

Photo: Courtesy of Alliance for African Assistance





The HBCC-MED also enables other refugees to enter the workforce with confidence that their children are cared for by proficient, licensed HBCC providers in their neighborhoods and communities, who possess an understanding of the children’s cultural background and the ability to communicate in the children’s native languages.

Under HBCC-MED, ORR awards two-year grants to eligible entities that provide assistance to refugees in becoming licensed HBCC providers. This includes, but is not limited to, accessing HBCC and MED training; navigating the certification process and the process to qualify for state/county child care reimbursement; and providing post certification assistance.

Refugees trained under this project learn about state and federal child care laws, regulations and licensing requirements, and U.S. child care norms; acquire English language skills; advance their education (e.g., attainment of General Education Diploma (G.E.D.)); learn basic financial skills; receive one-time financial assistance to cover partial start-up costs related to home-based child care entrepreneurship; apply their new child care knowledge and skills in the job market; and improve their economic opportunities. With their enhanced understanding of early childhood programs, refugee women apply their acquired knowledge to facilitate the integration of their children while operating HBCC facilities and attaining economic self-sufficiency. Through HBCC-MED, refugee families and children benefit from placement in high quality, stable home-based child care services provided by HBCC-MED alumni.

In FY14, ORR awarded Home Based Child Care Microenterprise grants totaling \$4.6 million.

Table I-11: HBCC-MED Grantees FY 2014

GRANTEE	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
Burmese American Community Institute	IN	\$54,667
Business Outreach Center Network, Inc.	NY	\$101,500
Bethany Christian Services of Michigan	MI	\$101,435
Children’s Forum, Inc. (2)	FL	\$172,942
Arab Community Center for Economic & Social Services	MI	\$178,742
Lutheran Social Services of Des Moines	IA	\$71,441
National Association Childcare Resource & Referrals	VA	\$71,342
Catholic Charities of Dallas	TX	\$71,442
Jewish Family & Career Services of Louisville	KY	\$71,442
World Relief	MD	\$71,442
Resources for Child Caring	MN	\$107,300
ECDC Enterprise Development Group (2)	VA	\$71,442
Community Relations-Social Development Commission	WI	\$71,442
Salt Lake County	UT	\$107,300
Economic and Community Development Institute	OH	\$175,842
Catholic Charities of Los Angeles	CA	\$178,742
International Rescue Committee, Inc.	NY	\$71,442



GRANTEE	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
U.S. Committee for Refugees & Immigrants	NC	\$71,442
Somali Bantu Community of Greater Houston	TX	\$178,697
Alliance of African Assistance	CA	\$178,743
Mountain States Group	ID	\$167,322
Community Enterprise Development Services	CO	\$189,618
Rochester Child First Network	NY	\$185,639
Center for Pan Asian Community Services	GA	\$170,000
Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization	OR	\$175,000
Association of Africans Living in Vermont	VT	\$198,799
Catholic Charities of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse	NY	\$170,000
International Institute of Los Angeles	CA	\$166,000
Lutheran Social Services, Inc.	MA	\$143,517
Journey's End Refugee Services	NY	\$199,908
Opening Doors, Inc.	CA	\$174,000
U.S. Committee for Refugees & Immigrants	VA	\$107,300
International Institute of Boston	MA	\$71,442
Horn of Africa Services	WA	\$71,442
International Rescue Committee, Inc.	GA	\$71,442
International Rescue Committee, Inc.	AZ	\$165,00

Refugee Agricultural Partnership Program

The Refugee Agricultural Partnership Program (RAPP) provides agricultural and food related resources and technical information to local refugee serving agencies through public and private partnerships. As many refugee families have agrarian backgrounds, these programs support urban and rural gardening and/or farming projects that increase refugee family incomes, provide access to quality and familiar foods, foster better physical and mental health and integration into their communities, as well as provide a starting point for some to become independent farmers.

FY 2014 was the first year of a three-year project cycle for 11 RAPP projects. The total annual budget was \$930,373 with annual grant awards averaging about \$85,000 for grantees.

The 11 projects are located in 11 different states with different climates, serving varying ethnic groups located mostly in low-income areas. Projects must adapt to the challenges and opportunities within their communities. Successful projects generally include a combination of supportive leadership and dedicated staff, strong partnerships, volunteer support and the leveraging of other resources that allow grantees to carry out activities beyond their levels of RAPP funding. A major factor is also the dedication and enthusiasm of the refugees themselves to embrace the program and use the resources being made available to them. A large part of this is the ability to allow refugee families to engage in a familiar task and grow familiar foods which connects them to their past and individual cultures, while helping them develop potential revenue sources.

RAPP has promoted the idea that healthy foods and good nutrition for refugee families are fundamental to the resettlement process. Besides being encouraged to grow healthy and familiar vegetables in community gardens, initiatives have been developed that promote greater access to fresh produce at farmers’ markets.

ORR has partnered with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to establish farmers’ markets at the community gardens at RAPP sites. USDA brings Electronic Balance Transfer (EBT) machines to the farmers’ markets that enable clients with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, to purchase fresh, organic, locally grown produce utilizing their SNAP benefits. The Wholesome Wave Foundation and others have contributed resources to effectively double the value of the SNAP benefits when used at these select farmers’ markets.



Photo: ORR

In order to broaden the impact of RAPP, a listserv is maintained that disseminates a wide range of technical and other information to organizations across the country. At the end of 2014, there were over 400 subscribers including current and former grantees, and other garden groups. Previous RAPP grantees have been able to secure USDA funding under various programs to sustain the viability of their gardens, and have often agreed to serve as mentors to fledgling grantees to jump start their projects.

RAPP has proven to have an amazing impact on the lives of refugees and the communities in which they reside. Community gardens serve as venues for English language acquisition, improved nutrition, exercise and mental health, and often facilitate the integration with the broader community.

For more success stories and to subscribe to the RAPP listserv, [visit our website](#). The 11 RAPP projects are as follows:

Table I-12: FY 2014 Refugee Agricultural Partnership Program Grantees

GRANTEE	CITY	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church of St. Mary of Addis	Tampa	Florida	\$84,843
Pacific Gateway Center	Honolulu	Hawaii	\$83,990
Lutheran Services in Iowa	Des Moines	Iowa	\$85,000



GRANTEE	CITY	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
Journeys End Refugee Services	Buffalo	New York	\$85,000
International Rescue Committee, Inc. (Oakland)	New York	New York	\$85,000
International Rescue Committee, Inc. (New York)	New York	New York	\$85,000
International Rescue Committee, Inc. (Charlottesville, VA)	New York	New York	\$85,000
The Refugee Response	Cleveland	Ohio	\$85,000
Southside Community Land Trust	Providence	Rhode Island	\$85,000
Somali Bantu Community Development Councils of South Dakota	Sioux Falls	South Dakota	\$81,540
Center for Refugees and Immigrants of Tennessee	Nashville	Tennessee	\$85,000

Preferred Communities Program

The purpose of the Preferred Communities Program is to: support the resettlement of newly arriving refugees with the best opportunities for their self-sufficiency and integration into new communities; support the development of the national resettlement agencies’ capacity to address refugee cases with special or unique needs that require more intensive case management; and develop new capacity and provide resources for national resettlement agencies to cover the costs of changing community placements so that refugees, including those with special or unique needs, are placed in a particular site where they will have the best chance for integration.

Preferred Communities grants provide intensive case management services to the most vulnerable newly arrived refugees to include critical medical and mental health needs that extend beyond the initial reception and placement period. The program increases the capacity of affiliate staff to respond to critical emergencies and allows for long term case management of vulnerable clients in need of extended or specialized care. Preferred Communities grants not only provide expanded services of the basic requirements of resettlement but also specialized services that are intended to offer refugees greater opportunities for economic independence and integration.

Examples of special populations needing intensive case management served throughout the program may include, at a minimum: youth and young adults without parents or permanent guardians who have spent an unusually long period under refugee camp conditions; single mothers; elderly refugees without a family support system; refugees experiencing social or psychological conditions, including emotional trauma resulting from war, sexual, or gender-based violence; lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) refugees; refugees who are HIV-positive; refugees who have a history of suicidal risk factors, or other populations with physical disabilities or medical conditions identified and determined as needing intensive case management.

Listed below are a few examples of assistance provided to refugees through the FY 2014 Preferred Communities projects:

The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) continued to strengthen the long-term capacity of intensive case management and support services to vulnerable refugees and asylees identified as LGBT. Two affiliates, Jewish Family and Chil-

PREFERRED COMMUNITIES PROGRAM: SHRAYA GURUNG—BHUTAN

Shraya Gurung is a young Bhutanese girl who arrived as an underweight 3-year-old. She was referred to several specialists for diagnostic tests. Despite attempts to increase her weight, she required multiple hospitalizations and a visiting nurse to ensure proper feeding.

Using the Preferred Communities grant for Medical Case Management, HIAS assisted the family by facilitating medical appointments, monitoring adherence to medical orders, enrolling Shraya in WIC, and identifying the nutritional supplements she could tolerate. Staff secured assistance from a medical transportation company, allowing the family to attend appointments at minimal cost.

Shraya has not been hospitalized in over two years. She is being monitored by her doctors, she is gaining weight and her progress is promising. A visiting nurse is no longer necessary and her parents know how to provide feeding support. The family is now independently addressing her medical needs. Shraya loves her pre-school and is looking forward to kindergarten. Photo: Courtesy of HIAS



dren's Services of East Bay (JFCS) in Walnut Creek, California, and FEGS Health and Human Services in New York, New York provided supportive services to over 37 individuals in their third year of the grants. The programs built a network of over 50 local organizations for outreach, referral, and support that included area hospitals, law firms, and resettlement agencies, created local resource guides, and used social media, print, and radio to share the programs' successes.

The Ecumenical Refugee and Immigration Services (ERIS) in Denver, Colorado, an affiliate of the Domestic and Foreign Ministry Society, focused on LGBT cases and refugees that arrived with severe and persistent mental health needs. The program conducted outreach in the community, networked with LGBT friendly churches, organizations, and paired 11 mentors to clients for additional support. ERIS facilitated on-site therapeutic support groups to 89 refugees that tailored creative therapy activities, and addressed specific needs of LGBT clients. Creative interventions included therapeutic photography components to the curriculum that helped clients address emotional issues, built coping mechanisms, and helped reduce symptoms of trauma.

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) served over 1,120 clients at 13 sites through their intensive case management program. IRC utilized a strengths-based, client-centered model of service delivery in which the client was connected with internal and external resources, closely monitored their progress through a series of assessments, and helped them identify and achieve long-term goals through a service plan. Of the clients served through their Preferred Communities programs, 656 received medical case management while 361 received mental health services. Based on



client assessments that were given at time of arrival, three, six, and twelve months into case management, 89 percent of clientele moved from “at risk” to “stable” while 12 percent moved from “stable” to “thriving” in less than one year.

At IRC Phoenix, the intensive case manager scheduled 206 primary care, prenatal, and physical therapy appointments, 109 specialist appointments, and enrolled clients with 353 community resources. An example of such case coordination includes the case of a Burmese man who lost his leg 20 years ago. The program helped him secure a prosthesis for the first time, go to physical therapy appointments, and walk again on his own after 20 years.

The U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) also utilized a strengths-based approach, noting that 58 percent of clientele enrolled in long-term case management had a significant social or psychological condition. USCRI served a total of 474 clients at eight sites with 246 enrolled for social/psychological intervention and 228 enrolled due to suicidal risk factors, physical disabilities, or medical conditions. The International Institute of Connecticut at Bridgeport used mentoring, a women’s group, job club, and structured therapeutic socialization activities such as sewing training, a gardening project, cooking lessons, and a beauty school. The Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island (DIIRI) in Providence focused on youth and those experiencing social or psychological conditions. DIIRI created partnerships with culturally appropriate mental health providers that offered: home visits, school intervention, parenting skills, family counseling, and youth skills development workshops. The program also fostered a youth tutoring and enrichment program with Brown University students and gardening skills and community support groups through a partnership with Southside Community Land Trust.

Lutheran Immigration and Refugees Services, Inc. (LIRS) utilized mentor programs, enhanced cultural orientations, and women’s empowerment groups in support of their intensive case management services. LIRS enrolled 436 individuals into the Preferred Communities program throughout seven sites with an emphasis on Congolese arrivals. Lutheran Community Services Northwest in Portland, Oregon launched a Congolese Women’s Self Care Group including a nutrition module facilitated through a partnership with Oregon Health Sciences university nursing students. The program also provides mentoring and volunteer programs in which they have established a valuable relationship with a local agency “These Numbers Have Faces” sponsoring African students for higher education, resulting in over 250 volunteer hours. In Phoenix, Arizona, Refugee Focus organized a women’s health/wellness class in collaboration with its women’s empowerment group and facilitated by a joint partnership of students from Brookline College of Nursing and Congolese Ethnic Community Based Organizations in the local area.

In FY 2014, ORR awarded 18 continuation grants, and nine new grants to national voluntary agencies to support the resettlement of newly arriving refugees in communities where they will have the best opportunities for integration and to provide support for populations that have special needs. For a list of grantees, refer to [Table I-13: FY 2014 Preferred Communities Program Grantees](#).

Table I-13: FY 2014 Preferred Communities Program Grantees

GRANTEE	CITY/STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops	Cleveland, OH; Portland, OR; Rochester, NY; Salt Lake City, UT; San Antonio, TX; Syracuse, NY; Dallas, TX; Ft. Worth, TX; Houston, TX; Hartford, CT	\$2,090,835
U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants	Akron, OH; Bridgeport, CT; Houston, TX; Kansas City, KS; St. Louis, MO; Philadelphia, PA; Providence, RI; Albany, NY	\$1,068,689
Ethiopian Community Development Council	Phoenix, AZ; Houston, TX; Omaha, NE; Chicago, IL; Milwaukee, WI; Clearwater, FL; Silver Spring, MD; Arlington, VA	\$756,508
Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society	Ann Arbor, MI; Charlotte, NC; Clearwater, FL; Columbus, OH; Kent, WA; Pittsburgh, PA; San Diego, CA; Springfield, MA	\$676,024



GRANTEE	CITY/STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
International Rescue Committee	Abilene, TX; Atlanta, GA; Baltimore, MD; Charlottesville, VA; Dallas, TX; Elizabeth, NJ; Miami, FL; New York, NY; Oakland, CA; Sacramento, CA; Silver Spring, MD; Phoenix, AZ; Tucson, AZ	\$1,271,998
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service	Phoenix, AZ; Portland, OR; Ft. Worth, TX; Chicago, IL; Grand Rapids, MI; Philadelphia, PA	\$1,078,225
World Relief Corporation of National Association of Evangelicals	Seattle, WA; Chicago, IL; Durham, NC; Fox Valley, WI; Garden Grove, CA; Moline, IL; Tri Cities, WA	\$811,403
Church World Service	Durham, NC; Grand Rapids, MI; Lincoln, NE; Omaha, NE; Buffalo, NY; Syracuse, NY; Columbus, OH; Amarillo, TX; Dallas, TX; Harrisburg, PA	\$884,108
Domestic and Foreign Mission Society	Tucson, AZ; New Haven CT; Decatur, GA; Indianapolis, IN; Wichita, KS; Minneapolis, MN; Concord, NH; Syracuse, NY	\$833,274
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service	Los Angeles, CA; Atlanta, GA	\$190,279
Domestic and Foreign Mission Society	Denver, CO; Grand Rapids, MI; Boise, ID	\$190,279
Church World Service	West Palm Beach, FL; Greensboro, NC; Lancaster, PA	\$122,656
Ethiopian Community Development Center	Denver, CO; Las Vegas, NV	\$189,452
World Relief	Memphis & Nashville, TN	\$169,138
U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants	Cleveland, OH; Erie, PA; Bowling Green, KY	\$190,279
International Rescue Committee	Wichita, KS	\$190,420
Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society	Buffalo, NY; Cleveland, OH; Philadelphia, PA	\$190,420
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops	Dayton, OH; Lansing, MI	\$185,852
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops	Phoenix, AZ	\$40,827
U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants	Philadelphia, PA; Pittsburgh, PA; St. Paul, MN	\$61,239
Ethiopian Community Development Council	Jamaica Plain, MA; Worcester, MA; Nashville, TN	\$61,239
Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society	New York, NY; Walnut Creek, CA	\$81,653
International Rescue Committee	Seattle, WA	\$40,827
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service	Albuquerque, NM	\$51,033
World Relief Corporation of National Association of Evangelicals	Columbus, OH	\$40,827
Church World Service	Sacramento, CA; Concord, NH; Rochester, NY; Knoxville, TN	\$60,919
Domestic and Foreign Mission Society	Houston, TX; Austin, TX; Minneapolis, MN; Indianapolis, IN; New Haven, CT	\$61,239



Ethnic Community Self-Help Program

The objective of the Ethnic Community Self-Help (ECSH) Program is to strengthen organized ethnic community-based organizations (ECBOs) comprised of refugee populations. Many refugees who arrived in this country have traditionally formed self-help groups to support their members, foster long-term community growth, and assist community members in finding jobs and housing, learning English, and accessing health and social services. Through this grant program, ORR supports the development of more integrated, diversified, and self-sustaining refugee ECBOs. Over the course of the three-year project period, these organizations receive the opportunity to enhance their capacity to provide ongoing support and services to refugees in a culturally competent manner.

In FY 2014, ORR supported 51 single and multi-site ethnic community projects through awards totaling approximately \$5.5 million. ORR awarded 20 grant continuations and 18 new grants, while 13 grantees completed their projects and closed their grants on time. The grantee organizations provided self-help networks and various in-house and referral services to newly arrived refugees in order to enhance their integration into mainstream communities. In addition, they conducted community outreach, coalition building, strategic planning, resource development, and leadership training activities for refugee adults and youth.

The diverse projects across refugee receiving communities included an intensive parenting training series in Vermont; a health advocates training program for women in Georgia; and a multi-prong education program providing civics classes to support adults preparing for naturalization applications and walk-in tutoring sessions aimed at pre-kindergarten and elementary-level students in Indiana. In addition, several grantees assisted refugees in accessing information about the Affordable Care Act through outreach and education activities as part of their project support services to refugee communities.

ETHNIC COMMUNITY SELF-HELP PROGRAM: TIRTHA BASNET—BHUTAN

Tirtha Basnet is known in her community as the first female Bhutanese adult in New Hampshire to become a U.S. citizen.

When Tirtha arrived in New Hampshire after living in a refugee camp for 18 years she spoke no English. She spent the next several years trying to change that. She attended English and citizenship classes through the Ethnic Community Self-Help Program at the Bhutanese Community of New Hampshire. She also studied American history, government, and civics.

Tirtha, who was a community development leader in the refugee camp, is very proud to be a U.S. citizen. She owns her own home and runs an in-home child care business. Her hopes for the future include success in her business, good jobs for her family, and helping other Bhutanese community members.

When asked what advice she would offer newly arriving refugees, Tirtha says “[W]ork hard, go to school, learn English, and get citizenship.” Photo: Courtesy of English for New Americans





Through the course of each three-year project period, some program grantees demonstrated great progress and acquired considerable service capacity, and many of them received positive recognition for their achievements locally and nationally. During the White House National Convening on Immigrant and Refugee Integration, in July 2014, grantees Somali Family Service, Refugee Family Services, and the Tucson International Alliance of Refugee Communities were recognized for their work to support ethnic communities.

The following tables outline the ethnic organizations supported by ORR under the Ethnic Community Self-Help Program.

Table I-14: FY 2014 Ethnic Community Self-Help Program Grantees

GRANTEE	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
Helping Ensure Africa Looms International, Inc.	New York	\$170,103
Somali Bantu Association of Tucson, Arizona, Inc.	Arizona	\$145,803
Pan-African Association	Illinois	\$121,502
Somali Family Service	California	\$179,823
Iraqi American Society for Peace and Friendship	Arizona	\$194,404
Organization for Refugee and Immigrant Success	New Hampshire	\$136,083
Global Refugee Center	Colorado	\$69,810
Karen Organization of Minnesota	Minnesota	\$170,103
Center for Refugees and Immigrants of Tennessee	Tennessee	\$145,803
Nile Sisters Development Initiative	California	\$121,502
Bhutanese Community of New Hampshire	New Hampshire	\$145,803
Pars Equality Center	California	\$150,000
Chaldean and Middle-Eastern Social Services, Inc.	California	\$175,000
Burmese Community Center for Education Inc.	Indiana	\$200,000
Nashville International Center for Empowerment	Tennessee	\$150,000
Ethnic Minorities from Burma Advocacy and Resource Center	Iowa	\$175,000
Association of Africans Living in Vermont, Inc.	Vermont	\$125,000
SEAMAAC	Pennsylvania	\$150,000
Somali Culture & Development Association	Maine	\$150,000
Women Watch Afrika, Inc.	Georgia	\$125,000
Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization	Oregon	\$95,700
Burmese American Community Institute	Indiana	\$113,100
Karen Organization of San Diego	California	\$74,812
Somali American Parent Association	Minnesota	\$104,400
Somali Bantu Community of Greater Houston	Texas	\$101,500
Burmese American Initiative	Michigan	\$101,500
Bhutanese American Organization-Philadelphia	Pennsylvania	\$101,500



GRANTEE	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
Arab Community Center for Economic & Social Services	Michigan	\$101,500
Partners for Refugee Empowerment	Texas	\$101,500
Colorado African Organization	Colorado	\$95,700
Somali Bantu Community Association of Onondaga County, Inc.	New York	\$87,000
Iraqi Mutual Aid Society	Illinois	\$107,300
Somali American Community Center Inc.	Georgia	\$101,500
Pars Equality Center	California	\$87,000
Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc.	Virginia	\$87,000
Bhutanese Community Association of Pittsburgh	Pennsylvania	\$104,400
African Family Health Organization	Pennsylvania	\$87,000
The Bhutanese Nepali Community of Columbus	Ohio	\$87,035



Photo: Courtesy of UNHCR



Refugee Health Promotion

In FY 2014, ORR published a funding opportunity for the Refugee Health Promotion grant, a three-year project covering the period from August 15, 2014 to August 14, 2017. For the first budget year, ORR awarded \$4.6 million in grants to 38 states.

The Refugee Health Promotion grant, previously named the Preventive Health grant, allows many of the same services as under the Preventive Health grant, but the overall goal and objectives were modified to reflect a framework that covers health from arrival to self-sufficiency and to avoid duplication of services allowable from ORR's Cash and Medical Assistance (CMA) funds.

Activities supported by the final year of the Preventive Health grant program (project period August 15, 2011 to August 14, 2014) included medical interpretation, health education and orientations, emotional wellness projects, medical case management, domestic health assessments, and collection of medical screening data. With the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, a number of states implemented initiatives to assist refugees navigate health coverage options.

For a list of grantees, refer to [Table I-15: FY 2014 Refugee Health Promotion Program Grantees](#).

Table I-15: FY 2014 Refugee Health Promotion Program Grantees

GRANTEE	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
Catholic Social Services	AK	\$75,000
Arizona Department of Economic Security	AZ	\$140,000
California Department of Public Health	CA	\$195,000
Colorado Department of Human Services	CO	\$120,000
State of Connecticut Department of Public Health	CT	\$100,000
Community of Hope Inc.	DC	\$75,000
State of Florida Department of Health	FL	\$200,000
State Refugee Health Program	GA	\$160,000
Idaho Department of Health and Welfare	ID	\$100,000
Illinois Department of Public Health	IL	\$175,000
Indiana State Department of Health	IN	\$120,000
Catholic Charities of Louisville, Inc	KY	\$150,000
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Baton Rouge	LA	\$75,000
Commonwealth of MA Office for Refugees and Immigrants	MA	\$120,000
Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene	MD	\$160,000
Maine Department of Health and Human Services	ME	\$75,000
Minnesota Department of Health	MN	\$150,000
Missouri Department of Social Services	MO	\$120,000
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services	NC	\$150,000
Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota	ND	\$75,000
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services	NE	\$100,000
New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services	NH	\$75,000
New Jersey Department of Health	NJ	\$90,000



GRANTEE	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
New Mexico Department of Health	NM	\$75,000
Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada	NV	\$120,000
NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance	NY	\$175,000
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services	OH	\$165,000
Multnomah County Health Department	OR	\$110,000
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania/Department of Public Welfare	PA	\$125,000
Rhode Island Department of Health	RI	\$75,000
Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota	SD	\$75,000
Catholic Charities of TN, Inc.	TN	\$120,000
Department of State Health Services	TX	\$195,000
Utah Department of Health	UT	\$100,000
Commonwealth of Virginia State Board of Health	VA	\$125,000
Vermont Department of Health	VT	\$75,000
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services	WA	\$165,000
Wisconsin Department of Children and Families	WI	\$100,000



Photo: Office of Refugee Resettlement



Cuban/Haitian Grants

Cuban/Haitian Discretionary Program funding is awarded to public and private non-profit agencies to increase services to Cuban/Haitian refugees and entrants in the areas of employment, hospitals, and other health and mental health care programs, adult and vocational education, refugee crime or victimization, and citizenship/naturalization services.

Congress created the Cuban/Haitian Entrant Program under Title V of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980. The law provides for a program of reimbursement to participating states for cash and medical assistance to Cuban and Haitian entrants under the same conditions and to the same extent as such assistance and services for refugees under the refugee program. The first recipients of the new program were the approximately 125,000 Cubans who fled the Castro regime in the Mariel boatlift of 1980.

In FY 2014, ORR awarded 13 continuation grants totaling \$18.5 million to service programs for Cuban/Haitian refugees and entrants. Services for each grantee include one or more of the following program categories: employment; health and mental healthcare programs; adult/vocational education; refugee crime and victimization; and, citizenship and naturalization preparation course. For a list of grantees, refer to [Table 1-16: FY 2014 Cuban/Haitian Discretionary Program Grantees](#), below.

Table 1-16: FY 2014 Cuban/Haitian Discretionary Program Grantees

GRANTEE	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
Arizona Department of Economic Security	AZ	\$189,388
Florida Department of Children & Family Services	FL	\$16,265,676
Georgia Department of Human Services	GA	\$97,200
Catholic Charities of Louisville, Inc.	KY	\$338,601
Commonwealth of Mass, Office for Refugees and Immigrant	MA	\$97,200
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services	NC	\$97,200
New Jersey Department of Human Services	NJ	\$194,400
Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada	NV	\$243,000
New York State Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance	NY	\$167,735
State of Oregon	OR	\$97,200
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	PA	\$97,200
Texas Health & Human Services Commission	TX	\$486,000
Virginia Department of Social Services	VA	\$97,200

Refugee School Impact

The central purpose of the Refugee School Impact Grant (RSIG) is to address the educational needs of refugee children by improving their academic performance and social adjustment to schools. The RSIG objective is to assist schools impacted by high number of refugee children in delivering effective and viable education to and promoting integration of refugee children.

The primary focus of this grant in FY 2014 was to help newly arrived refugees who are making major initial adjustments and those that have been in the United States three years or less but continue to face persistent challenges in schools.

Service providers in FY 2014 primarily supported supplementary instruction to refugee students and worked on fostering parent-school partnerships. They also provided assistance to teachers, other school staff, and the community to improve their understanding of refugee children and their families to support their adjustment in the school setting.



FY 2014 was the first year of the two-year grant project period and ORR awarded 38 grants totaling \$14.6 million to state governments and nonprofit groups to work with impacted school systems to implement the program. List of grantees and founding amounts is provided in [Table I-17](#) below.

Success in schools is reported semi-annually and measured by improved academic performance, high classroom attendance rate, full school participation, and development of leadership skills.

Table I-17: FY 2014 Refugee School Impact Program Grantees

GRANTEE	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
Catholic Social Services of Alaska	Alaska	\$148,236
Arizona Department of Economic Security	Arizona	\$583,098
California Department of Social Services	California	\$988,240
Colorado Department of Human Services	Colorado	\$403,299
State of Connecticut	Connecticut	\$168,648
Florida Department of Children and Families	Florida	\$988,240
Georgia Department of Human Resources	Georgia	\$596,386
Mountain States Group, Inc.	Idaho	\$241,206
Illinois Department of Human Services	Illinois	\$506,175
Indiana Family & Social Services Administration	Indiana	\$297,450
Iowa Department of Human Services	Iowa	\$148,236
Catholic Charities of Louisville, Inc.	Kentucky	\$400,747
Maine Department of Health and Human Services	Maine	\$148,236
Maryland Department of Human Services	Maryland	\$316,376
Massachusetts Office of Refugees & Immigrants	Massachusetts	\$405,027
Michigan Department of Human Services	Michigan	\$639,620
Minnesota Department of Human Services	Minnesota	\$496,075
Missouri Department of Social Services	Missouri	\$272,946
Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services	Nebraska	\$186,355
New Jersey Department of Human Services DFD	New Jersey	\$168,648
State of New Hampshire	New Hampshire	\$158,442
State of New Mexico	New Mexico	\$148,236
New York State Department of Temporary & Disability Assistance	New York	\$978,034
State of Nevada	Nevada	\$148,236
North Carolina Department of Health & Human Services	North Carolina	\$462,759
Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota	North Dakota	\$156,401
Ohio Department of Job & Family Services	Ohio	\$402,551
State of Oregon	Oregon	\$248,973
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	\$537,948
State of Rhode Island	Rhode Island	\$87,000
Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota	South Dakota	\$162,832



GRANTEE	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
Catholic Charities of Tennessee	Tennessee	\$342,730
Texas Health and Human Services Commission	Texas	\$988,240
State of Utah	Utah	\$291,002
Vermont Agency of Human Services	Vermont	\$148,236
Virginia Department of Social Services	Virginia	\$387,994
State of Washington	Washington	\$627,625
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction	Wisconsin	\$199,519

Services for Elderly Refugees

The purpose of the Services to Elderly Refugees grant is to ensure the provision of social and supportive services to elderly refugees and other ORR-eligible populations ages 60 and above. Grantees are required to accomplish the following:

- Establish or maintain partnerships with local Agencies on Aging to ensure older refugees in the community are linked to mainstream aging services;
- Provide appropriate services to enhance the capacity for independent living of older refugees; and
- Develop or link older refugees to naturalization services.

ORR coordinates with the HHS Administration on Aging to identify ways in which both agencies can work together more effectively at state and local levels to improve access to services for elderly refugees.

In 2014, ORR awarded 33 continuation grants totaling \$3.4 million to public and private non-profit agencies. For a list of grantees, refer to [Table I-18: FY 2014 Services to Elderly Refugees Program Grantees](#).

Table I-18: FY 2014 Services to Elderly Refugees Program Grantees

GRANTEE	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
Arizona Department of Economic Security	AZ	\$97,200
State of Maine Department of Health & Human Services	ME	\$97,200
State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development	WI	\$97,200
Minnesota Department of Human Services	MN	\$97,200
IRCO (Oregon)	OR	\$97,200
State of Washington	WA	\$97,000
Alaska Catholic Social Services	AK	\$97,200
Iowa Department of Human Services	IA	\$97,200
Maryland Department of Human Resources	MD	\$97,200
Kentucky Catholic Charities	KY	\$97,200
California Department of Social Services	CA	\$170,100
Massachusetts Office for Refugees & Immigrants	MA	\$97,200
Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare	PA	\$97,200



GRANTEE	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
State of Missouri Department of Social Services	MO	\$97,200
Texas Health & Human Services Commission	TX	\$121,500
Mountain States Group, Inc.	ID	\$97,200
Ohio Department of Job & Family Services	OH	\$97,200
State of Connecticut	CT	\$97,200
Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada	NV	\$97,200
Catholic Charities of Tennessee	TN	\$97,200
Colorado Department of Human Services	CO	\$97,000
Florida Department of Children and Families	FL	\$170,100
Georgia Department of Human Services	GA	\$97,200
Lutheran Services of South Dakota	SD	\$97,200
Michigan Department of Human Services	MI	\$97,200
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services	NE	\$97,200
New York State Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance	NY	\$121,500
Vermont Agency of Human Services	VT	\$97,200
Virginia Department of Social Services	VA	\$97,200
Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota	ND	\$97,200
New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services	NH	\$97,200
Illinois Department of Human Services	IL	\$97,200
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services	NC	\$97,200

Services for Survivors of Torture Program

The Services for Survivors of Torture (SoT) Program was first authorized under the Torture Victims Relief Act (TVRA) of 1998 (Pub. L. 105-320). The program was congressionally appropriated and implemented in 2000 by ORR. The TVRA was last reauthorized in January 2006 under Pub. L. 109-165.

In 2012, ORR announced two SoT funding opportunities for a three year project period (September 30, 2012 to September 29, 2015). The SoT program values a holistic, culturally competent, and strength-based approach to service delivery as well as client-centered treatment plans that help restore dignity, enhance resilience, and rebuild lives.

One funding announcement provides direct mental health, medical, legal, or social services to individuals who have experienced torture by foreign governments or under the color of law while on foreign soil. Treatment and services are provided regardless of immigration status to eligible clients and their families living in the United States. Thirty direct service grants were awarded that cover services in 24 states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington.

During FY 2014, SoT grantees provided services for over 9,000 survivors of torture and their families. Fifty-two percent of clients were male and 48 percent were female. These clients hailed from a multitude of countries and were largely asylum seekers or refugees. Many had experienced both physical and psychological forms of torture such as beatings, deprivation, kidnapping, rape/sexual abuse, witnessing others being tortured, and receiving threats. Most clients sought services due to psychiatric, legal, and psychosocial problems such as depression, language barriers, economic



Photo: Courtesy of CVT/J. Mutavi

hardship, housing issues, and lack of social support. Grantees refer clients to other specialists or organizations if they do not offer the direct services the clients need.

The other funding announcement awarded two cooperative agreements to provide national technical assistance (TA) to the SoT and refugee resettlement network. The Center for Victims of Torture/National Capacity Building Project was funded to provide comprehensive TA services exclusively to SoT direct service grantees. Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services/National Partnership for Community Training was funded to provide training services to mainstream providers in states and communities without an SoT program.

During FY 2014, the two grantees provided the SoT and resettlement network with eight live trainings, 10 publications, 14 webinars, and 55 consultations. They also coauthored a literature review on evidence-based group treatment for torture survivors. The literature review will serve as a tool for organizations and professionals working with torture survivors to better understand the rationale, nature, framework, and outcomes of the group treatment modality.

The total amount of funding to all SoT grantees covering activities in FY 2014 was approximately \$10.5 million. For a list of all grantees, refer to [Table I-19: FY 2014 Services for Survivors of Torture Program Grantees](#).

Table I-19: FY 2014 Survivors of Torture Program Grantees

GRANTEE	CITY	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI)	San Jose	CA	\$ 368,205
Chaldean and Middle Eastern Social Services (CMSS)	El Cajon	CA	\$ 193,792
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA)	Los Angeles	CA	\$ 314,912



GRANTEE	CITY	STATE	GRANT AMOUNT
Program for Torture Victims (PTV)	Los Angeles	CA	\$ 436,032
Survivors of Torture International (SOTI)	San Diego	CA	\$ 262,588
The Regents of the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)	San Francisco	CA	\$ 266,257
International Institute of Connecticut (II-CONN)	Bridgeport	CT	\$ 193,792
Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services (GCJFCS) – direct services (serving multiple sites)	Clearwater	FL	\$ 425,583
Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services (GCJFCS) – technical assistance (nationwide services)	Clearwater	FL	\$ 339,136
Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights – Marjorie Kovler Center	Chicago	IL	\$ 387,584
University of Louisville Research Foundation	Louisville	KY	\$ 224,658
Boston Medical Center Psychiatry	Boston	MA	\$ 436,032
Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma	Boston	MA	\$ 363,360
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (serving multiple sites)	Baltimore	MD	\$ 436,032
City of Portland Health and Human Services	Portland	ME	\$ 348,826
Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS)	Dearborn	MI	\$ 242,240
Bethany Christian Services	Grand Rapids	MI	\$ 298,528
Wayne State University Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience/Arab American Chaldean Council	Detroit	MI	\$ 300,657



6. Victims of Trafficking

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), (Pub. L. 106-386), designates HHS as the agency responsible for helping foreign trafficking victims become eligible to receive benefits and services so they can rebuild their lives safely in the United States.

Through ORR, HHS performs the following activities under the TVPA:

- Issues certifications to foreign adult victims of human trafficking who are willing to assist in the investigation and prosecution of a trafficking crime, or who are unable to cooperate due to physical or psychological trauma, and have received Continued Presence or made a bona fide application for a T visa that was not denied;
- Issues Interim Assistance and Eligibility Letters to non-U.S. citizen, non-LPR victims of human trafficking under 18 years of age;
- Provides case management and referrals for services to foreign victims of trafficking and certain family members through a network of service providers across the United States;
- Administers a national public awareness campaign designed to rescue and restore victims of trafficking;
- Builds capacity at the regional level through the award of discretionary grants in different regions and the establishment of regional anti-trafficking coalitions throughout the country; and
- Builds capacity nationally through training and technical assistance and the operation of the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC).

In FY 2014, ORR issued 530 Certification Letters to adults and 219 Eligibility Letters to children, for a total of 749 letters issued.

Of the adult victims who received Certification Letters in FY 2014, 69 percent were female (compared to 70 percent in FY 2012) and 31 percent were male. Seventy-four percent of all victims certified in FY 2014 were victims of labor trafficking, and approximately 19 percent were sex trafficking victims and seven percent were victims of both labor and sex trafficking. Females comprised 59 percent of labor trafficking victims, 98 percent of sex trafficking victims, and 97 percent of victims of both labor and sex trafficking.

Of the child victims who received Eligibility Letters in FY 2014, 40 percent were female (compared with 43 percent in FY 2013) and 60 percent were male. Over 66 percent of child victims who received Eligibility Letters were labor trafficking victims, down from 67 percent in FY 2013, 31 percent were sex trafficking victims (compared with 30 percent in FY 2013), and 3 percent were victims of both labor and sex trafficking, which is the same percentage as in FY 2013. Refer to [Table I-20: FY 2014 Certification and Eligibility Letters](#) below.

Table I-20: FY 2014 Certification and Eligibility Letters

FISCAL YEAR	MINORS	ADULTS	TOTAL
2014	219	530	749
2013	114	406	520
2012	103	366	469
2011	101	463	564



FISCAL YEAR	MINORS	ADULTS	TOTAL
2010	92	449	541
2009	50	330	380
2008	31	286	317
2007	33	270	303
2006	20	214	234
2005	34	197	231
2004	16	147	163
2003	6	145	151
2002	18	81	99
2001	4	194	198
TOTAL	841	4,078	4,919

In FY 2014, Certification and Eligibility letters were provided to victims or their representatives in 38 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. Certified victims came from 58 countries in the Americas, Asia, Africa, and Europe. Refer to [Table I-21: Top Five Countries of Origin of Adult Victims of Trafficking Who Received Certification Letters in FY 2014](#) and [Table I-22: Top Four Countries of Origin of Child Victims Who Received Eligibility Letters in FY 2014](#) below.

Table I-21: Top Five Countries of Origin of Adult Victims of Trafficking Who Received Certification Letters in FY 2014

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	NUMBER OF ADULT VICTIMS	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL
Philippines	166	31%
Mexico	109	21%
Honduras	33	6%
Guatemala	24	5%
China	20	4%

Table I-22: Top Four Countries of Origin of Child Victims of Trafficking Who Received Eligibility Letters in FY 2014

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	NUMBER OF CHILD VICTIMS	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL
Honduras	89	41%
Guatemala	55	25%
El Salvador	34	16%
Mexico	29	13%

Certification should not be equated with victim identification. Factors such as language, safety concerns, and psychological and physical trauma present significant barriers to victims coming forward. In addition, other foreign-born victims may elect to return to their country of origin without seeking any benefits in the United States.



Per Capita Services and Case Management. ORR has used both contracts and grants to create a network of service organizations available to assist victims of trafficking. In FY 2014, ORR continued grants to three organizations to provide comprehensive case management and support services to foreign adult and child victims, their dependent minor foreign children, and certain family members. ORR awarded grants to the following organizations to provide services on a per capita reimbursement basis via contractors in certain ACF Regions:

- Heartland Human Care Services (HHCS) (ACF Regions 1, 2, and 5);
- U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) (ACF Regions 3, 6-10); and
- Tapestri, Inc. (ACF Region 4).

ORR obligated \$7,443,317 to the grants in FY 2014. USCRI, HHCS, and Tapestri provided assistance to eligible individuals through sub-awards throughout the country and in U.S. territorial possessions. During FY 2014, the three grantees sub-awarded funds to 153 agencies with the capacity to serve in 290 locations (service sites). Eighty-three sub-awards provided services in 67 cities in 40 states. Two of the grantees provided case management services directly to clients.

During FY 2014, a total of 1,137 (this number includes nine clients who were served by more than one grantee because the clients transferred from one grantee’s region to another’s) individual clients received case management services through all three grants, an increase of 24 percent from those served by the per capita grants in the previous year. This number included 362 clients who received services before certification (pre-certified), 359 clients who received services after certification, and 289 family members (spouse, children, or other dependents) who received services. Included in the overall number are 127 clients who received services both before and after certification. Refer to [Table I-23: Individual Clients Who Received Case Management Services via Per Capita Grants in FY 2014](#) below.

Table I-23: Individual Clients Who Received Case Management Services via Per Capita Grants in FY 2014

TYPE OF SERVICES	NUMBER OF CLIENTS
Prior to certification (pre-certified)	362
Post-certification	359
Pre- and post-certification	127
Family derivative	289

During FY 2014, 81 percent of all clients served under the contract were adults and 19 percent were children, while 62 percent of the clients were female and 38 percent were male. Of the clients who were victims of trafficking, approximately 72 percent were subjected to labor trafficking, 21 percent to sex trafficking, and seven percent to both sex and labor trafficking. Refer to [Table I-24: Breakdown of All Victims Served under the Per Capita Grants in FY 2014](#) below.

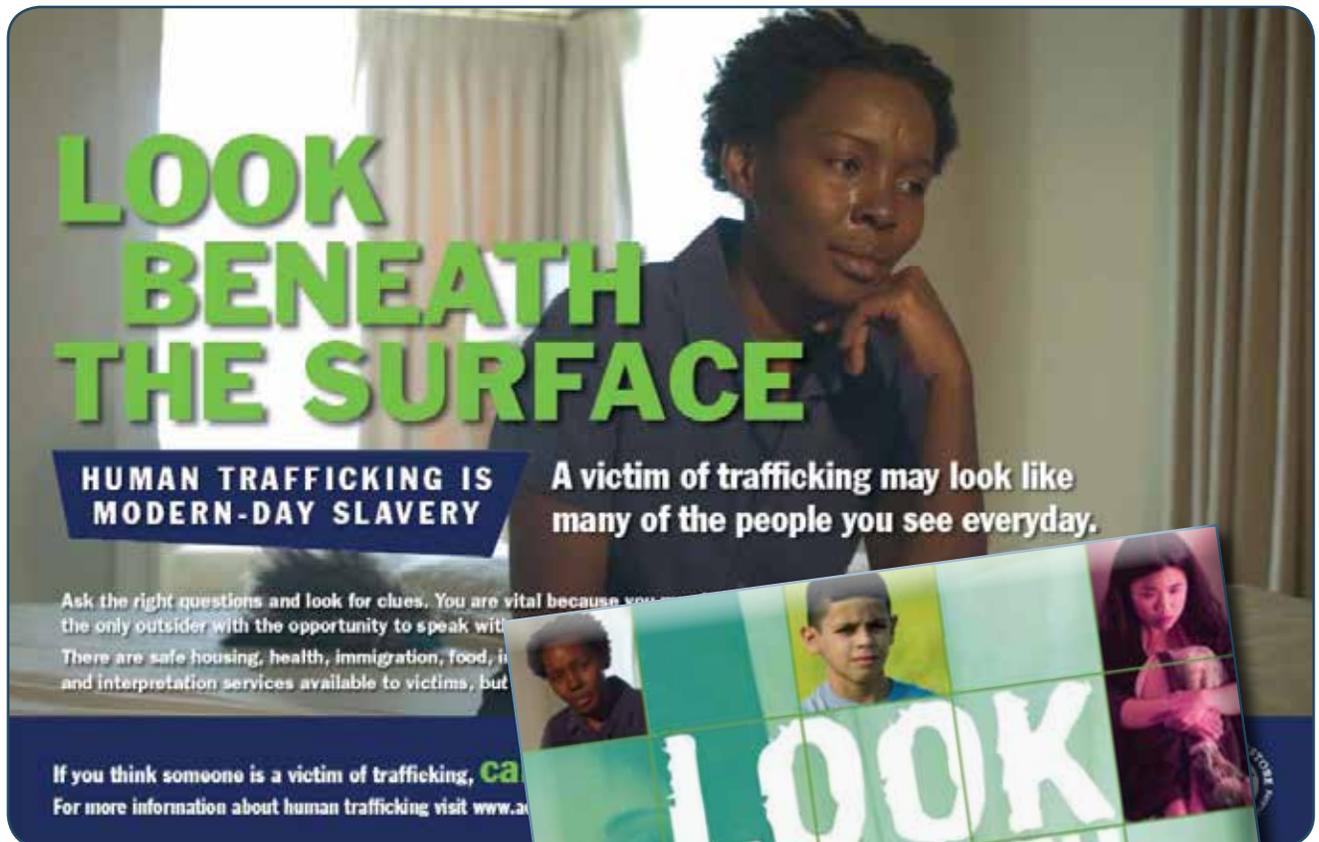
Table I-24: Breakdown of All Victims Served Under Per Capita Grants in FY 2014

TYPE OF VICTIM	NUMBER (PERCENT)
Labor Trafficking	614 (72%)
Sex Trafficking	174 (21%)
Sex and Labor Trafficking	60 (7%)

USCRI, HHCS, and Tapestri also provided training to 1,798 participants and technical assistance (TA) on 4,895 occasions to individuals in all the states in their regions.



National Human Trafficking Resource Center. In September 2013, ORR awarded a three-year grant to Polaris Project, an anti-trafficking NGO, to operate the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC). The NHTRC is a dedicated, toll-free, U.S. national telephone hotline (1-888-373-7888) that provides urgent assistance 24 hours a day, seven days a week, every day of the year for both adults and children. The NHTRC provides service referrals for victims, passes on tips to law enforcement agents, and provides information and training on human trafficking. Polaris Project also operates the NHTRC web portal, <http://www.traffickingresourcecenter.org>, an online source of resources designed to build the capacity of the anti-trafficking field.



Since providing responsibility for the NHTRC to Polaris Project, the Resource Center’s call volume increased substantially and remains consistently high. In FY 2014, the NHTRC received a total of 34,361 calls, an 18 percent increase from the previous fiscal year. Of the total hotline calls, 76 percent were substantive in nature (excludes hang ups, wrong numbers, and missed calls). Refer to [Table I-25: Types of Calls Received by the NHTRC in FY 2014](#).



Table I-25: Types of Calls Received by the NHTRC in FY 2014

TYPE OF CALLS TO NHTRC (PARTIAL LIST)	NUMBER OF CALLS
Crisis calls	1,431
Tips regarding possible human trafficking	4,840
Requests for victim care referrals	3,197
Requests for general human trafficking information	4,423
Requests for training and technical assistance	798

In FY 2014, the NHTRC received reports of 5,152 unique cases of potential trafficking. Calls referencing potential trafficking situations included the trafficking of foreign nationals, U.S. citizens, and Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs); adults and children; and males and females.

During FY 2014, the top five states with the highest call volume were (in order by highest volume): California, Texas, Florida, New York, and Ohio, which together comprised 42 percent of the calls where the caller’s state was known.

In FY 2014, the NHTRC received 1,446 emails, which included tips regarding potential trafficking (nine percent), requests for general information (40 percent), requests for training and technical assistance (18 percent), and requests for victim services referrals (6 percent). The NHTRC engaged in 1,686 text message conversations, of which 30 percent referenced potential cases of human trafficking. The NHTRC received 1,641 submissions through the web portal’s tip reporting system, 52 percent of which referenced potential cases of human trafficking.

Campaign to Rescue and Restore Victims of Human Trafficking—The *Rescue & Restore Victims of Human Trafficking* campaign entered its tenth year in FY 2014 through continuing the efforts of regional Rescue and Restore coalitions consisting of volunteers and dedicated social service providers, local government officials, health care professionals, leaders of faith-based and ethnic organizations, and law enforcement personnel. The goal of the coalitions is to increase the number of trafficking victims who are identified, assisted in leaving the circumstances of their servitude, and connected to qualified service agencies and, where applicable, to the HHS certification process so that they can receive the benefits and services for which they are eligible. Along with identifying and assisting victims, coalition members use the Rescue and Restore campaign messages to educate the general public about human trafficking.

ORR distributed nearly 800,000 pieces of original, branded *Rescue & Restore Victims of Human Trafficking* public awareness campaign materials publicizing the NHTRC. These materials include posters, brochures, fact sheets, and cards with tips on identifying victims in eight languages: English, Spanish, Chinese, Indonesian, Korean, Thai, Vietnamese, and Russian. The materials can be viewed and ordered at no cost on the HHS web site, <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking>, which is incorporated into all campaign materials.

Building Anti-Trafficking Capacity at the Regional Level—Building capacity to identify and serve victims at the regional level is the heart of the Rescue and Restore campaign. The 11 Rescue and Restore Regional Program grants funded in FY 2013 ended in FY 2014 and ORR awarded 18 new grants under this program in July 2014.

In FY 2014, Regional Program grantees made initial contact with 833 victims or suspected victims, including 514 foreign nationals and 319 U.S. citizens. Of the foreign nationals, 91 were referred to law enforcement for possible case investigations and 31 received ORR certification. Additionally, 31 foreign victims with whom Rescue and Restore Regional grantees interacted received ORR certification during FY 2014.

Rescue & Restore Regional Program Grants that Ended in FY 2014

- Colorado Legal Services, Denver, CO
- Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission, Fresno, CA



- Healing Place Serve, Baton Rouge, LA
- Houston Rescue and Restore Coalition, Houston, TX
- International Institute of St. Louis, St. Louis, MO
- International Rescue Committee, Seattle, WA
- Mosaic Family Services, Dallas, TX
- Pacific Gateway Center, Honolulu, HI
- Sacramento Employment and Training Agency, Sacramento, CA
- Safe Horizon, Inc., New York, NY
- SAGE Project, Inc., San Francisco, CA

Rescue and Restore Regional Program Grants Awarded in FY 2014

- Metropolitan Family Services, Chicago, IL
- International Institute of St. Louis, St. Louis, MO
- Nationalities Service Center, Philadelphia, PA
- Sanctuary For Families, New York, NY
- Office of Criminal Justice Services, Columbus, OH
- United Against Human Trafficking (formerly Houston Rescue and Restore Coalition), Houston, TX
- Colorado Legal Services, Denver, CO
- Bilateral Safety Corridor Coalition, National City, CA
- Center for Family Services, Camden, NJ
- International Rescue Committee - Seattle, New York, NY
- International Rescue Committee – Miami, New York, NY
- Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission, Fresno, CA
- Mosaic Family Services, Dallas, TX
- Opening Doors, Sacramento, CA
- UMOs, Milwaukee, WI
- Catholic Charities of Louisville, Louisville, KY
- Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking, Los Angeles, CA
- County of Pinal, Florence, AZ

Training and Outreach to Law Enforcement and Nongovernmental Organizations—In FY 2014, ORR offered training and technical assistance to child welfare and other state officials, law enforcement and criminal justice administrators, social service providers, ethnic organizations, students and academics, policy makers, and legal assistance organizations, among others.

During FY 2014, the NHTRC conducted 40 trainings/presentations, 100 consultations by phone or email, eight materials reviews, and nine intensive on-site consultations to a total audience of 6,482 people consisting of service providers in the anti-trafficking and related fields, local and federal law enforcement, government officials, health professionals, child welfare and juvenile justice professionals, coalitions and task forces, community groups, faith-based organizations, educators, students, businesses, and more. These resources are available on the NHTRC website at www.traffickingresourcecenter.org. In FY 2014, the NHTRC sent 11 monthly newsletters on trafficking issues to its listserv of 15,400 members.

Note: At the end of FY 2014, three trainings were pending approval: Child Sex Trafficking, Human Trafficking & Rural Communities, and Temporary Work Visas & the Risk of Human Trafficking. Two factsheets were also pending approval: Conducting Outreach to Labor Sectors and The Trauma Exception to the T Non-Immigrant Visa.



7. Unaccompanied Children Program

On March 1, 2003, the Homeland Security Act of 2002, Section 462, transferred responsibilities for the care and placement of unaccompanied children (UC) from the Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service to the Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR).

Unaccompanied children apprehended by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) immigration officials, are transferred to the care and custody of ORR. ORR makes and implements placement decisions in the best interests of the children to ensure placement in the least restrictive setting possible, taking into account the child's potential danger to self or others, and risk of flight. ORR takes into consideration the unique nature of each child's situation and incorporates child welfare principles when making placement, clinical, case management, and release decisions that are in the best interest of the child.

The UC program provides shelter, counseling, medical care, legal services, and other support services to children in ORR custody. In addition, ORR provides limited post-release services to certain children. State licensed facilities receive grants or contracts to provide shelter, including therapeutic care, foster care, staff secure and secure detention care. The majority of program costs (over 80 percent) are for shelter care.

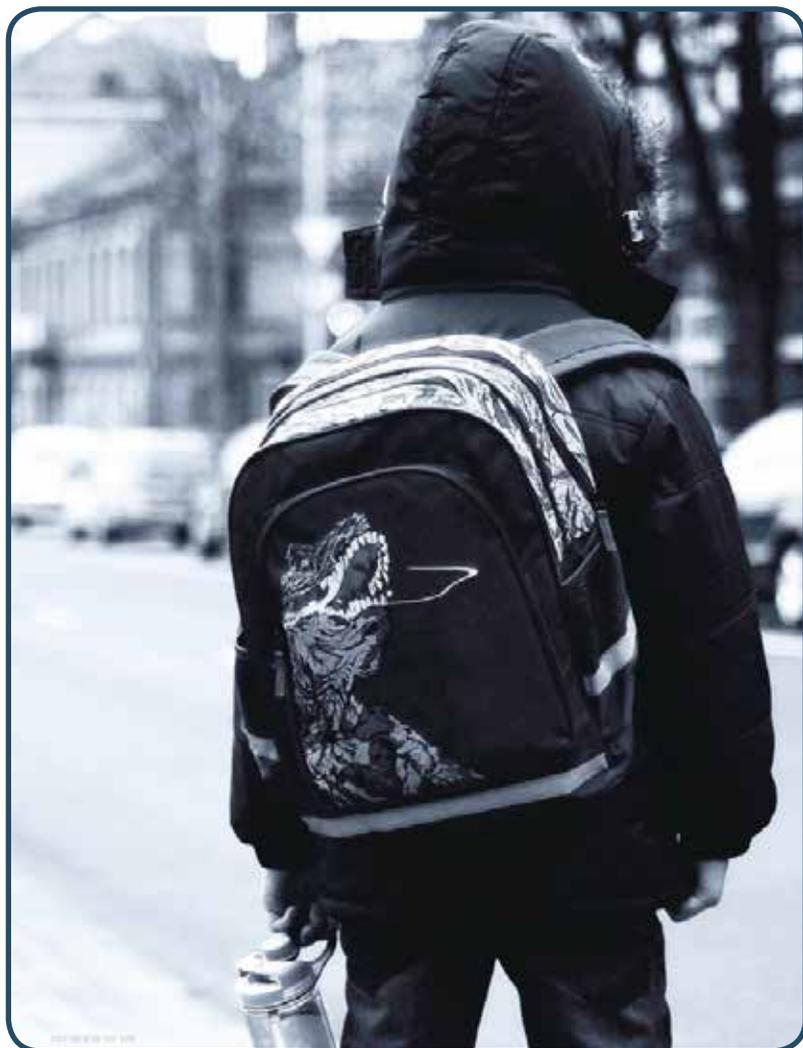


Photo: Courtesy of UNHCR

In FY 2014, the UC program care and placement total operating budget was \$911,848,000. In FY 2013, the number of children served was almost 25,000, and in FY 2014, the program served nearly 58,000 children. During FY 2014, ORR funded 78 shelter, 21 transitional foster care, nine staff-secure, one therapeutic staff-secure, five secure, two residential treatment center care, and eight long term foster care programs. The costs for providing care for unaccompanied children include shelter, legal services, medical care, background checks, and family reunification services, such as home studies and follow-up services, as well as administrative expenses.

ORR successfully launched a new database, which collects identifying information on unaccompanied children from admission to discharge such as name, age, referral information as well as assessments and services provided while in care, among other relevant information.

Program Expansion

From FY 2005 through FY 2011, the UC program served between 7,000 and 8,000 children annually, with an average length of stay in the program of 75 days. In FY 2012, however, the number of children entering the program began to increase,



Photo: Courtesy of UNHCR

and by the end of the fiscal year, ORR had served approximately 14,000 children. In FY 2013, the number of UC served was almost 25,000, and in FY 2014, the program served nearly 58,000 children. Most children referred to the program both historically and currently, are from Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador, often fleeing from violence or difficult economic conditions. Many have family members in the U.S., including parents.

In order to accommodate the increased number of children since FY 2012, ORR has reduced the average length of stay by implementing policy and operational changes focused on improving efficiencies in the process for releasing children to their parents or other appropriate sponsors while maintaining a strong emphasis on safety. In FY 2014, ORR posted a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) to expand the number of shelter beds to accommodate the increase in UC arrivals.

In FY 2014, the number of children referred by DHS grew beyond anticipated rates. The administration responded to the increase in the number of unaccompanied children apprehended on the southwest border with an aggressive, coordinated federal response, focused on providing humanitarian care for the children as well as on stronger deterrence, enforcement, foreign cooperation, and capacity for federal agencies to ensure that our border remains secure. In order to minimize the number of unaccompanied children pending placement in excess of 24 hours, ORR opened temporary short-term Emergency Reception Centers (ERC) including three centers on military bases in the States of Texas, Oklahoma, and California. ORR also increased permanent bed capacity and approved 21 new urgent sole source grants. ORR approved funds for overtime costs for facility staff to ensure children were discharged expeditiously. Funds were also approved for transportation costs to expedite release of children to their identified sponsors. Lastly, ORR approved funds to enhance all programs, case management, and clinical staff ratios. By August, ORR was able to resume caring for all children in permanent facilities, closing the temporary beds established on military bases.

In part due to the Administration's efforts to deter children from making the journey to the United States, the rate of apprehensions at the border decreased by the end of FY 2014. Concurrently, ORR continues to work closely with its federal partners and with service providers to implement new procedures to improve program efficiency while ensuring children's safety. While the Administration continues to focus its resources to prevent a similar situation from developing in the future, ORR is continuing to develop efficient, cost-effective strategies to manage the program in light of unpredictable variations in the number of unaccompanied children referred.

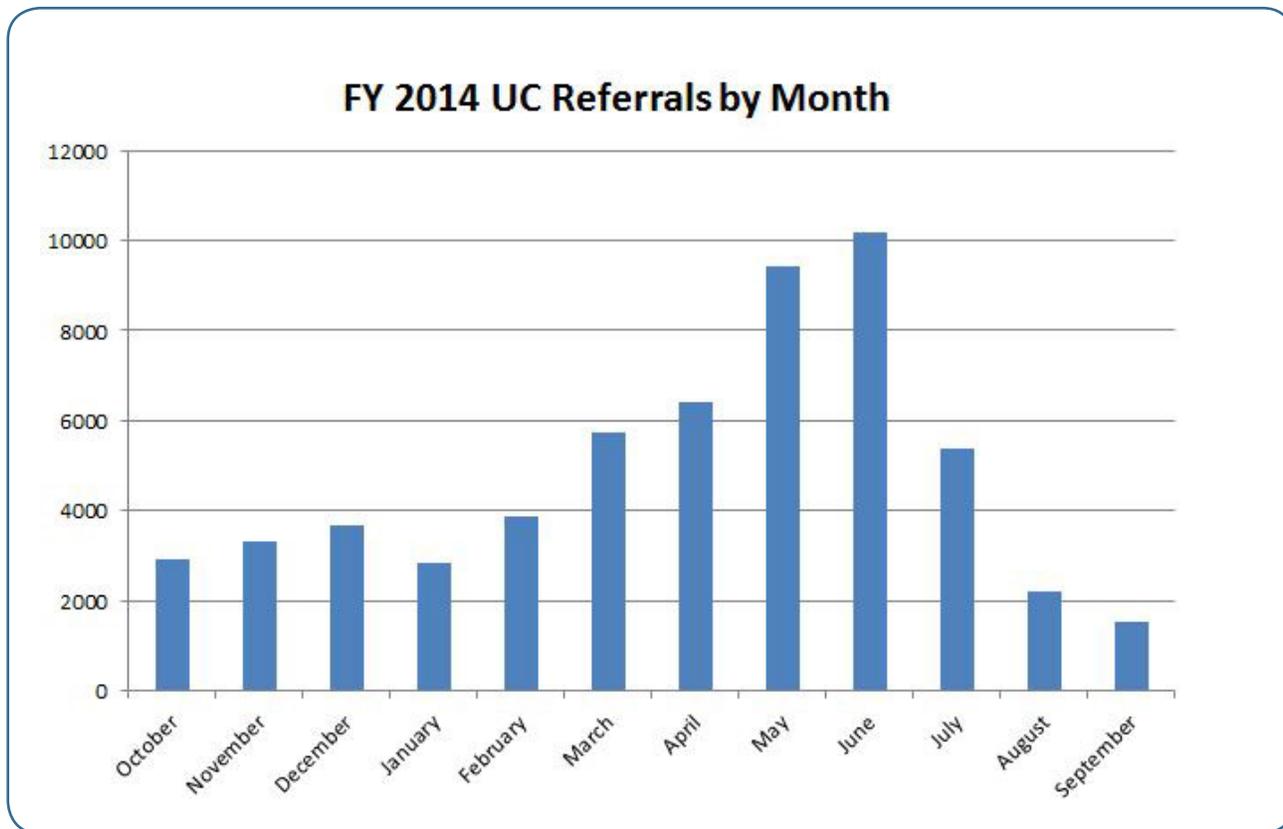


Table I-26: Unaccompanied Children Placed in Care

UC REFERRED PLACEMENTS	FY 2014
SHELTER	45,703
FOSTER CARE	4,913
THERAPEUTIC	184
SECURE/STAFF SECURE	773
EMERGENCY RECEPTION CENTERS (Department of Defense sites)	5,923
TOTAL	57,496

The average number of children in care at any point in time during FY 2014 was 6,253.

Chart I-4: FY 2014 Unaccompanied Children Referrals by Month



Gender of Unaccompanied Children

Of the children placed into ORR custody in FY 2014, 66 percent were male and 34 percent female, compared to FY 2013 when 73 percent of the children were male and 27 percent female.



Chart I-5: Unaccompanied Children—Country of Origin

In FY 2014, nearly all children were nationals of Central American countries. The chart below depicts countries of origin for children placed in ORR custody in FY 2014.

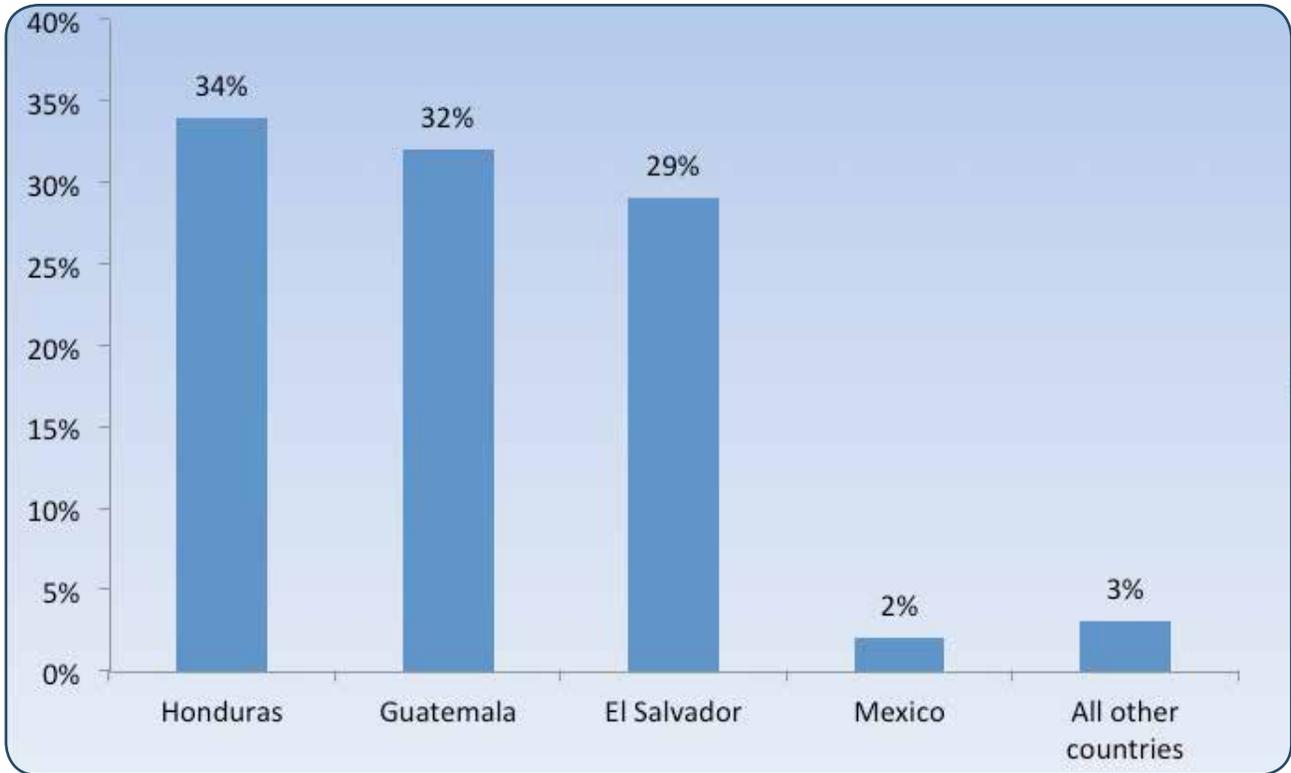
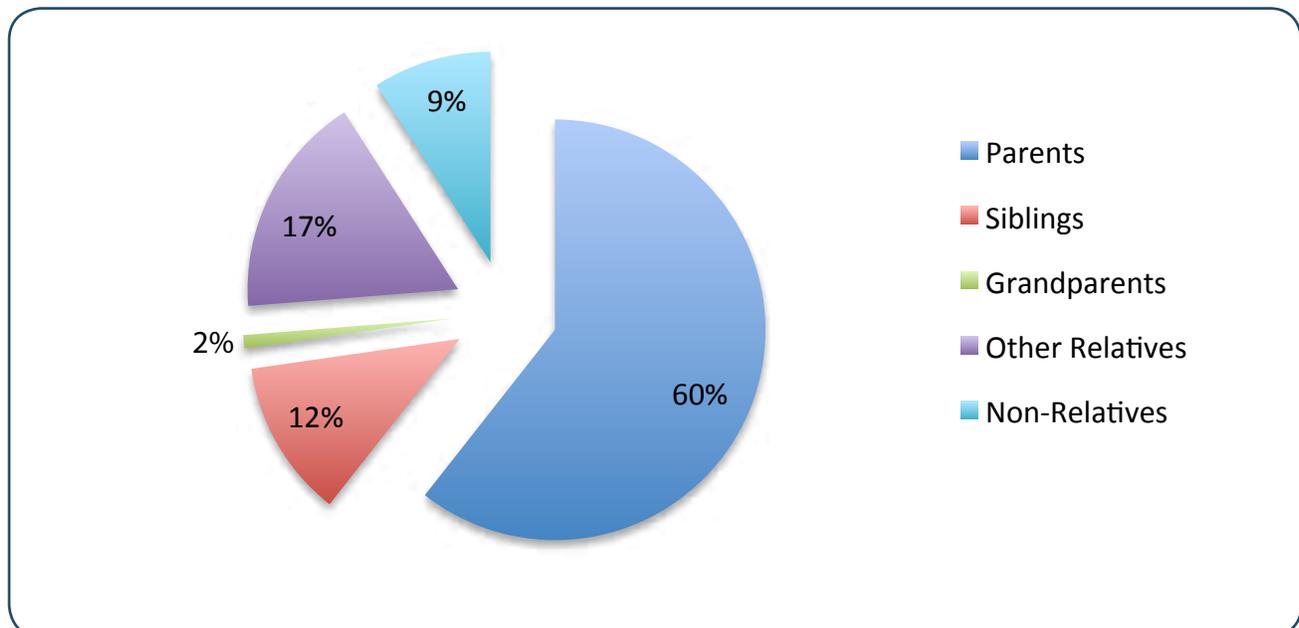


Chart I-6: Sponsor Relationship to Unaccompanied Children in FY 2014





MOST COMMON COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN OF UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN

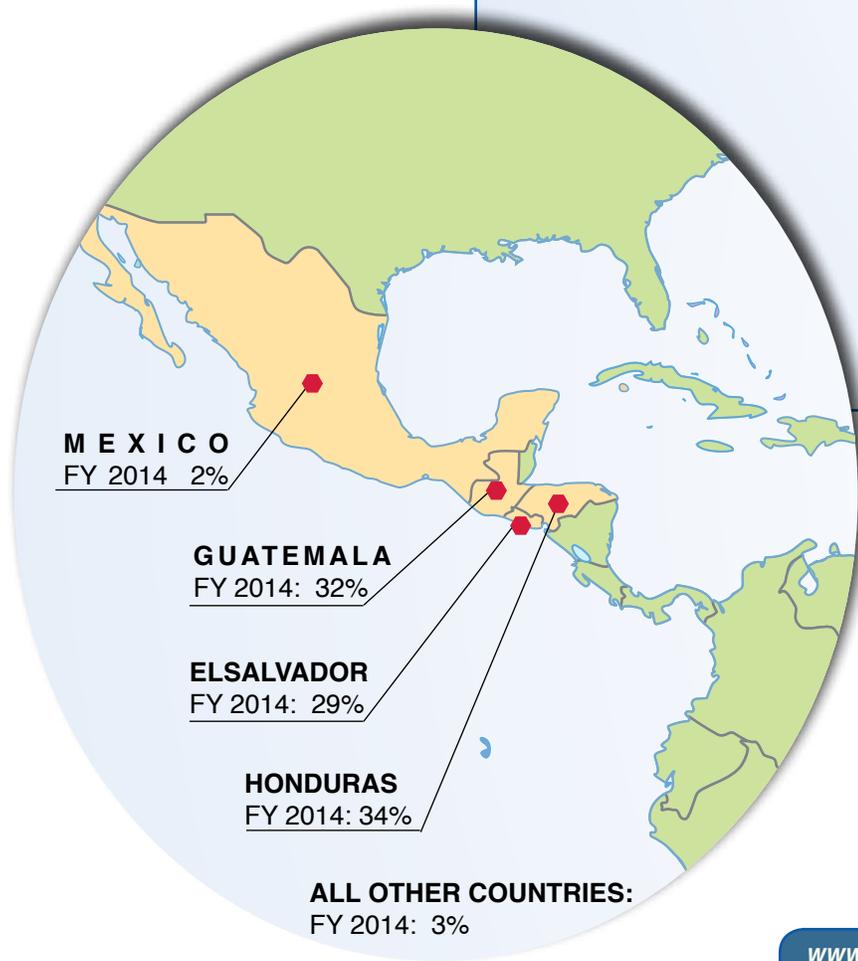




Table I-27: Total Number of UC Released to Sponsors by State in FY 2014

The data in the table below shows state-by-state data of unaccompanied children released to sponsors.

STATE	UC RELEASED	STATE	UC RELEASED
ALABAMA	786	NEBRASKA	351
ALASKA	4	NEVADA	228
ARIZONA	295	NEW HAMPSHIRE	35
ARKANSAS	307	NEW JERSEY	2,680
CALIFORNIA	5,831	NEW MEXICO	41
COLORADO	426	NEW YORK	5,955
CONNECTICUT	552	NORTH CAROLINA	2,064
DELAWARE	212	NORTH DAKOTA	4
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	375	OHIO	635
FLORIDA	5,445	OKLAHOMA	377
GEORGIA	2,047	OREGON	115
HAWAII	8	PENNSYLVANIA	660
IDAHO	19	PUERTO RICO	2
ILLINOIS	552	RHODE ISLAND	203
INDIANA	448	SOUTH CAROLINA	588
IOWA	235	SOUTH DAKOTA	48
KANSAS	312	TENNESSEE	1,294
KENTUCKY	413	TEXAS	7,409
LOUISIANA	1,755	UTAH	119
MAINE	17	VERMONT	3
MARYLAND	3,884	VIRGIN ISLANDS	1
MASSACHUSETTS	1,372	VIRGINIA	3,887
MICHIGAN	193	WASHINGTON	391
MINNESOTA	304	WEST VIRGINIA	30
MISSISSIPPI	290	WISCONSIN	85
MISSOURI	222	WYOMING	8
MONTANA	1	TOTAL	53,518



Legal Services

The TVPRA states that while HHS cannot be required to pay for representation, it should arrange for legal services for unaccompanied children to the greatest extent practicable. In FY 2014, ORR had two mechanisms for providing legal services to unaccompanied children, which include *Know Your Rights* presentations and legal screening for children referred to ORR care, and direct representation or court appearance support. Through the Legal Access Project with the Vera Institute of Justice, 47,084 were screened for legal relief in FY 2014. Legal services provided included legal rights orientations, legal screenings, and pro-bono attorney referral coordination. The Legal Access Project also funded direct representation of children in ORR custody nationwide for children who were released locally from a shelter to their sponsor, children in long-term foster care, and those children asking for voluntary departure or being ordered removed. A Direct Representation Project grant, started in September 2014, funds two grantees to provide direct representation and child advocates in nine cities, and has a planned budget period through September 30, 2015. The cities supported are Memphis, Dallas, Washington, DC area (Arlington/Baltimore), Houston, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Miami and New Orleans.

Child Advocates

The William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (TVPRA of 2008) gave the Secretary of HHS the authority to “appoint independent child advocates for child trafficking victims and other vulnerable unaccompanied children.” This authority was delegated to ORR, which is responsible for the care of unaccompanied children pending resolution of their claims for relief under U.S. immigration law or release to an adult family member or responsible adult sponsor.

In 2009, ORR modified its pro bono and legal service outreach contract with the Vera Institute of Justice to add a child advocate recruitment and appointment task, through a subcontract with the Immigrant Child Advocacy Project, now called the Young Center for Immigrant Children’s Rights. In late 2014, ORR expanded the child advocate program from two sites to five, to include the Washington, DC/Virginia/Maryland; New York/New Jersey; and Houston, Texas areas.

The Young Center created a model for assignment of child advocates to individual children. Young Center attorneys, who have experience in immigration law and child welfare, assign trained child advocates to unaccompanied children. These advocates, often bilingual and bicultural, are law students, graduate social work students, teachers, so-





cial workers, and retired attorneys. Young Center advocates develop best interest recommendations which are submitted to children's attorneys, immigration judges, asylum officers, and staff, within ORR and the Department of Homeland Security, who make determinations regarding UC's welfare and status.

Child advocates provide important recommendations for all stakeholders on cases to which they are assigned. These recommendations are known as Best Interest Determinations and are used to help stakeholders, especially ORR, make service and placement decisions on behalf of unaccompanied children. ORR continued the Child Advocates program with The Young Center, and in FY 2014, 227 children were assigned child advocates.

Monitoring Results

ORR uses outcome measures to monitor aspects of the program's performance, including an indicator that measures the percentage of closed corrective actions. Overall, the UC program is focused on improving the quality of services at the shelters, physical security, staff, and staffing oversight at the shelters, and timely placement of children with sponsors, typically family members, who can safely and appropriately care for children while their immigration cases are processed. At the end of FY 2013, all corrective actions had "closed". In FY 2014 the Division of Children Services (DCS), implemented a monitoring team and provided training and technical assistance to grantees to facilitate their compliance with DCS policies and procedures. Grantees' commitment to compliance is also mandated as a condition of the cooperative agreement.



8. U.S. Repatriation Program

The U.S. Repatriation Program was established in 1935 under Section 1113 of the Social Security Act (Assistance for U.S. Citizens Returned from Foreign Countries), to provide temporary assistance to U.S. citizens and their dependents who have been identified by the Department of State as having returned, or been brought from a foreign country, to the U.S. because of destitution, illness, war, threat of war, or a similar crisis, and are without available resources. ORR holds a cooperative agreement with International Social Services-USA Branch and service agreements with the states and some territories to assist in the coordination of services during emergencies and non-emergencies. The program manages two major activities, emergencies and non-emergencies.

Temporary assistance, which is defined as cash payment, medical care (including counseling), temporary shelter, transportation, and other goods and services necessary for the health or welfare of individuals is given to eligible individuals in the form of a loan and must be repaid to the U.S. government. Temporary assistance is available to eligible individuals for up-to 90-days. Certain temporary assistance may be furnished beyond the 90-day period if ORR finds that the circumstances involved necessitate or justify the furnishing of such assistance to repatriates and their dependents beyond the 90-day limit. In addition, under the program legislation, eligible individuals can apply for debt waivers and deferrals.

In the event of a mass evacuation from overseas, ORR is the lead federal agency responsible for the coordination and provision of temporary services within the U.S. to all non-combatant evacuees returned from a foreign country. ORR is responsible for the planning, coordination, and implementation of the National Emergency Repatriation Plan. States and other support agencies (e.g. federal and non-federal) assist ORR in carrying out the operational responsibility during and after an emergency evacuation from overseas.

Program Statistics

In FY 2014, the program provided services to 736 individual U.S. citizens through the non-emergency activities compared to approximately 919 individuals in FY 2013. From the 736 individuals served in FY 2014, 539 were adults and 197 children, 39 of the 197 were unaccompanied minors. In all, 27 percent of all individuals served through the U.S. Repatriation Program in FY 2014 were children. The [Table I-28](#) below provides a summary of these numbers in comparison to previous fiscal year cases served through the non-emergency aspect of the Program.

Table I-28: Summary of Services Provided FY 2012 through FY 2014

	FY12	FY13	FY14
Total # individuals	896	919	736
Children	327	281	197
Adults	569	638	539

Repatriates arrived from a total of 99 countries and resettled in approximately 50 states and Puerto Rico. The most common departure countries Mexico, Thailand, Belize, Germany and Philippines, Australia, and Costa Rica. The most common states of final destination included: California, Texas, Florida, New York, Ohio, and Maryland.

Repatriation Loan Collection and Loan Waivers

In FY 2014, ORR processed 56 requests for repatriation loans waivers. From those requests and after following established internal procedures, one waiver was granted, 28 were denied, eight were deferred, six were cancelled and 13 remained pending. In addition, 436 cases were referred to the program financial management agency, Program Support Center (PSC), for collection. During FY 2014, the Program sent \$175,964 in past due loans to PSC for collection. Collected amounts were returned to the Department of Treasury.

II. REFUGEES IN THE UNITED STATES

This section reports on administrative data that characterizes the refugee, Amerasian, and entrant population (hereafter, referred to as refugees unless noted otherwise) in the U.S., focusing primarily on those who have entered between FY 2009 and FY 2014.

IIA. NATIONALITY OF U.S. REFUGEE POPULATION

The composition of refugees arriving in the U.S. changes from year to year, often reflecting trends in international politics. Between FY 1983 (when ORR began keeping records of refugee arrivals) and FY 2000, refugees from five countries represented 70 percent of all arrivals during this time period; the largest shares of refugees were evenly split between the former Soviet Union and Vietnam (26 percent each), followed by Cuba (10 percent), the former Yugoslavia (8 percent), and Laos (7 percent).¹

In FY 2000, refugees from five countries represented 75 percent of all arrivals. The former Yugoslavia represented the largest share at 25 percent, followed by Cuba at 23 percent, the former Soviet Union at 16 percent, Somalia at 7 percent, and Iran at 6 percent.² In FY 2002, entrants from Cuba and refugees from Africa began to dominate arrivals. In FY 2005, refugees from Africa comprised 38 percent of total refugee arrivals.³

In FY 2009, the composition of arriving populations changed dramatically, with arrivals from Iraq (23 percent) and Burma (20 percent) on par with the proportion of arrivals from Cuba (19 percent, including both refugees and entrants). In addition, over 15 percent of arrivals were from Bhutan, compared with no arrivals from that country in previous years. In FY 2009, arrivals from Africa totaled 26 percent and arrival from East Asia totaled 39 percent.⁴

For the period FY 2009 through FY 2014 refugees were admitted from five regions (Table II-1, Table II-2). Near East/South Asia is the largest refugee region among recent arrivals, totaling 48 percent of the 402,000 refugees who arrived in the U.S. between FY 2009 through FY 2014.

The changing composition of refugees means that each cohort of arrivals brings a unique set of skills and cultural heritage as well as a different set of challenges resulting from their home country's infrastructure, what they experienced that led to their refugee status, and their experience between fleeing their home country and being resettled in the United States. Subsequently, almost all refugees enter the U.S. from a completely different society, language, and culture. The changing composition of refugees over time adds an additional level of complexity when assessing the rate of refugees' integration.⁵ Changing economic and cultural realities in the U.S. also contribute to refugees' experiences as they become established in their new homes.



Photo: Courtesy of UNHCR

¹ 2000 ORR Annual Report to Congress. Section 1 Admissions Retrieved from: http://archive.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/data/00arc8.htm#_Ref532871739

² *Ibid*

³ 2005 ORR Annual Report to Congress. Section 2 Refugees in the U.S., Nationality of U.S. Refugee Population Retrieved from: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/resource/annual-orr-reports-to-congress-2005-ii-refugees-in-the-united-states>

⁴ 2009 ORR Report to Congress. Pg. 83 Nationality of U.S. Refugee Population

⁵ UNHCR Resettlement Overview; retrieved from: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/4a16b1676.html>



Table II-1: Summary of Refugee Arrivals by Region for FY 2009-2014

FISCAL YEAR	AFRICA	EAST ASIA*	EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA/ CARIBBEAN	NEAR EAST/ SOUTH ASIA	GRAND TOTAL
2009	10,000	20,000	2,000	5,000	38,000	75,000
2010	13,000	18,000	2,000	5,000	36,000	73,000
2011	8,000	17,000	1,000	3,000	27,000	56,000
2012	11,000	14,000	1,000	2,000	30,000	58,000
2013	16,000	17,000	1,000	5,000	32,000	70,000
2014	17,000	15,000	1,000	4,000	32,000	70,000
GRAND TOTAL	75,000	101,000	8,000	24,000	195,000	402,000
TOTAL %	19%	25%	2%	6%	48%	100%

* Includes Amerasian Immigrants. Numbers are rounded.

Source: Worldwide Refugee Admissions Processing System, Department of State (WRAPS)

Table II- 2: Countries by Region

AFRICA	EAST ASIA	EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA/ CARIBBEAN	NEAR EAST/ SOUTH ASIA
Angola	Burma	Albania	Argentina	Afghanistan
Benin	Cambodia	Armenia	Colombia	Algeria
Burkina Faso	China	Azerbaijan	Costa Rica	Bahrain
Burundi	Indonesia	Belarus	Cuba	Bangladesh
Cameroon	North Korea	Bosnia & Herzegovina	Ecuador	Bhutan
Central African Republic	Laos	Croatia	Haiti	Egypt
Chad	Malaysia	Estonia	Honduras	India
Congo	Philippines	France	Venezuela	Iran
Dem. Rep. Congo	Thailand	Georgia		Iraq
Djibouti		Germany		Israel
Equatorial Guinea	Vietnam	Greece		Jordan
Eritrea		Kazakhstan		Kuwait
Ethiopia		Kyrgyzstan		Lebanon
Gabon		Latvia		Libya
Gambia		Lithuania		Morocco
Ghana		Macedonia		Nepal
Guinea		Moldova		Pakistan
Guinea - Bissau		Montenegro		Palestine
Ivory Coast		Poland		Sri Lanka



AFRICA	EAST ASIA	EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA/ CARIBBEAN	NEAR EAST/ SOUTH ASIA
Kenya		Russia		Syria
Liberia		Serbia		Tunisia
Madagascar		Slovakia		Turkey
Mauritania		Slovenia		United Arab Emirates
Namibia		Tajikistan		Yemen
Niger		Turkmenistan		
Nigeria		Ukraine		
Reunion		Uzbekistan		
Rwanda				
Senegal				
Sierra Leone				
Somalia				
South Sudan				
Sudan				
Tanzania				
Togo				
Uganda				
Zambia				
Zimbabwe				

Source: WRAPS

Between FY 2009 and FY 2014, 195,000 refugees from Near East/South Asia arrived in the U.S. The majority of refugees from Near East/South Asia were from Iraq, with 50 percent of arrivals. Bhutanese refugees made up 37 percent of admissions, while nine percent were from Iran, two percent from Afghanistan, and one percent from Pakistan. For more details, refer to [Table II-3 below](#).

Table II-3: Summary of Admissions for Near East/South East Asia for FY 2009-FY 2014

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	PEOPLE	PERCENTAGE
IRAQ	98,000	50%
BHUTAN	73,000	37%
IRAN	18,000	9%
AFGHANISTAN	3,000	2%
PAKISTAN	1,000	1%
ISRAEL	1,000	1%
OTHER*	1,000	1%
TOTAL	195,000	100%

*Note: Represents a combination of countries of origin with refugee arrivals of below 500. Source: WRAPS



The second largest region for recent arrivals was East Asia, totaling 101,000 between FY 2009-FY 2014. Burmese refugees made up 96 percent of refugee arrivals from East Asia, while three percent were from Vietnam, and one percent arrived from other countries. For more information, refer to [Table II-4 below](#).

Table II-4: Summary of Admissions East Asia for FY 2009-FY 2014

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	PEOPLE	PERCENT
BURMA	97,000	96%
VIETNAM	3,000	3%
OTHER*	1,000	1%
TOTAL	101,000	100%

*Note: Represents a combination of countries of origin with refugee arrivals of below 500. Source: WRAPS

The third largest region for recent arrivals between FY 2009-FY2014 was Africa. Seventy-five thousand refugees from Africa arrived in the U.S., with the majority of refugees arriving from Somalia, at 46 percent. Between FY 2009 and FY 2014 refugees from Democratic Republic of Congo made up 19 percent, 15 percent came from Eritrea, eight percent arrived from Sudan, and five percent came from Ethiopia. For more information, refer to [Table II-5 below](#).

Table II-5: Summary of Admissions for Africa for FY 2009-FY 2014

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	PEOPLE	PERCENT
SOMALIA	34,000	46%
DEM. REP. CONGO	14,000	19%
ERITREA	11,000	15%
SUDAN	6,000	8%
ETHIOPIA	4,000	5%
BURUNDI	2,000	3%
LIBERIA	1,000	1%
CONGO	1,000	1%
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	1,000	1%
OTHER*	1,000	1%
TOTAL	75,000	100%

*Note: Represents a combination of countries of origin with refugee arrivals of below 500. Source: WRAPS

The previous tables presented data for the previous five years in total. For FY 2014 only, arrivals from Iraq were 29 percent of refugee admissions, Burma was 21 percent, Somalia was 13 percent, Bhutan was 11 percent, and Democratic Republic of Congo represented seven percent. For more information, refer to [Table II-6](#).

Table II-6: Summary of Refugee Arrivals for FY 2014

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	PEOPLE	PERCENT
IRAQ	20,000	29%
BURMA	15,000	21%
SOMALIA	9,000	13%
BHUTAN	8,000	11%
DEM. REP. CONGO	5,000	7%
CUBA	4,000	6%
IRAN	3,000	4%
ERITREA	1,000	1%
SUDAN	1,000	1%
RUSSIA	1,000	1%
AFGHANISTAN	1,000	1%
ETHIOPIA	1,000	1%
OTHER	1,000	1%
TOTAL*	70,000	100%

*Note: Represents a combination of countries of origin with refugee arrivals of below 500. Source: WRAPS

Geographic Location of Refugees

From FY 2009 through FY 2014, California received the largest number of arrivals at 11 percent, Texas resettled ten percent, New York resettled six percent, Florida resettled five percent, and Michigan received five percent of overall admissions. Refugees resettle in states at approximately the same rate of a state’s percentage of the overall U.S. population.⁶ Altogether, these five states received 38 percent of all refugee arrivals (these states collectively represent 36 percent of the total U.S. population),⁷ with the remaining refugees resettled in 45 states, with the exception of Wyoming. The State of Wyoming does not participate in the State Administered Refugee Resettlement Program. For more information, refer to [Table II-7](#).



Photo: Courtesy of UNHCR

⁶ California represents 12 percent of US population; Texas, 8 percent; New York, 6 percent; Florida, 6 percent; Michigan, 3 percent. 2014 US Population Estimates Retrieved from: <http://www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/PST045214/00,06,36,12,48,26>

⁷ Retrieved from 2014 US Population Estimates <http://www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/PST045214/00,06,36,12,48,26>



Table II-7: Summary of Refugee Arrivals by State for FY 2009-FY 2014

STATE	PEOPLE	PERCENT
CALIFORNIA	43,000	11%
TEXAS	42,000	10%
NEW YORK	24,000	6%
MICHIGAN	22,000	5%
FLORIDA	21,000	5%
ARIZONA	18,000	4%
GEORGIA	17,000	4%
PENNSYLVANIA	16,000	4%
WASHINGTON	15,000	4%
OTHER*	15,000	4%
ILLINOIS	14,000	3%
NORTH CAROLINA	14,000	3%
OHIO	13,000	3%
MINNESOTA	11,000	3%
MASSACHUSETTS	10,000	2%
COLORADO	10,000	2%
KENTUCKY	10,000	2%
VIRGINIA	9,000	2%
TENNESSEE	9,000	2%
INDIANA	8,000	2%
MISSOURI	7,000	2%
MARYLAND	7,000	2%
UTAH	6,000	1%
IDAHO	6,000	1%
NEBRASKA	5,000	1%
OREGON	5,000	1%
WISCONSIN	5,000	1%
NEW JERSEY	3,000	1%
IOWA	3,000	1%
SOUTH DAKOTA	3,000	1%
NEVADA	3,000	1%
NORTH DAKOTA	3,000	1%
CONNECTICUT	3,000	1%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	3,000	1%
TOTAL	403,000	100%

*Note: Represents a combination of states with refugee arrivals of below 3,000. Numbers are rounded. Source: WRAPS



Refugee resettlement patterns by state in FY 2014 closely mirror the resettlement patterns for five-year period between FY 2009 through FY 2014 shown above. In FY 2014, Texas received 10 percent of all refugees, California received nine percent, New York six percent, Michigan received six percent, and Florida received six percent of refugee overall admissions. Altogether, these five states received 36 percent of all refugee arrivals, with the remaining refugees resettled in 45 states, with the exception of Wyoming. The State of Wyoming does not participate in the State Administered Refugee Resettlement Program. Again, states receive refugees roughly in proportion to their population as compared to the overall U.S. population. Refer to [Table II-8 below](#).

Table II-8: Summary of Refugee Arrivals by State for FY 2014

STATE	PEOPLE	PERCENT
TEXAS	7,000	10%
CALIFORNIA	6,000	9%
NEW YORK	4,000	6%
MICHIGAN	4,000	6%
FLORIDA	4,000	6%
ARIZONA	3,000	4%
OHIO	3,000	4%
PENNSYLVANIA	3,000	4%
GEORGIA	3,000	4%
ILLINOIS	3,000	4%
WASHINGTON	2,000	3%
NORTH CAROLINA	2,000	3%
MINNESOTA	2,000	3%
MASSACHUSETTS	2,000	3%
KENTUCKY	2,000	3%
COLORADO	2,000	3%
INDIANA	2,000	3%
OTHER*	2,000	3%
TENNESSEE	1,000	1%
MISSOURI	1,000	1%
VIRGINIA	1,000	1%
MARYLAND	1,000	1%
WISCONSIN	1,000	1%
UTAH	1,000	1%
NEBRASKA	1,000	1%
OREGON	1,000	1%
IDAHO	1,000	1%
IOWA	1,000	1%
NORTH DAKOTA	1,000	1%
NEVADA	1,000	1%
TOTAL	70,000	100%

STATE	PEOPLE	PERCENT
CONNECTICUT	1,000	1%
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,000	1%
TOTAL	70,000	100%

*Note: Represents a combination of states with refugee arrivals of below 500. Source: WRAPS

Secondary Migration

The Reception and Placement program ensures that refugees arrive in communities with sufficient resources to meet their immediate needs and a caseworker to assist them with resettlement and orientation. Refugees need not stay in the community of initial resettlement, and many leave to build a new life elsewhere. A number of explanations for secondary migration by refugees have been suggested: better employment opportunities, the pull of an established ethnic community, more generous welfare benefits, better training opportunities, reunification with relatives, or a more congenial climate.

The Refugee Assistance Amendments of 1982 amended the Refugee Act of 1980 (Section 412(a) (3)) directs ORR to compile and maintain data on the secondary migration of refugees within the United States. In response to this directive, ORR developed a database for determining secondary migration from electronic files submitted by states. Each name submitted is checked against other states and against the most recent summary of arrivals. Arrivals that do not have refugee status or whose arrival did not occur in the 36-month period prior to the beginning of the fiscal year were deleted from the rolls.

Analysis of the summary totals 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. Examination of FY 2014 detailed state-by-state matrix showed several migration patterns: a strong movement in and out of California, Texas, and Florida; a strong movement into Minnesota, Washington, Kentucky, Nevada, and Wisconsin; a strong movement out of Arizona, Michigan, Georgia, Missouri, and Massachusetts; and some population exchange between contiguous or geographically close states. In FY 2014, almost every state experienced both gains and losses through secondary migration.



Photo: Courtesy of UNHCR



IIB. EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

The Annual Survey of Refugees 2014

The previous section reported on administrative data about refugee arrivals from FY 2009 through FY 2014. In order to examine the integration of the refugee population during their first five years in the United States, the Office of Refugee Resettlement also conducts an annual survey of refugee households. In fall 2014, ORR completed its 48th Annual Survey of Refugees (ASR 2014). Respondents to this longitudinal-panel study were drawn from the population of refugees who arrived in the United States between March 1, 2009, and February 28, 2014. Each year, a sample of recent refugee households is added to the survey population. These households are re-contacted for interviews in the next four survey cycles. At the time of the survey, eligible refugees had lived in the U.S. between 8 months and 5 years.

Long-standing design features of the Annual Survey of Refugees mean that cross-sectional (point in time) tabulations of survey responses are not representative of the full population of refugees that entered the United States from 2009 to 2014, either by year of arrival or geographic sending region.

For this reason, this section of the Annual Report to Congress refers to “survey respondents” rather than “the refugee population” when discussing tables and charts. The text that accompanies data tables offers context that will aid in data interpretation. The technical notes at the end of Section II offer further information on important features of the ASR study design and its implications for interpretation of the data. Please note tabulations for 2009 and 2014 do not represent full calendar years and have significantly fewer respondents.

For each member of refugee households that responded to the survey, the ASR collects basic demographic information such as age, country of origin, level of education, English language proficiency and training, job training, labor force participation, work experience, and barriers to employment. Other data are collected by family unit, including information on housing, income, and utilization of public benefits.

Note that the five eligible cohorts are not equally represented in the ASR sample. Larger numbers were contacted from more recent cohorts, and there were substantial variations in response rates and total numbers of respondents. For example, 1000 households were contacted from Cohort 1 (March 2013–February 2014) and 576 participated. In contrast, 113 households were contacted from Cohort 5 (March 2009–February 2010) and 94 participated. Additionally, when data are broken down by geographic regions, certain sending countries within that region are over-represented. For example, the 2014 survey, 99% of respondents from Latin America are Cuban. See Technical Notes, [Table II-23](#) for details. Accordingly, we recommend against drawing conclusions about changes over time from the varying results from different arrival cohorts.

Overview: Economic Adjustment

The Refugee Act of 1980 and Refugee Assistance amendments enacted in 1982 and 1986 stress that it is important for refugees to find employment and achieve economic self-sufficiency as soon as possible after they arrive in the United States. Meeting these goals involves balancing numerous considerations, including: (1) the employment potential of refugees, including their education, skills, English language proficiency, and health; (2) their household’s needs for financial resources for food, housing, or child-care; and (3) the economic environment in which they settle, including the availability of jobs, housing, and other local resources.

Overall, refugees interviewed for ASR 2014 made important strides toward economic self-sufficiency during their time in the United States. Rates of economic participation and English language proficiency increase the longer survey respondents are in the country. As a group, responding refugees also continue to improve their employment potential after arrival: while 36 percent entered the U.S. with a high school or technical degree and another ten percent arrive with a college degree or higher, 18 percent of adults in ASR 2014 continued their education and large portions of the adult population pursued further English language training in the past year.

After an initial adjustment period, the ASR 2014 respondents on average achieved a level of economic success only marginally lower than the population of the U.S., measured by their employment and labor force participation rates. This is considerable, given the initial challenges associated with being a newly arrived refugee, and likely indicates that integration into the mainstream of the U.S. economy is proceeding steadily. However, similar to findings in the past several years of surveys, ASR 2014 data suggest that some refugee households meet challenges on their way to economic self-sufficiency. This is likely due to the continued effects of the 2008 downturn in the economy, as well as changes in the composition of the arriving refugee populations.



Measures of Employment

To evaluate the economic progress of refugees, ORR compares data from ASR 2014 respondents to values for the total U.S. population. The first set of indicators is made up of standard measures of employment status used by labor economists. For these measures, adults over age 16 report one of three statuses in the week prior to the survey⁸: (1) employed, (2) not employed but seeking work (unemployed), or (3) out of the labor force.

The measures of employment status by group are then calculated as follows:

- The *Employment to Population Ratio* (EPR or employment rate) is the number of adults who are employed over the total number of adults, expressed as a percentage.
- The *Labor Force Participation Rate* (LPR) refers to the percent of all adults who are employed OR seeking work—those not “out of the labor force.” Common reasons for being out of labor force include attending school, caring for children, and old age or disability.
- The *Unemployment Rate* is the percentage of those in the labor force that is not employed and is actively seeking work.

These statistics present a snapshot of employment status in fall 2014, immediately preceding the survey. To provide a more complete picture of survey respondents’ employment experiences, this report also presents data on their employment during the past year; the average number of hours worked per week; and the length of time it took refugees to find their first job upon arrival in the United States. Finally, for those adults who are out of the labor force, the reasons they are not looking for work are reported.

Employment Status

Table II-9 presents the Employment Rate (EPR), Labor Force Participation Rate (LFP), and Unemployment Rate for adults aged 16 and older living in ASR 2014 households. This is compared to rates for the total U.S. population in December 2014.

Table II-9: Employment Status of Refugees by Year of Arrival and Gender: 2014 Survey

YEAR OF ARRIVAL & YEARS IN U.S.	EMPLOYMENT RATE (EPR)			LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female
2014 (<1 YEAR)	37.8%	49.9%	27.0%	57.8%	70.9%	46.1%	34.5%	29.5%	41.3%
2013 (1 YEAR)	42.9	57.4	27.4	51.2	65.7	35.7	16.2	12.7	23.2
2012 (2 YEARS)	47.5	64.5	30.9	56.7	73.2	40.5	16.1	11.9	23.7
2011 (3 YEARS)	52.6	66.4	38.4	57.7	71.1	43.9	8.8	6.6	12.6
2010 (4 YEARS)	53.5	64.7	42.4	60.7	71.5	50.1	11.9	9.5	15.3
2009 (5 YEARS)	50.3	58.9	41.9	55.2	65.9	44.6	8.9	10.7	6.1
U.S. Rates	59.0	64.9	53.5	62.9	69.2	57.0	6.2	6.3	6.1

Notes: Tabulation for refugees 16 or older in ASR households arriving between March 1, 2009 and February 28, 2014. ASR 2014 data refers to employment status in the week before the survey, fall 2014. U.S. comparison drawn from December 2014 (not seasonally adjusted), U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics: <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.t01.htm>.

⁸ Working refers to the week prior to the survey; searching for a job refers to the month prior for those who are not employed.



Employment Rate—The employment rate (EPR) measures the percent of adults over the age of 16 who worked in the week before the survey. In December 2014, the EPR for the total U.S. population was 59 percent (65 percent for men and 54 percent for women). [Table II-9](#) compares this rate to survey respondents' EPR, by arrival year.

Generally, the employment rate for adults in the ASR 2014 is higher as cohorts have been in the United States longer. As indicated in [Table II-9](#), the employment rate for those who had been in the U.S. for four or five years (54 percent, 50 percent) was much higher than that of refugees who had been in the U.S. less than one year (38 percent). The 38 percent employment rate for 2014 entrants is similar to that of 2013 entrants in the ASR 2013, at 34 percent.⁹

The overall employment rate conceals clear variation by gender. After being in the U.S. for only two years, male survey respondents were employed at a rate roughly on par with the U.S. male population (65 percent). Though the employment rate for female respondents does increase the longer they are in the U.S. (27 percent of those arriving in 2014 to 42 percent of those arriving in 2009), they still lag behind the U.S. EPR for women (54 percent). The 2014 survey indicates a 27-point difference in employment rate between male and female refugees (62 percent versus 35 percent). In contrast, the overall gender difference in employment rates for the U.S. population was 11 points (65 percent versus 54 percent). This could be due to differences in the age distribution of refugees compared to the U.S. population. It may also indicate that cultural norms around gender roles influence a variety of aspects of refugees' integration into the mainstream U.S. economy.

Labor Force Participation Rate (LFP)—Measured in fall 2014, the overall labor force participation rate (LFP) for ASR respondents fluctuated across arrival cohorts, between 51 percent for 2013 arrivals and 61 percent for 2010 arrivals ([Table II-9](#)). This is slightly lower than for the total U.S. population (63 percent). Again, the average conceals a strong pattern by gender. Male survey respondents are working or seeking work at similar rates to the U.S. from the point of arrival onwards, while female respondents participate in the labor market at lower rates than the total U.S. population regardless of the arrival year. When interpreting these statistics, it is important to consider the variety of reasons that adults may be out of the labor force. The pursuit of education, child care, disability, and old age are all reasons that one may not be working or seeking work. Given that the age distribution of ASR respondents does not match that of the U.S. population (analysis not included here), any of these factors may disproportionately affect female respondents' interest in or ability to seek work.

Unemployment Rate—The unemployment rate is the percent of the labor force that is not working but is seeking work. ASR 2014 data indicate that the unemployment rate of responding refugees is higher than in the general U.S. population. Since the unemployment rate represents the percentage of individuals not working but seeking work, a higher unemployment rate may indicate survey respondents' greater willingness for prolonged engagement with the job search process compared to the total U.S. population. This interpretation is appropriate for male refugees in cohorts that are employed at similar rates and have a higher labor force participation rate than their counterparts in the total U.S. population.

Among survey respondents who had been in the country less than a year, 35 percent were not employed but were looking for work in fall 2014. Unemployment was substantially lower for members of the other cohorts, ranging from about nine to 15 percent. In nearly all cohorts, women were unemployed at higher rates than men, indicating their continued pursuit of employment at the time of the survey.

⁹ 2013 ORR Annual Report to Congress, page 85. [Table II-9: Employment Status of Refugees by Year or Arrival and Gender: 2013 Survey](#)

Table II-10: Employment Status of ASR Respondents by Survey Year and Gender

YEAR SURVEY ADMINISTERED	EMPLOYMENT RATE (EPR)			LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	ALL	MALE	FEMALE	ALL	MALE	FEMALE	ALL	MALE	FEMALE
2014 Survey	48.5%	62.4%	34.5%	56.3%	70.0%	42.5%	13.9%	10.9%	18.8%
U.S. Rate	59.0	64.9	53.5	62.9	69.2	57.0	6.2	6.3	6.1
2013 Survey	51.0	61.9	40.5	59.5	70.5	48.8	14.3	12.2	17.2
U.S. Rate	58.6	64.4	53.2	63.2	69.7	57.2	7.4	7.6	7.1
2012 Survey	50.7	63.1	38.3	60.3	73.4	47.3	16.0	14.1	18.9
U.S. Rate	58.6	64.4	53.1	63.7	70.2	57.7	8.1	8.2	7.9
2011 Survey	52.0	62.0	42.0	63.3	73.3	53.3	17.8	15.4	21.2
U.S. Rate	58.4	63.9	53.2	64.1	70.5	58.1	8.9	9.4	8.5
2010 Survey	51.2	58.2	44.1	65.7	73.2	58.1	22.1	20.5	24.2
U.S. Rate	58.5	63.7	53.6	64.7	71.2	58.6	9.6	10.5	8.6
2009 Survey	47.1	55.7	38.5	64.6	72.8	56.4	27.0	23.4	31.8
U.S. Rate	59.3	64.5	54.4	65.4	72.0	59.2	9.3	10.3	8.1

Note: Tabulation for refugees 16 or older in ASR households arriving during the five-year window for each survey year. Data over-represent new arrivals and should not be interpreted as five-year population outcomes. As of December of each year indicated, not seasonally adjusted. U.S. rates are from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The average employment rate for ASR respondents has varied over the past several survey administrations, from a high of 63 percent in 2004 to a low of 47 percent in 2009 (Table II-10, Chart II-1). In 2014, 49 percent of adults in the survey were employed during the week before the survey. While the low of 2009 was likely a result of the Great Recession, it is difficult to fully account for these fluctuations with the information presented in this report. A more detailed analysis of labor force statistics and refugee composition from earlier years, when refugee employment rates were closer to general U.S. rates, would be required to understand this trend.

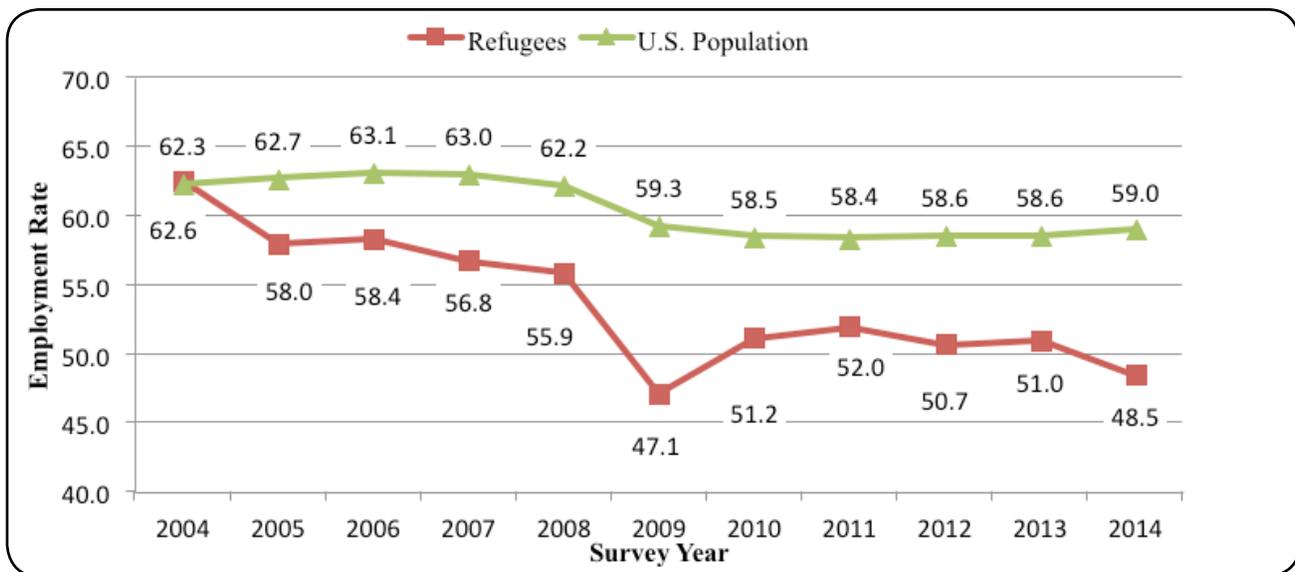
Comparisons of ASR five-cohort averages across survey years should also be interpreted with caution, as they do not account for variation in the relative size or geographic composition of cohorts included in each five-year survey window. Collapsed data over-represent new arrivals, and should not be interpreted as representative of five-year population outcomes. Certain countries are overrepresented in some regions. See Technical Notes Table II-25 for more details.



Photo: Courtesy of USCRI



Chart II-1: Employment Rate of Refugees and U.S. Population by Survey Year



Note: Data points for survey respondents collapse arrivals across the five entry cohorts, and do not account for variation in the relative size or geographic composition of cohorts included in the survey year. These data over-represent new arrivals and should not be interpreted as representative of all refugee entrants. Employment status is as of the week prior to the survey. Not seasonally adjusted. The U.S. employment rate for 2014 is from <http://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/print.pl/news.release/empsit.t01.htm>.

Table II-11 presents employment statistics for the survey respondents from selected refugee groups entering between March 2009 and February 2014, clustered by six geographic sending regions (Africa, Eastern Europe, Latin America, Middle East, South/Southeast Asia, and the former Soviet Union.) The selected refugee groups or countries comprising each geographic region are not representative of the entire region. See the description of ASR 2014 data in this section’s technical notes (page 111) for more information about the countries belonging to each region.

As presented in the Table II-9, employment rates generally increase with time in the country. Direct comparisons between geographic regions should not be made; due to variation in geographic representation between cohorts, these statistics conflate sending region and year of arrival. Collapsed data over-represent new arrivals, and should not be interpreted as representative of five-year population outcomes.

Table II-11: Employment Status of Selected Refugee Groups by Gender: 2014 Survey

EMPLOYMENT MEASURE	AFRICA	EASTERN EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA	MIDDLE EAST	SOUTH/SOUTH-EAST ASIA	FORMER SOVIET UNION	ALL
Employment Rate (EPR)	46.8%	N/A*	74.5%	37.1%	51.2%	N/A*	48.5%
Males	57.7	N/A	79.9	51.8	66.9	N/A	62.4
Females	35.8	N/A	68.9	22.8	35.0	N/A	34.5
Worked at any point since arrival	54.6	N/A	81.5	45.8	60.7	N/A	57.2
Males	62.9	N/A	84.1	61.2	73.5	N/A	69.6
Females	46.2	N/A	78.8	30.7	47.4	N/A	44.8



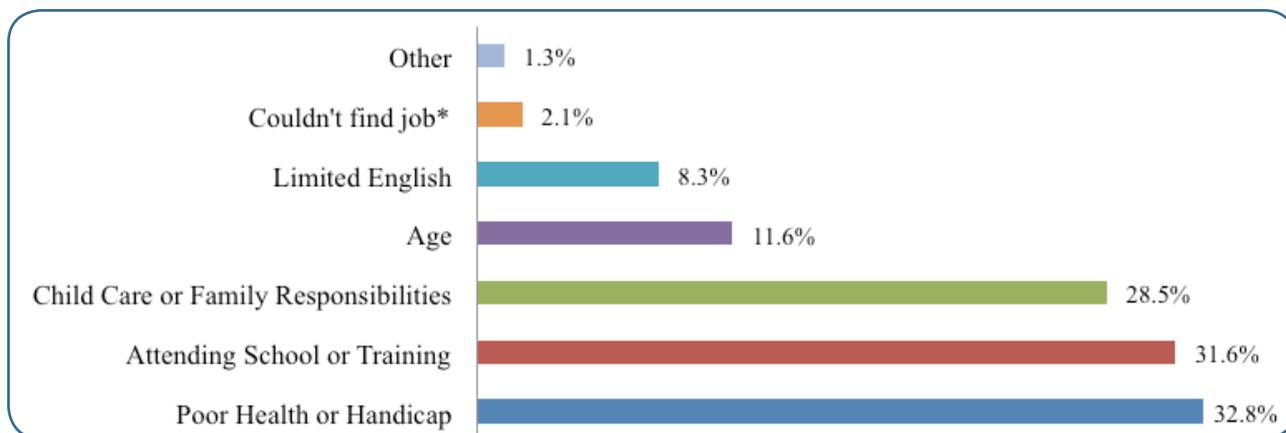
EMPLOYMENT MEASURE	AFRICA	EASTERN EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA	MIDDLE EAST	SOUTH/SOUTH-EAST ASIA	FORMER SOVIET UNION	ALL
Labor Force Participation Rate	58.5	N/A	80.6	49.7	54.7	N/A	56.3
Males	67.5	N/A	84.7	65.1	70.3	N/A	70.0
Females	49.4	N/A	76.2	34.8	38.5	N/A	42.5
Unemployment Rate	20.0	N/A	7.5	25.4	6.3	N/A	13.9
Males	14.6	N/A	5.7	20.4	4.9	N/A	10.9
Females	27.6	N/A	9.6	34.5	9.1	N/A	18.8

Notes: Tabulation for refugees 16 or older in ASR households arriving between March 1, 2009 and February 28, 2014. These data over-represent new arrivals and should not be interpreted as representative of all refugee entrants. Employment status is as of the week prior to the survey. Not seasonally adjusted.

Since their arrival in the U.S., 57 percent of adults in ASR 2014 had worked. This statistic is collapsed across entry years, and over-represents new arrivals. Employment rates and labor force participation vary by sending region. The highest disparity between male and female labor force participation is among refugees from South/Southeast Asia (70 percent versus 39 percent for female). A sizable gender gap in labor force participation was also observed among refugees from the Middle East and Africa, while there is small gap between men and women from Latin America. Across all refugee groups, 70 percent of men were working or looking for work compared to 43 percent of women.

Reasons for Not Looking for Work—The Annual Survey of Refugees also asks adults age 16 or older who were out of the labor force why they were not looking for employment. As shown in [Chart II-2](#), only a very small set of responding refugees out of the labor force indicated they were discouraged workers who could not find a job (two percent). Respondents were allowed to select more than one reason for not working, and the top three reasons selected were poor health or handicap, attending school, and child care or family responsibilities. Thirty-three percent of those out of the labor force cited poor health or a handicap as a reason; these refugees had a median age of 52 (median age not shown in chart). Thirty-two percent stated that attending school or training was why they did not seek work, with a median age of 18. And 29 percent of those not working or seeking work cited child care and other family responsibilities as a reason, with a median age of 33. Of respondents pointing to child care and other family responsibilities, 80 percent were 40 years of age or younger and 95 percent were female (based on data from additional analyses not shown here).

Chart II-2: Reason not looking for Work for Refugees 16 years or older



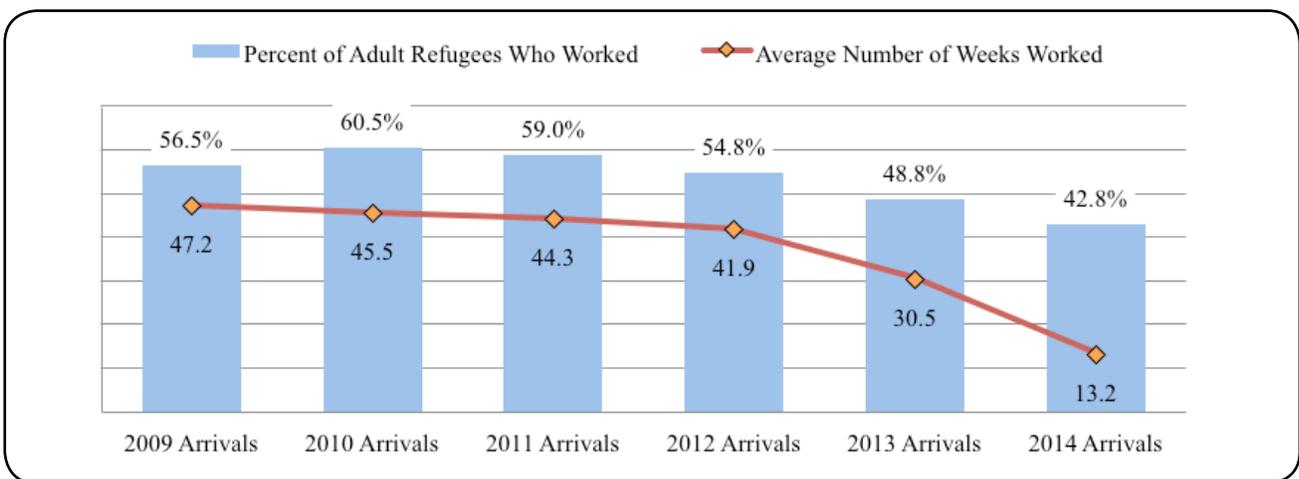
Note: Tabulation of adults over the age of 16 in ASR households who did not work in the week prior to the survey and were not looking for work in the month prior to the survey. *"Couldn't find job" represents response categories "Believes no work is available" and "Couldn't find a job." Respondents were allowed to select more than one reason for being out of the labor force.



Other Measures of Employment Experiences

Work Experience in the Previous Year—The previous section offered a snapshot of survey respondents’ employment during fall 2014, in the week prior to the survey. ORR is also interested in longer-term measures of refugees’ employment experiences. Additional survey questions about work experience measure the number of weeks worked in the past year and also the usual number of hours worked in a week. [Chart II-3](#) and [Table II-12](#) present the work experience of adults in ASR households by their year of arrival. When comparing work experience across refugees of different entry years, it is important to keep in mind that the 2014 cohort was in the U.S. for less than ten months at the time of the survey, reducing the number of weeks it was possible for them to work.

Chart II-3: Percent of Refugees Who Worked in the Year Prior to the Survey and Average Number of Weeks Worked, by Year of Arrival



[Chart II-3](#) shows that 43 percent of respondents in the 2014 cohort worked for pay during their first several months in the U.S., compared with 49 percent of the 2013 cohort. The percentage of ASR refugees working and number of hours worked was generally higher in cohorts that had been in the U.S. longer. As with employment status, the proportion of adults with some work experience in the past year tends to increase with length of time in the U.S.

Table II-12: Work Experience of Adult Refugees by Year of Arrival: 2014 Survey

WORK EXPERIENCE	2014 ARRIVALS	2013 ARRIVALS	2012 ARRIVALS	2011 ARRIVALS	2010 ARRIVALS	2009 ARRIVALS
Years in the U.S.	>1 YEAR	1 YEAR	2 YEARS	3 YEARS	4 YEARS	5 YEARS
Worked last year*	42.8%	48.8%	54.8%	59.0%	60.5%	56.5%
50-52 weeks (prior year)	#	9.9%	33.2%	40.2%	45.4%	46.2%
Full-time**	54.6%	68.2%	68.0%	74.9%	69.4%	70.0%
Average weeks worked	13.2	30.5	41.9	44.3	45.5	47.2

Notes: In the year prior to fall 2014, not seasonally adjusted. Tabulation for refugees 16 or older in ASR households arriving between March 1, 2009 and February 28, 2014. # 2014 arrivals had not yet lived in the country a year. * Respondents who worked in the year prior to the survey. ** Worked 35 hours or more per week among adults who worked.

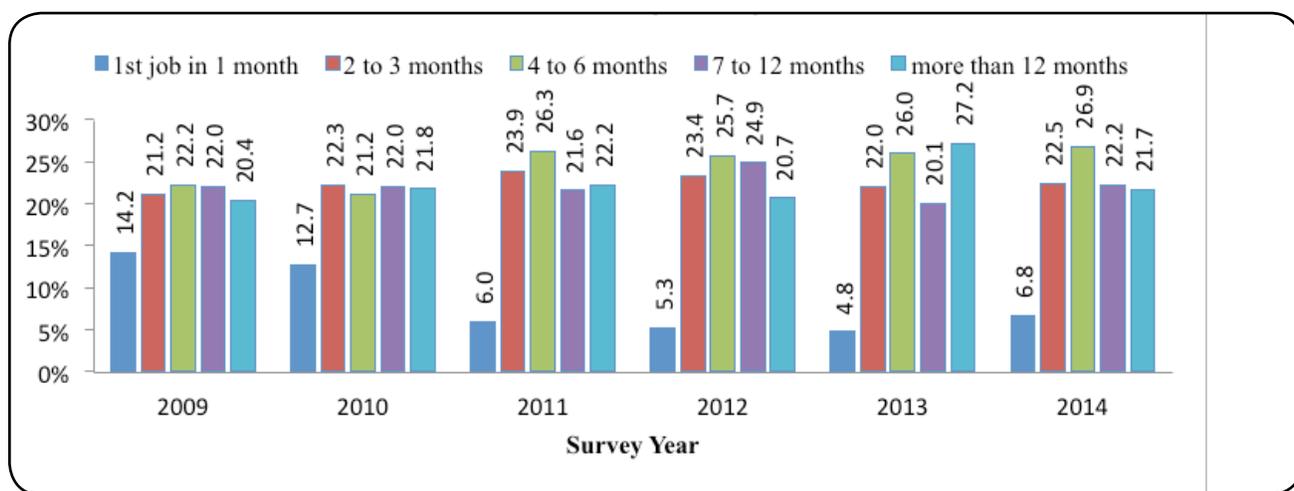


Table II-12 includes the information in Chart II-3 and additional data on the percent of ASR respondents working full-time (average 35 hours a week) and full-year (50-52 weeks). Rates of full-year and full-time employment were higher after the first year in the country, and the average number of weeks worked in a year increased with successive cohorts, from 31 weeks for 2013 entrants to 47 weeks for respondents who entered the country in 2009.

In comparison to the 2013 survey,¹⁰ four out of five cohorts demonstrate improvements on every variable in the 2014 survey.

Elapsed Time to First Job —Seventy-eight percent of adults in refugee households responding to the ASR 2014 found their first job, within the first 12 months of arrival (Chart II-4).

Chart II-4: Elapsed Time to First Job for Refugees Who Have Worked by Survey Year



Comparing this data to that from previous survey administrations, the percentage of adults taking more than a year to find their first employment has decreased from 27 percent in the 2013¹¹ survey to 22 percent in the 2014 survey, signaling an improving job market and higher participation for more recent arrivals.

Factors Affecting Economic Integration

The speed with which a household reaches self-sufficiency can depend on other factors beyond refugees’ timely employment. These include the transferrable skills refugees possess (affecting the quality of jobs they can pursue), family size and composition (e.g., number of dependents to support), and the resources and support available in the communities in which they resettle. The occupational and educational skills that refugees bring with them to the United States influence their prospects for self-sufficiency, as do cultural and structural factors. This section presents information on respondents’ English language proficiency and growth, their pursuit of education and training, hourly wages, and household-level measures of home ownership and sources of income in the year prior to fall 2014.

¹⁰ 2013 ORR Annual Report to Congress, page 90. Table II-12 Work Experience of Adult Refugees by Year or Arrival: 2013 Survey

¹¹ 2013 ORR Annual Report to Congress, page 91. Chart II-4: Elapsed Time to First Job for Refugees Who Have Worked By Survey Year.



Education, English Language, and Training

Table II-13 offers information on the educational background and English proficiency of ASR respondents. As described in Section II's technical notes (page 111), direct comparisons of outcomes by geographic region should not be made. Due to variation in geographic representation among cohorts, these statistics conflate sending region and year of arrival. Collapsed data over-represent new arrivals, and should not be interpreted as representative of five-year population outcomes. Certain countries are overrepresented in some regions. See Technical Notes (Table II-25) for more details.

Table II-13: Education and English Proficiency Characteristics of Selected Refugee Groups

EDUCATION AND ENGLISH PROFICIENCY	AFRICA	EASTERN EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA	MIDDLE EAST	SOUTH/SOUTHEAST ASIA	FORMER SOVIET UNION	ALL
AVERAGE YEARS OF EDUCATION BEFORE U.S. ENTRY	6.9	N/A*	11.2	10.9	6.3	N/A*	8.4
HIGHEST DEGREE BEFORE U.S. ENTRY							
None	38.6	N/A	8.3	8.3	36.6	N/A	25.1
Primary School	27.3	N/A	23.2	24.2	25.1	N/A	24.7
Training in Refugee Camp	0.2	N/A	2.1	0.3	0.2	N/A	0.4
Technical School	3.4	N/A	9.7	9.3	0.5	N/A	4.5
Secondary School (or High School Diploma)	23.1	N/A	35.0	33.3	30.6	N/A	31.2
University Degree (Other than Medical)	3.9	N/A	13.9	19.6	2.8	N/A	9.3
Medical Degree	#	N/A	2.5	1.1	#	N/A	0.6
Other	#	N/A	0.2	0.6	0.2	N/A	0.3
ATTENDED SCHOOL/UNIVERSITY (WITHIN THE PAST 12 MONTHS)	28.1	N/A	10.9	20.1	16.7	N/A	18.8
ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL OR UNIVERSITY (WITHIN THE PAST 12 MONTHS) FOR DEGREE/CERTIFICATE	27.2	N/A	8.8	19.8	16.0	N/A	18.0
High School Certificate or Equivalency	22.5	N/A	4.4	11.3	13.8	N/A	13.4
Associates Degree	2.7	N/A	1.9	5.2	1.0	N/A	2.6
Bachelor's Degree	1.4	N/A	1.4	2.2	1.2	N/A	1.6
Master's or Doctorate Degree	#	N/A	#	0.3	#	N/A	0.1
Professional Degree	0.1	N/A	0.7	0.1	#	N/A	0.1
Other	0.2		0.5	0.6	#		0.3
DEGREE RECEIVED	1.7	N/A	2.3	2.1	0.9	N/A	1.5
AT TIME OF ARRIVAL							
Speaking no English	54.6	N/A	81.3	34.3	52.1	N/A	50.2



EDUCATION AND ENGLISH PROFICIENCY	AFRICA	EASTERN EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA	MIDDLE EAST	SOUTH/SOUTHEAST ASIA	FORMER SOVIET UNION	ALL
Not Speaking English Well	27.6	N/A	11.0	33.0	36.7	N/A	31.7
Speaking English Well or Very Well	14.8	N/A	1.5	29.2	7.6	N/A	14.3
AT TIME OF SURVEY							
Speaking no English	22.8	N/A	20.7	13.2	30.1	N/A	22.8
Not Speaking English Well	36.0	N/A	61.1	24.6	41.5	N/A	37.9
Speaking English Well or Very Well	41.2	N/A	18.2	62.0	28.2	N/A	39.2

Notes: Tabulation for refugees 16 or older in ASR households arriving between March 1, 2009 and February 28, 2014. These data refer to self-reported information from refugees. English at time of survey collapses data across arrival years; data over-represent new arrivals and should not be interpreted as representative of five-year population outcomes. # Rounds to zero. * The number of cases is too small to generate valid estimates.

As in previous years of the ASR, adults in the households that responded to 2014 survey entered the U.S. with a wide range of educational attainment. Ten percent held a college or university degree (including medical degrees) before arriving in the United States. 36 percent had completed high school or a technical degree. 25 percent completed primary school. The final 25 percent of ASR household members 16 and older arrived in the U.S. with no formal education.

ASR respondents' educational attainment at arrival in the U.S. varied by geographic sending region. Respondents from the Middle East had the highest rate of higher education at arrival in the U.S. (21 percent), followed by those from the Latin America (16 percent). About one-third of survey respondents arrived with a high school diploma; the percent was slightly lower among respondents from Africa (21 percent). Large proportions of respondents from Africa (66 percent) and South/Southeast Asia (52 percent) arrived in the United States with a primary school education or less. Given the disadvantaged educational backgrounds of many of the ASR 2014 respondents, their levels of employment are particularly notable.

English Language Proficiency and Acquisition—Table II-14, Chart II-5a, and Chart II-5b present information about the English language proficiency of the adults in ASR 2014 households, at the time of their arrival in the United States and the time of the survey (fall 2014). Each entering cohort arrived with its own mix of language skills. However, the data convey survey respondents' steady and strong progress in English language acquisition, both within cohorts and with longer time in the United States.

Table II-14:– English Language Proficiency and Acquisition, By Year of Arrival

YEARS IN THE U.S		SPEAKS ENGLISH...(%)		
		WELL/VERY WELL	NOT WELL	NOT AT ALL
<1 Year	Arrival 2014	26.5	28.3	45.3
	Fall 2014	35.5	35.5	28.6
1 Year	Arrival 2013	17.4	32.6	48.3
	Fall 2014	32.3	39.9	27.7
2 Years	Arrival 2012	12.9	32.2	52.8
	Fall 2014	37.7	36.7	25.1
3 Years	Arrival 2011	8.0	33.5	53.1
	Fall 2014	32.5	43.9	23.5

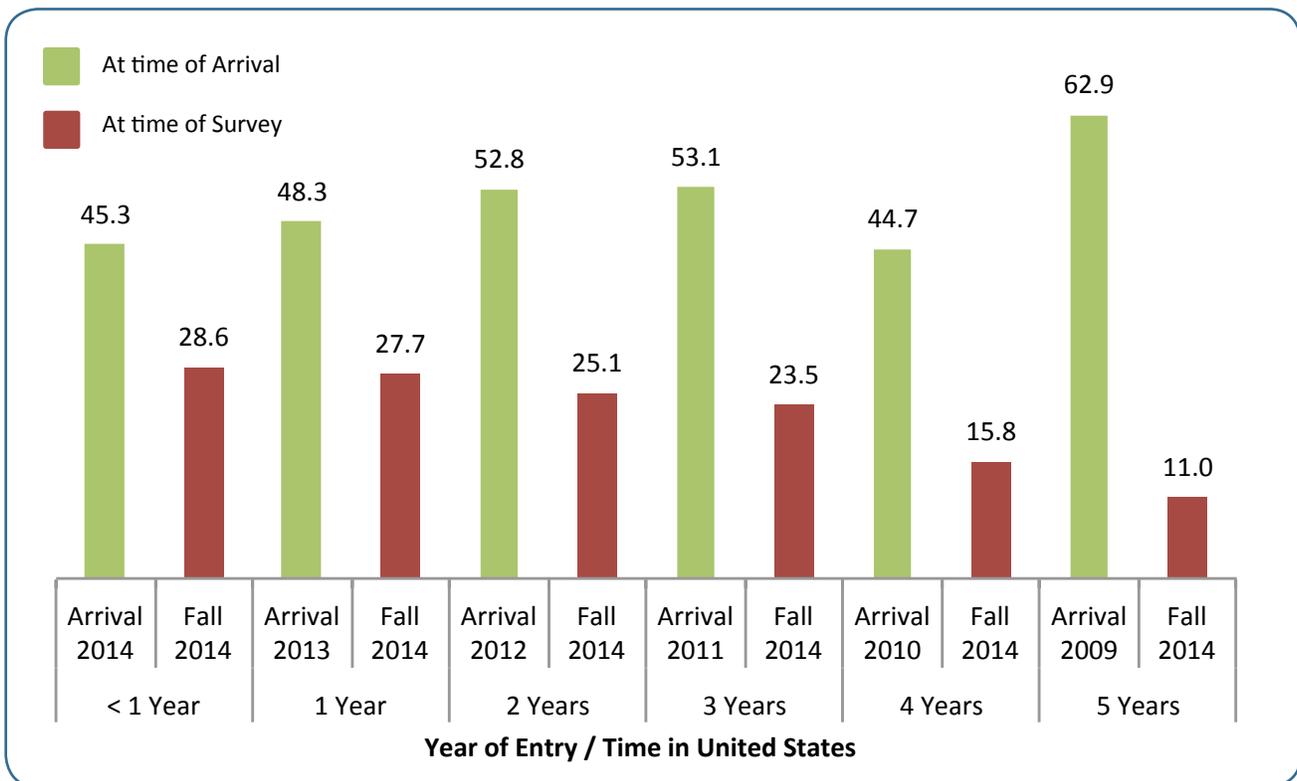


YEARS IN THE U.S.		SPEAKS ENGLISH...(%)		
		WELL/VERY WELL	NOT WELL	NOT AT ALL
4 Years	Arrival 2010	16.4	32.7	44.7
	Fall 2014	50.9	33.2	15.8
5 Years	Arrival 2009	13.3	16.2	62.9
	Fall 2014	55.0	34.1	11.0

Notes: Tabulation for refugees 16 or older in ASR households arriving between March 1, 2009 and February 28, 2014. Language proficiency is based on self-reported information from the refugees or members of their households and may not add to 100 because of small numbers answering "Do not know."

The data in [Table II-14](#) are represented visually in [Chart II-5A](#) and [Chart II-5B](#).

Chart II-5a: Percent of Refugees Speaking English "Not at All" At Arrival and 2014 Survey, By Year of Entry



While there is some variation among arrival cohorts, about half of adult respondents in each entry year spoke no English at the time they arrived in the United States ([Table II-14](#)). This is represented by the green bars in [Chart II-5a](#). For these respondents, English acquisition begins immediately: even among 2014 entrants, who have been in the country less than a year, there is a substantial decline in percent speaking no English between the time of arrival and the survey (45 percent versus 29 percent). The red bars in [Chart II-5a](#) also demonstrate the steady decline in the percent of adults speaking no English as cohorts are in the United States longer. After five years in the U.S. (2009 arrivals), only 11 percent of adults speak no English. This small group is older than average (mean age 55, compared to 35 for 2009 arrivals).

Chart II-5b: Percent of Refugees Speaking English “Well or Very Well” At Arrival and 2014 Survey, By Year of Entry

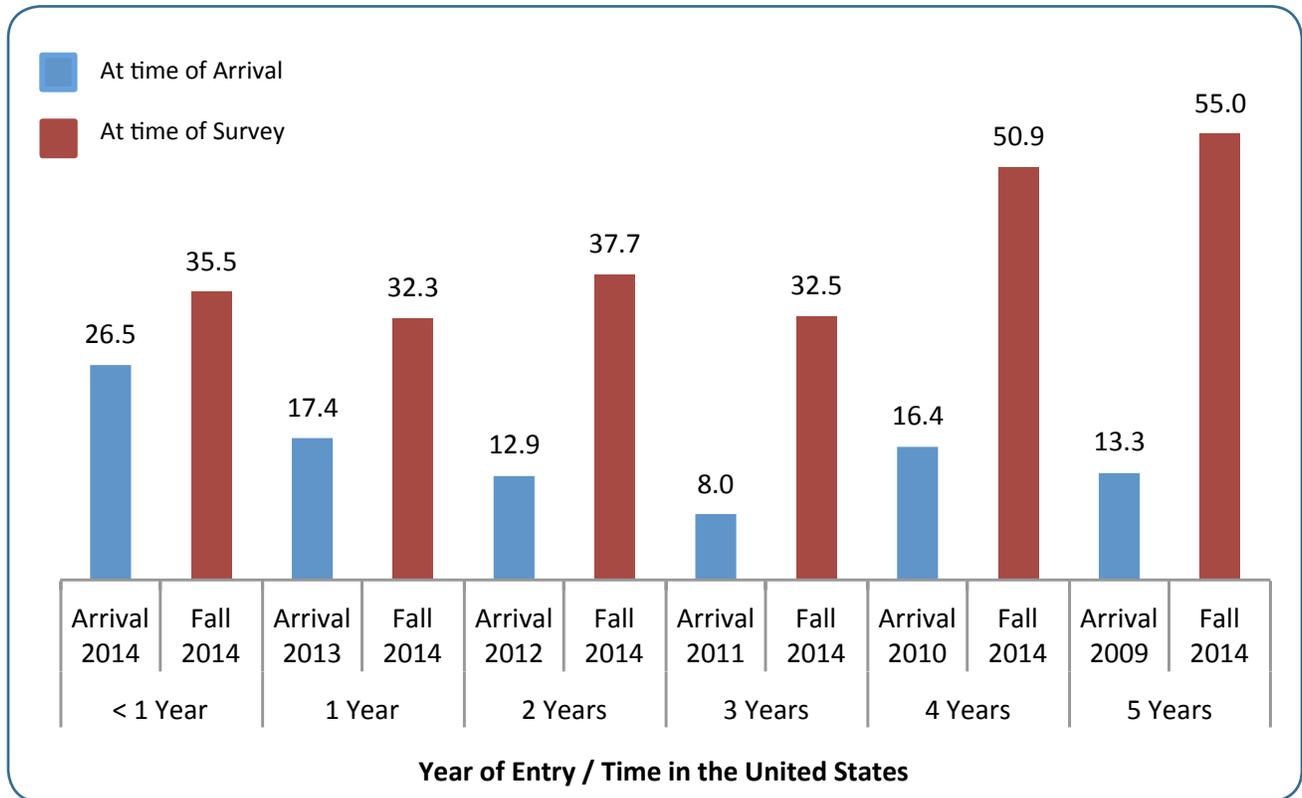


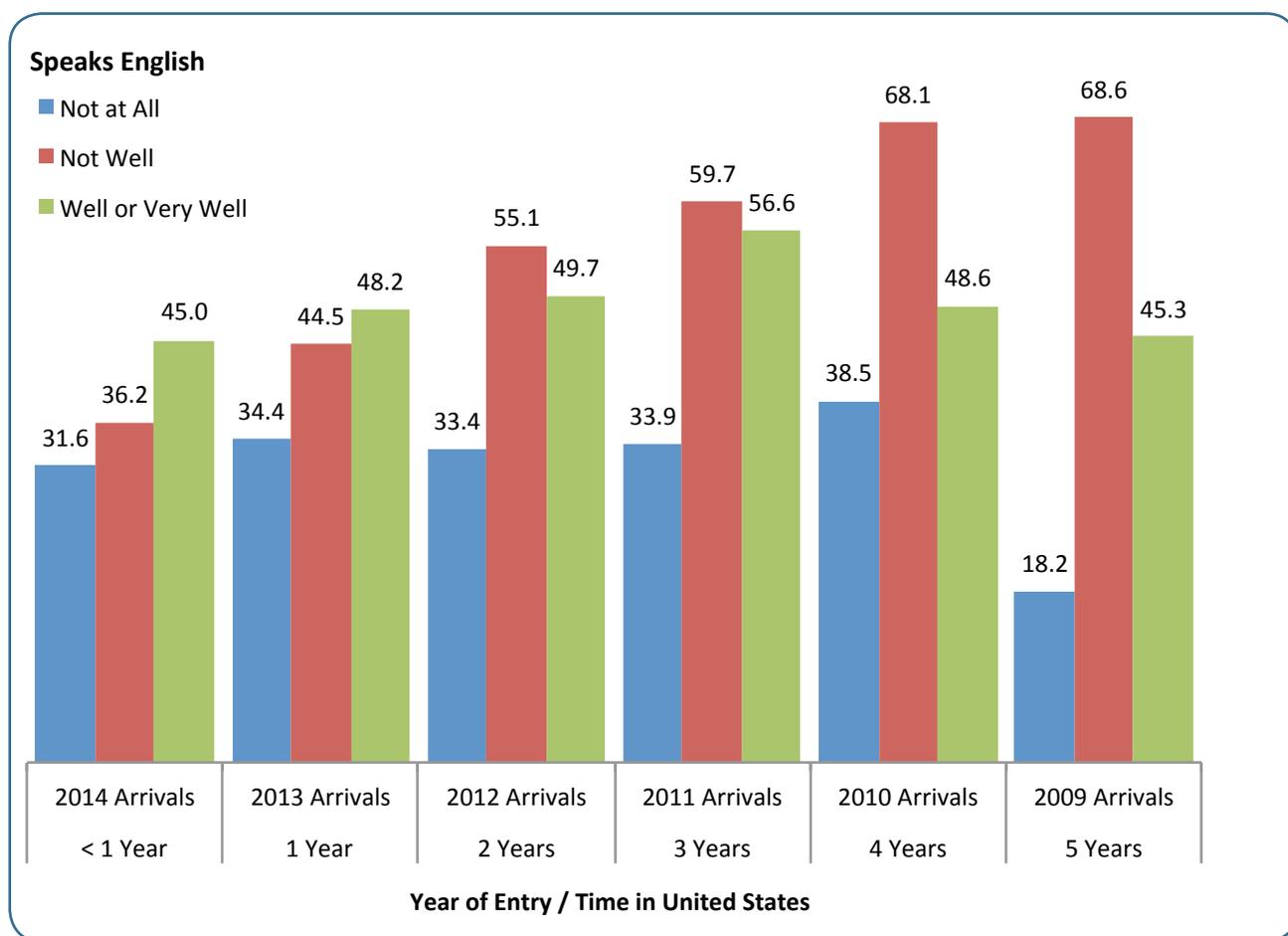
Photo: Courtesy of EMM-NY



The percent of adults with strong English language skills also increased within cohorts and with longer residence in the U.S. [Chart II-5b](#) compares the percent of adults in ASR households who spoke English “well or very well” at time of arrival and time of the survey, by entry cohort. As above, this visual highlights three points: there is variation in the English proficiency of entering cohorts at their arrival in the U.S. (blue bars); all cohorts make steady gains in proficiency by the time of the survey (comparison of blue to red within arrival year), and the percent of those speaking English well or very well increases with time in the country (red bars across arrival years). After five years in the United States, 55 percent of 2009 entrants spoke English well or very well, compared with 13 percent at the time of arrival.

Basic English language proficiency is related to employment status. [Chart II-5c](#) displays the fall 2014 Employment Rate (EPR) for each arrival cohort, by their English language proficiency at the time of the survey.

Chart II 5c: Employment Rate (EPR) by Year of Arrival and English Language Proficiency, Fall 2014



Note: Tabulation for refugees 16 or older in ASR households arriving between March 1, 2009 and February 28, 2014. Language proficiency is based on self-reported information from the refugees or members of their households. Bars for employment rate do not represent equal numbers of respondents; see Table II-14 for the percent of respondents in each proficiency group by year of arrival.

For each entry cohort, the fall 2014 employment rate was lowest among adults who lacked basic English skills (EPR ranged between 18 and 39 percent of respondents who spoke no English). Among newly-arrived survey respondents (2013 and 2014 arrivals), English proficiency is a straightforward predictor of employment: the employment rate increases with each proficiency category. In cohorts that had been in the United States longer (entering in 2012 or earlier), adults who spoke English “not well” were as or more likely to be working than those who spoke English “well or



very well.” While this indicates that basic English proficiency is sufficient for some employment, more analysis would be required to interpret this finding. The employment rate is calculated based adults 16 and older who are working, divided by all adults, including those who are out of the labor force for any reason. In cohorts with longer U.S. residence, young adults may have strong English skills, yet be out of the labor force due to their continued enrollment in school.

Participation in English Language and Job Training—Many members of ASR households pursued English language instruction or job training in the year prior to the 2014 survey. [Table II-15](#) reports participation in English language and job training by adults over the age of 16.

The top panel presents this information by geographic region. There is some variation in participation in education and training across respondents from different sending regions. Direct comparisons between geographic sending regions should not be made. Due to variation in geographic representation across entry cohorts, these statistics conflate sending region and year of arrival. Certain countries are overrepresented in some regions. See Technical Notes [Table II-25](#) for more details.

Table II -15: English Language and Job Training Received by Selected Refugee Groups by Year of Arrival: 2014 Survey

TYPE OF SERVICE UTILIZATION	AFRICA	EASTERN EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA	MIDDLE EAST	SOUTH/ SOUTH-EAST ASIA	FORMER SOVIET UNION
ELT in High School Within the Past 12 Months	21.1%	n/a*	5.7%	9.1%	10.8%	n/a*
ELT Outside of High School Within the Past 12 Months	38.1	n/a	8.8	29.7	21.5	n/a
Job Training Within the Past 12 Months	3.9	n/a	3.1	4.4	3.2	n/a
Currently Attending ELT Inside High School	21.1	n/a	5.7	9.1	10.8	n/a
Currently Attending ELT Outside of High School	23.8	n/a	5.4	13.6	8.0	n/a
TYPE OF SERVICE UTILIZATION BY YEAR OF ARRIVAL	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
ELT Inside High School Within the Past 12 Months	4.9%	11.9%	12.2%	9.9%	13.2%	3.2%



TYPE OF SERVICE UTILIZATION	AFRICA	EASTERN EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA	MIDDLE EAST	SOUTH/ SOUTH-EAST ASIA	FORMER SOVIET UNION
ELT Outside of High School Within the Past 12 Months	51.1	42.7	25.2	16.4	14.0	12.1
Job Training Within the Past 12 Months	6.1	3.5	3.5	3.1	4.2	3.0
Currently Attending ELT Inside High School	4.9	11.9	12.2	9.9	13.2	3.2
Currently Attending ELT Outside of High School	20.5	16.3	11.7	9.1	8.9	6.8

Note: Tabulation for refugees 16 or older in ASR households arriving between March 1, 2009 and February 28, 2014. Data over-represent new arrivals and should not be interpreted as five-year population outcomes.

*The number of cases is too small to generate valid estimates.

The bottom panel of [Table II-15](#) presents ELT and job training by year of arrival in the United States. As expected, attendance in ELT decreases as cohorts have been in the U.S. longer. Seventy percent of ASR adults who have been in the country for less than a year attended or were currently attending an English Language Training (ELT) program outside of high school, compared to 23 percent for the 2010 cohort.

Participation rates in ELT inside a high school increase the longer refugee cohorts are in the U.S. (10 percent for the 2014 cohort compared to 26 percent for the 2010 cohort). Since ELT within high school is most likely utilized by youth, an increase in high school ELT would naturally occur as young refugees enter high school and become old enough to be counted in the annual survey.¹²

Sources of Income and Support

Over time, refugee families take steps towards becoming established U.S. residents. This section reports on average hourly wages for working adults and sources of household income by year of arrival. Home ownership represents another indicator of becoming established. The availability of medical coverage insures against financial shocks that may threaten a household’s economic stability. These indicators are reported below.

Hourly Wages, Home Ownership, and Sources of Income— While there are year-to-year fluctuations in earnings and benefits use due to the different mix of refugee demographics and skill levels in each cohort, economic self-sufficiency tends to increase with the length of survey respondents’ residence in the U.S. The most notable changes occur within the first two years of arrival [Table II-16](#).

¹²Data is collected for all household members 16 years or older. Thus, if a family that arrived in 2010 had a 13 year old son, he would not have been counted as participating in ELT even if he was enrolled in a school’s ELT program. However, at the time of the 2014 survey, the son would be at least 16 years old and included in the language training module. This could produce the appearance of an increase in high school ELT among respondents in earlier cohorts, even if the percent of high school students receiving ELT had remained consistent or declined.



Table II-16: Average Hourly Wages, Home Ownership, and Source of Income, by Year of Arrival

YEARS IN THE U.S.	YEAR OF ARRIVAL	HOURLY WAGES OF EMPLOYED CURRENT JOB	OWN HOME OR APARTMENT	RENT HOME OR APARTMENT	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ONLY	BOTH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND EARNINGS	EARNINGS ONLY
<1	2014	\$9.33	2.1%	97.9%	16.1%	68.7%	9.5%
1	2013	\$9.57	2.2	95.3	11.7	60.0	25.3
2	2012	\$9.94	2.7	95.0	8.8	29.8	58.5
3	2011	\$9.89	5.9	93.1	6.5	28.9	63.2
4	2010	\$9.94	6.8	90.4	4.5	30.3	62.8
5	2009	\$10.48	4.5	93.6	17.3	28.1	53.0

Note: Wage estimates calculated for refugees 16 or older in ASR households that arrived between March 1, 2009 and February 28, 2014. All other estimates are based on household-level data. These figures refer to self-reported characteristics of refugees. For home ownership, the response for “occupied without payment of cash rent” is not included in the table, so percentages for “own home or apartment” and “rent home or apartment” do not add up to 100%.

The earnings of employed survey respondents generally rose with the length of their residence in the U.S. As shown in [Table II-16](#), the average hourly wage in fall 2014 ranged from \$9.33 for 2014 arrivals to \$10.48 for those who entered the country in 2009. [Table II-16](#) also reports household-level data on home ownership and sources of income. After the first two years in the United States, the majority of households subsist on earnings alone. Around 30 percent of households supplement wages with some form of public assistance. Regardless of length of residence, only a minority of responding households relied on public benefits alone at the time of the 2014 ASR. Only a small portion of respondents own a home during their first five years in the United States (between 2 and 7 percent by cohort).

[Table II-17](#) reports these indicators across several past survey administrations. Direct comparisons of ASR five-cohort averages across survey years should also be interpreted with caution, as they do not account for variation in the relative size or geographic composition of cohorts included in each five-year survey window. Collapsed data over-represent new arrivals, and should not be interpreted as representative of five-year population outcomes.

Table II-17: Average Hourly Wages, Home Ownership, and Source of Income, by Survey Year

YEAR OF SURVEY	AVERAGE HOURLY WAGES OF EMPLOYED	OWN HOME OR APARTMENT	RENT HOME OR APARTMENT	PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ONLY	BOTH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND EARNINGS	EARNINGS ONLY
2014 Survey	\$9.86	4.2%	93.7%	8.8%	38.1%	50.6%
2013 Survey	9.95	9.7	86.7	8.2	38.9	49.6
2012 Survey	9.96	5.0	93.2	9.4	37.2	50.0
2011 Survey	9.89	4.9	92.6	9.9	27.9	58.3
2010 Survey	10.31	9.0	86.4	10.2	16.2	67.8
2009 Survey	10.70	7.0	87.7	13.5	24.8	56.6

Note: Data as of fall of each survey year. Wage estimates are adjusted to 2014 dollars and tabulated for refugees 16 or older in ASR households that arrived during each survey’s five-year window, and are adjusted by inflation. All other estimates are based on household-level data. These figures refer to self-reported characteristics of refugees. Newer arrivals are over-represented in these averages; data should not be interpreted as five-year population outcomes.



Medical Coverage—Fourteen percent of adult members of ASR 2014 households lacked medical coverage in the year preceding the survey [Table II-18](#).

Table II-18: Source of Medical Coverage by Selected Refugee Groups and Year of Arrival

SOURCE OF MEDICAL COVERAGE**	AFRICA	EASTERN EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA	MIDDLE EAST	SOUTH/SOUTHEAST ASIA	FORMER SOVIET UNION	ALL
No Medical Coverage in any of the past 12 months	11.4%	N/A*	28.9%	8.6%	16.1%	N/A*	14.3%
Medical Coverage through employer	6.5	N/A	13.3	4.3	13.2	N/A	9.5
Medicaid or Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA)	75.2	N/A	24.5	76.4	50.2	N/A	59.5
SOURCE OF MEDICAL COVERAGE**	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	ALL
No Medical Coverage in any of the past 12 months	2.6%	5.1%	15.7%	20.0%	19.6%	15.5%	14.3%
Medical Coverage through Employer	#	3.2	8.8	11.9	15.9	11.5	9.5
Medicaid or Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA)	80.3	76.0	59.8	47.1	48.1	58.4	59.5

Notes: As of Fall 2014. Data refer to refugees 16 or older in ASR households that arrived between March 1, 2009 and February 28, 2014.

Rounds to zero. *The number of cases is too small to generate valid estimates.

** Percentages for other government health care and other insurance not presented.

Lack of medical coverage varied among survey respondents across the six geographic regions [Table II-18](#). Direct comparisons between geographic sending regions should not be made. Due to variation in geographic representation across entry cohorts, these statistics conflate sending region and year of arrival. Certain countries are overrepresented in some regions. See Technical Notes [Table II-25](#) for more details.

The bottom panel of [Table II-18](#) displays medical coverage by year of arrival. In general, medical coverage through government aid programs declines with time in the U.S.; coverage through Medicaid or RMA decreased from 80 percent for 2014 arrivals to around half of those in the country since 2011 or longer. Data indicate that government benefits are not replaced with employer-sponsored health care for many of the responding adults. Only a minority of responding adults in any entry cohort had access to medical coverage through employment (between 3 and 16 percent). As a result, survey respondents have lower overall rates of medical coverage over time. Only three percent of 2014 arrivals reported that they had no coverage of any type during the past year, likely due to their eligibility for the Medicaid and RMA programs that cover almost all refugees the initial resettlement period. Eligibility for needs-based medical programs is not available for long, however, and the proportion of individuals who are not covered quickly rises as refugees exhaust their eligibility and begin employment, often without medical benefits.



Table II-19 presents the source of medical coverage for selected refugee groups over several recent survey administrations. Direct comparisons between geographic regions should not be made; due to variation in geographic representation between cohorts, these statistics conflate sending region and year of arrival. Comparisons of ASR five-cohort averages across survey years also be interpreted with caution, as they do not account for variation in the relative size or geographic composition of cohorts included in each five-year survey window. Collapsed data over-represent new arrivals, and should not be interpreted as representative of five-year population outcomes. Certain countries are over-represented in some regions. See Technical Notes Table II-25 for more details.

Table II-19: Source of Medical Coverage by Selected Refugee Groups and Year of Survey

YEAR OF SURVEY	AFRICA	EASTERN EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA	MIDDLE EAST	SOUTH/SOUTHEAST ASIA	FORMER SOVI-ET UNION	ALL
No Medical Coverage in any of past 12 months							
2014 Survey	11.4%	n/a*	28.9%	8.6%	16.1%	n/a*	14.3%
2013 Survey	14.8	n/a	51.8	12.7	17.5	n/a	20.2
2012 Survey	10.4	n/a	67.8	15.2	10.3	10.3	22.1
2011 Survey	29.2	n/a	75.5	17.0	19.7	18.9	32.9
2010 Survey	24.4	n/a	55.5	11.1	32.2	22.0	29.8
2009 Survey	12.2	n/a	50.6	5.7	6.9	28.3	19.2
Medical Coverage Through Employer							
2014 Survey	6.5	n/a	13.3	4.3	13.2	n/a	9.5
2013 Survey	4.5	n/a	9.9	6.2	15.4	n/a	10.7
2012 Survey	7.5	n/a	8.3	4.9	10.0	31.8	9.2
2011 Survey	6.4	n/a	4.8	4.0	13.7	14.3	8.3
2010 Survey	15.2	n/a	8.2	5.1	9.3	20.8	10.3
2009 Survey	11.3	n/a	14	2.5	4.9	18.1	9.2
Medicaid or RMA							
2014 Survey	75.2	n/a	24.5	76.4	50.2	n/a	59.5
2013 Survey	75.0	n/a	23.6	73.1	49.6	n/a	56.0
2012 Survey	76.6	n/a	20.7	70.4	69.7	51.0	60.5
2011 Survey	51.1	n/a	15.2	70.1	59.2	23.4	48.4
2010 Survey	53.0	n/a	26.2	73.2	46.6	40.5	48.6
2009 Survey	54.4	n/a	24.5	82.7	72.4	45.1	57.7

Note: Tabulations for refugees over age 16 in ASR households for each survey year. Not seasonally adjusted. * The number of cases is too small to generate valid estimates. These data over-represent new arrivals, and should not be interpreted as representative of five-year population outcomes.

* The number of cases is too small to generate valid estimates.



Public Assistance Utilization by ASR 2014 Households

A structured component of the U.S. refugee resettlement program is fostering integration and economic self-sufficiency by providing refugees access to critical resources during their initial resettlement period. During their first eight months in the country, it is expected that the majority of refugees will access these available supports. Twenty-seven percent of ASR2014 respondents received the survey during their initial eight month resettlement period.

Like the general U.S. population, qualifying refugees also have access to public assistance programs, including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), General Assistance, Medicaid, and Housing Assistance. Unlike the general U.S. population, refugees who do not qualify for TANF and/or Medicaid are eligible for Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) and Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA) during their initial resettlement period. Given that TANF is a state-administered program, eligibility for TANF, and subsequently for RCA, varies by state. After their initial eight months in the country, refugees who did not qualify for TANF and were using RCA may have access to General Assistance. The availability and eligibility of General Assistance also varies by state.

The Annual Survey of Refugees collects information about the types of assistance that sampled refugee households received in the previous year. In the following tables, Cash Assistance consists of TANF, RCA (only available during first 8 months in the U.S. for refugees who do not meet their state’s TANF eligibility requirements), General Assistance, and SSI. Non-Cash Assistance consists of Medicaid, RMA (available during first eight months in the U.S. for refugees who do not qualify for Medicaid), SNAP, and Housing Assistance.

Data in this section are based on refugee self-reports rather than administrative information about actual benefits receipt. Some respondents—particularly those in their initial resettlement period—may not have accurately identified the type of the aid they received. Therefore, data presented in this section should be interpreted with caution.

Table II-20: Public Benefits Utilization by Year of Arrival, 2014 Survey

YEARS SINCE ARRIVAL ARRIVAL YEAR	< 1 YEAR 2014	1 YEAR 2013	2 YEARS 2012	3 YEARS 2011	4 YEARS 2010	5 YEARS 2009
CASH ASSISTANCE						
TANF	40.4	34.2	13.7	10.4	11.0	17.5
Refugee Cash Assistance	43.5	29.3	2.8	1.5	1.0	5.1
SSI	14.0	19.5	21.0	25.1	22.9	29.6
General Assistance	23.7	22.6	11.2	8.5	11.1	5.7
NON-CASH ASSISTANCE						
Medicaid or RMA	78.3	75.2	57.9	49.1	54.0	44.2
SNAP	98.3	95.0	78.2	64.1	63.8	60.2
Housing Assistance	13.3	17.6	24.2	25.8	21.6	1.2

Note: Based upon self-reported information; some respondents may not have been able to accurately identify the source of their aid. Medicaid/RMA data refer to percent of refugees 16 years or older in ASR 2014 households arriving between March 1, 2009 and February 28, 2014. All other data refer to the percent of responding households, not individuals.



Table II-20 presents information about responding households' receipt of public benefits by their year of arrival. Chart II-6 presents the information from the table visually. Receipt of non-cash assistance was generally higher than cash assistance. This is likely because Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) are available to a wider income band and to households without children.

Consistent with other data presented in this section that suggests respondents' made progress towards self-sufficiency the longer they were in the country, Chart II-6 shows that survey respondents' utilization of Refugee Cash Assistance, TANF, General Assistance, Medicaid, and SNAP benefits is generally lower among cohorts that have been in the United States longer. In particular, there is a large drop in benefits receipt between the first and the second year in the U.S. across most benefit types, as respondents move past the initial resettlement period. Utilization of SSI and housing assistance is higher among cohorts arriving in 2012 and earlier, but rates of utilization for these benefits remain much lower than other types of assistance. Given that SSI and housing assistance are two programs that typically require long eligibility processes, it is plausible that these increases represent not a growth in underlying demand for services but the lagged time it takes for eligible households to access these types of assistance.

Chart II-6: Public Benefits Receipt by Year of Arrival, 2014 Survey

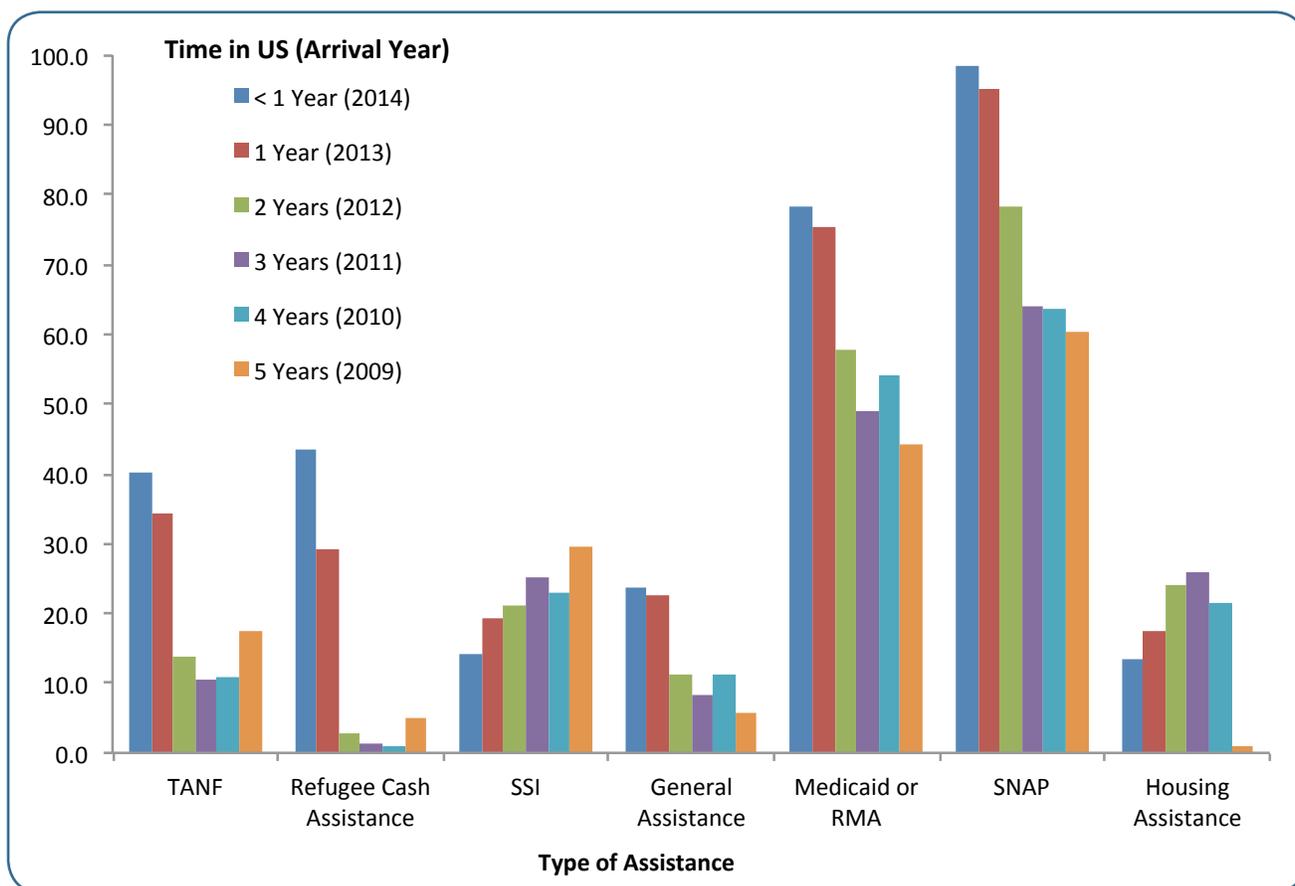


Table II-21 presents information about public assistance utilization by the geographic sending region of surveyed households. Public assistance utilization varied considerably among respondents from different sending regions Table II-21. As presented in the previous table and chart, benefits receipt generally decreases with respondents' length of stay in the United States. Direct comparisons between geographic sending regions should not be made. Due to



variation in geographic representation across entry cohorts, these statistics conflate sending region and year of arrival. Collapsed data over-represent new arrivals, and should not be interpreted as representative of five-year population outcomes. Certain countries are overrepresented in some regions. See Technical Notes [Table II-25](#) for more details.

Table II-21: Public Assistance Utilization by Selected Refugee Groups

TYPE OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	AFRICA	EASTERN EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA	MIDDLE EAST	SOUTH/SOUTHEAST ASIA	FORMER SOVIET UNION
CASH ASSISTANCE						
TANF	18.9	n/a	8.1	39.2	6.2	n/a
Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)	14.7	n/a	0.3	13.6	8.7	n/a
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	13.2	n/a	5.2	35.5	21.5	n/a
General Assistance (GA)	6.6	n/a	6.2	20.3	13.6	n/a
NON-CASH ASSISTANCE						
Medicaid or RMA	75.2	n/a	24.5	76.4	50.2	n/a
SNAP Assistance	80.3	n/a	44.2	89.7	74.0	n/a
Housing Assistance	22.4	n/a	6.9	7.8	33.1	n/a

Note: Data refer to Medicaid and RMA data refer to refugees 16 years or older in ASR households that arrived between March 1, 2009 and February 28, 2014. All other data refer to households and not individuals. Many households receive more than one type of assistance. Data over-represent new arrivals and should not be interpreted as five-year population outcomes.

*The number of cases is too small to generate valid estimates.

[Table II-22](#) reports information by geographic region and the last five administrations of the Annual Survey of Refugees. Direct comparisons between geographic sending regions should not be made. Due to variation in geographic representation across entry cohorts, these statistics conflate sending region and year of arrival. Comparisons of ASR five-cohort averages across survey years should also be interpreted with caution, as they do not account for variation in the relative size of cohorts included in each five-year survey window. Collapsed data over-represent new arrivals, and should not be interpreted as representative of five-year population outcomes. Certain countries are overrepresented in some regions. See Technical Notes [Table II-25](#) for more details.

Table II-22: Public Assistance Utilization by Selected Refugee Groups by Year of Survey

YEAR SURVEY ADMINISTERED	AFRICA	EASTERN EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA	MIDDLE EAST	SOUTH/SOUTHEAST ASIA	FORMER SOVIET UNION	ALL
ANY TYPE OF CASH ASSISTANCE							
2014 Survey	44.0	N/A*	16.2	72.9	39.2	N/A*	46.9
2013 Survey	61.9	N/A	8.1	68.3	42.7	N/A	47.1
2012 Survey	59.1	N/A	5.4	67.6	56.9	53.2	46.5
2011 Survey	55.6	N/A	2.7	70.2	49.2	30.6	37.8



YEAR SURVEY ADMINISTERED	AFRICA	EASTERN EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA	MIDDLE EAST	SOUTH/SOUTHEAST ASIA	FORMER SOVIET UNION	ALL
2010 Survey	22.5	N/A	5.9	60.7	19.7	34.1	26.4
2009 Survey	37.0	N/A	18.1	84.0	35.8	24.8	38.3
MEDICAID OR RMA							
2014 Survey	75.2	N/A	24.5	76.4	50.2	N/A	59.5
2013 Survey	75.0	N/A	23.6	73.1	49.6	N/A	56.0
2012 Survey	76.6	N/A	20.7	70.4	69.7	51.0	60.5
2011 Survey	51.1	N/A	15.2	70.1	59.2	23.4	48.4
2010 Survey	53.0	N/A	26.2	73.2	46.6	40.5	48.6
2009 Survey	54.4	N/A	24.5	82.7	72.4	45.1	57.7
SNAP BENEFITS							
2014 Survey	80.3	N/A	44.2	89.7	74.0	N/A	75.9
2013 Survey	88.9	N/A	36.7	91.4	72.9	N/A	74.2
2012 Survey	91.1	N/A	35.9	89.2	83.3	81.2	73.3
2011 Survey	82.4	N/A	23.3	87.8	75.9	71.5	61.0
2010 Survey	68.9	N/A	36.2	82.0	75.0	71.0	62.6
2009 Survey	76.5	N/A	40.1	93.1	85.3	64.5	70.2
HOUSING ASSISTANCE							
2014 Survey	22.4	N/A	6.9	7.8	33.1	N/A	20.5
2013 Survey	30.5	N/A	3.5	18.7	32.3	N/A	22.8
2012 Survey	12.4	N/A	2.9	15.9	44.5	27.6	24.0
2011 Survey	15.6	N/A	3.1	14.8	65.6	19.0	24.2
2010 Survey	32.6	N/A	2.7	11.2	12.1	16.9	12.0
2009 Survey	31.0	N/A	36.3	11.9	25.4	63.9	31.6

Note: Estimates are calculated for ASR respondents arriving during each survey's five-year survey window. Medicaid and RMA data refer to refugees age 16 and older in responding ASR households. All other estimates are based on household-level data, not individuals. Data are based upon self-reports; some respondents may have not been able to accurately identify the source of aid. Data over-represent new arrivals and should not be interpreted as five-year population outcomes * The number of cases is too small to generate valid estimates.

This section detailed sources of income and supportive services for refugees during their first five years in the United States. While ASR respondents' average hourly wages increased over their time in the U.S., the lack of a corresponding increase in employer-sponsored health coverage may indicate difficulty finding quality jobs that can serve as a foundation for stability and upward mobility. At the same time, the bulk of ASR households make steady progress during their first five years towards increased wage income and away from reliance on public benefits.



IIC. SUMMARY

Between FY 2009 and FY 2014, 402,000 refugees arrived in the United States, journeying from five different regions and 117 different countries to embark on the process of calling this country home. Approximately half of these refugees arrived from the Near East/South Asia, 25 percent arrived from East Asia, and 20 percent arrived from Africa. Refugees arrived from Latin America and Europe in much smaller numbers (6 percent and 2 percent). The five largest sending countries were—in order—Burma, Iraq, Bhutan, Somalia, and Iran, which accounted for 80 percent of all arrivals in the past five fiscal years.

Refugees resettled into communities all across the United States. States receive refugees roughly in proportion to their percentage of the U.S. population. California, Texas, New York, Florida, and Michigan collectively received 38 percent of all refugees; these five states also collectively representative 36 percent of the total U.S. population. Most refugees who decide to move from their initial placement do so within their first year in the U.S. and then become more stabilized in their communities. Refugees' decision for secondary migration to another state possibly demonstrates strong self-determination in assessing the best environment for themselves and their families in which to thrive. While this is ultimately a likely step toward integration, the disruption from moving on a refugees' integration process is not fully known.

The 2014 Annual Survey of Refugees indicates refugees' continued progress toward self-sufficiency during their initial five years in the U.S. These data demonstrate notable gains among survey respondents the longer they reside in the U.S., with general improvements from one entry year to the next. Comparing refugees who have been in the U.S. less than a year to those who have been in the U.S. two years or more, there are noticeable positive trends in improved English language proficiency and workforce participation, and a decreased reliance on public benefits. Integration is a process comprised of numerous indicators, and given the trauma and hardship that many refugees experience before their arrival in the U.S., their progress over a relatively short period of time should not be overlooked.

After being in the U.S. for only two years, male refugees attained an employment rate on par with the overall U.S. rate for men, at 65 percent. Additionally, male refugees who have been in the country for less than a year surpassed the overall U.S. labor force participation rate for men (71 percent compared to U.S. average of 69 percent).

The percentage of the refugee population working and number of hours worked generally increased with cohorts' time in the U.S. More than half of ASR 2014 respondents work full time, starting at 55 percent of the 2014 cohort and steadily increasing to 70 percent of refugees arriving in 2009. Furthermore, when comparing each cohorts' progress on work experience from the 2013 survey to the 2014 survey, each cohort shows noticeable improvements on a variety of variables, further evidence of a positive correlation between length of time in the U.S. and improved integration.

This trend is further demonstrated in refugees' decreased utilization of public benefits over time. Each year, refugees' receipt of assistance from TANF, Refugee Cash Assistance, General Assistance, Medicaid, and SNAP decreases. When comparing refugees who have been in the U.S. less than one year to refugees who have been in the U.S. for five years, utilization of TANF decreases by 23 points, Refugee Cash Assistance decreases by 34 points, General Assistance decreases by 18 points, Medicaid decreases by 34 points, and SNAP decreases by 39 points. For types of assistance with longer waiting periods—SSI and Housing Assistance—utilization rates grow slightly over the five-year period, but not enough to offset the decreases across other categories.

According to the Annual Survey for Refugees data, refugees demonstrate a commitment to linguistic integration and expanding their educational opportunities. Seventy percent of refugees who have been in the country for less than a year attended or were currently attending an English Language Training program. While 10 percent of refugees enter the U.S. with a college or university degree (including a medical degree) and 36 percent enter with a high school or technical degree, an additional 18 percent of those over age 16 continue their education upon arrival.

Refugees make huge strides in improving their English language proficiency; even in the first few months of their time in the U.S., the percentage of refugees who "speak English well or very well" increases from time of arrival to the time of



the survey. This trend continues over their first five years in the U.S.

While refugees continue to make notable gains, the 2014 survey also demonstrates difficulties that some refugees face in achieving self-sufficiency following arrival in the U.S. Throughout the late nineties and early 2000s, surveys showed refugees with near equal employment rates to overall U.S. rates. Employment rates between refugees and the U.S. population begin to diverge in 2004. While they have recovered since their low in 2009, the overall employment rate of respondents to the ASR survey has not recovered to its rate in the prior decade. Thus, while the ASR 2014 demonstrates that employment outcomes do improve for survey respondents the longer they are in the U.S., their overall achievement and employment rate is lower than where it was at the beginning of the century. While efforts to improve refugees' employment outcomes should continue, the top three reasons survey respondents cite for not working were poor health or handicap, attending school, or child care or family responsibilities. While male refugees are at or surpass U.S. employment statistics, female refugees lag significantly behind U.S. rates. Further work to better understand the barriers to employment for female refugees could prove beneficial.

Despite significant decreases in most public benefits over time, some refugees continue to access public benefits five years after arrival. This could mean several different things. One possibility is that the trend line of decreasing utilization of public benefits continues pace in subsequent years, and the time it takes for refugees to be fully self-sufficient is longer than the five year scope of the Annual Survey of Refugees. Alternately, it could signal that some refugees encounter more challenges than others in their path toward self-sufficiency.

The 2014 Annual Survey of Refugees represents a window into the first five-years of survey respondents' time in the U.S. These data demonstrate the noteworthy progress that responding refugee families made towards achieving self-sufficiency, based on significant improvements on a number of measures with each additional year of U.S. residence. That said, the survey data also demonstrate that the first five years in the U.S. pose economic challenges for some refugee families. Refugees arrive in the U.S. having fled conflict, experienced trauma, and often with few material resources. Their general progress in a relatively short period of time should not be overlooked, even while we continue our efforts to understand and support their full integration into the U.S. economy and society.

TECHNICAL NOTES

History/Purpose of the Annual Survey of Refugees

Spanning more than four decades, the Annual Survey of Refugees is a longitudinal-panel survey of refugee households entering the United States. Interviews for the ASR 2014 were conducted by Avar Consulting, Inc.

Few changes have been made to the survey methodology over its four decades of existence. While the initial survey design and methodology has been consistently repeated year after year, it is important to understand that this long-standing study design does not produce nationally-representative data for all entering refugee households when it is analyzed cross-sectionally. All tables and figures based upon ASR 2014 data included in this report are cross-sectional tabulations.

Eligible Arrival Cohorts

The Annual Survey of Refugees focuses on recently-arrived refugee households, tracking their economic integration and progress during their first five years in the United States. Each year, a random sample of newly arrived refugee households is added to the study. This cohort is then tracked and re-contacted for the next four survey cycles. The cohort arriving more than five years ago is phased out of the study. To illustrate, [Table II-23](#) provides information on the cohorts included in ASR 2013 and ASR 2014, by date of arrival.



Annual Survey of Refugee cohorts are drawn from families entering between February 28 of the survey year and March 1 of the previous year. Interviews are conducted in August and September of the survey year.

Table II-23: Arrival Time Frames, Cohort Years, and ASR 2014 Cohort N and Response Rate

2014 COHORT	TIME OF ARRIVAL	IN ASR 2013	IN ASR 2014	ASR 2014 SAMPLE AND RESPONSE (HOUSEHOLDS)		
				N CONTACTED	N RESPONDED	RESPONSE RATE (%)
	March 2008 - February 2009	Y		^^	^^	^^
5	March 2009 - February 2010	Y	Y	113	94	83.2
4	March 2010 - February 2011	Y	Y	330	263	79.7
3	March 2011 - February 2012	Y	Y	277	205	74.0
2	March 2012 - February 2013	Y	Y	780	615	78.8
1	March 2013 - February 2014*		Y	1000	576	57.6
	Total			2500	1753	70.1

^^cohort dropped in 2014 survey

*cohort added in 2014 survey

Data tables and charts in the report text are tabulated by calendar arrival year, not survey cohort. [Table II-24](#) reports the unweighted number of responding households by calendar year of arrival. Due to cut-off dates for survey administration, tabulations for 2014 and 2009 do not represent full calendar years.

Table II-24: Unweighted Number of ASR 2014 Households, by Calendar Year of U.S. Arrival

ENTRY YEAR	DATES COVERED	N HOUSEHOLDS
2014	Jan 1, 2014-Feb 28 2014	49
2013	Jan 1, 2013-Dec 31, 2013	589
2012	Jan 1, 2012-Dec 31, 2012	587
2011	Jan 1, 2011-Dec 31, 2011	198
2010	Jan 1, 2010-Dec 31, 2010	256
2009	Mar 1, 2009-Dec 31 2009	74
Total ASR 2014 Households		1753

Cohort Sampling and Non-Response

The sampling frame for ASR is compiled as follows. A stratified random sample of the newest cohort is selected from administrative data on recent refugee arrivals. Members of the previous four cohorts are assigned a certainty of selection based upon whether they responded to prior surveys. This procedure prioritizes contacting respondents to the prior year’s survey to maximize the retention of longitudinal respondents, but also introduces bias over time, as survey respondents and non-respondents are likely to differ on key baseline variables and outcome measures of interest. The survey weights designed for ASR 2014 do not fully correct for these differences.



Based upon long-standing procedure, the five eligible cohorts are not equally represented in the ASR target sample. For the ASR 2014, the target sample included 1000 members of the 2014 cohort and 1500 from Cohorts 2009-2013. For Cohorts 2009-2013, all respondents to the 2013 survey were included in the 2014 target sample (n=1,346). The remaining of 154 targets were selected from ASR cohort members who did not respond to ASR 2013.

See [Table II-23](#) for sample and response rate calculations for ASR 2014. This information includes the number of households contacted, responding, and the cohort-based response rate. Both initial target sample size and response rates varied significantly by entry cohort.

While substantial resources are dedicated to obtaining valid contact information for all members of the target sample, the majority of non-response to ASR 2014 is due to outdated contact information. Non-response bias analysis of ASR 2014 data indicates that survey respondents differ from non-respondents on key baseline characteristics. They may also differ on outcome measures of interest. These differences are not fully corrected with the application of sampling weights, and likely affect the quality of estimates derived from the ASR 2014 data.

Geographical Representativeness

The geographic composition of refugees varies by entry year, and has changed significantly over the past 40 years. It is important to note that the ASR 2014 data are not representative of the geographic composition of refugees who arrived in the U. S. from FY 2009 through FY 2014.

At various points in the Annual Report to Congress, ASR data are reported by “selected refugee geographic groups.” These geographic groups are defined differently than in the Office of Refugee Assistance’s administrative data, and are not comparable to data listed in [Tables II-1 through II-8](#).

ASR geographic groups are designated as follows: Africa, Eastern Europe, Latin America, Middle East, South/Southeast Asia, and the former Soviet Union. When the tables report results by geographic region, the following representation in ASR 2014 should be kept in mind:

Table II-25: Major Subpopulations by Geographic Region (Percent of ASR 14 Households)

AFRICA	EASTERN EUROPE	LATIN AMERICA	MIDDLE EAST	SOUTH/SOUTHEAST ASIA	FORMER SOVIET UNION
37% Somali	Too few to calculate	99% Cuban	89% Iraqi	41% Burmese; 30% Bhutanese	Too few to calculate

Note: Weighted percentages of households responding to ASR 2014.

APPENDIX A: OUTSIDE RESOURCES

Federal Partners

AGENCY	WEBSITE
U.S. Department of State	http://www.state.gov/
U.S. Department of Homeland Security	http://www.dhs.gov/index.shtm
U.S. Department of Justice	http://www.justice.gov/
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	http://www.cdc.gov/
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services	http://cms.hhs.gov/
Administration for Community Living	http://www.acl.gov/
Administration on Aging	http://www.aoa.gov/
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration	http://www.samhsa.gov/

Resettlement Agencies

AGENCY	WEBSITE
Church World Services	http://www.churchworldservice.org/site/PageServer
Episcopal Migration Ministries	http://www.episcopalchurch.org/emm/
Ethiopian Community Development Council	http://ecdcinternational.org/
Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society	http://www.hias.org/
International Rescue Committee	http://www.rescue.org/
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service	http://www.lirs.org/site/c.nhLPJ0PMKuG/b.5537769/k.BFCA/Home.htm
U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants	http://refugees.org/
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops/ Migration & Refugee Services	http://www.usccb.org/
World Relief	http://worldrelief.org/

State Refugee Coordinators

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