

Transforming  
Lives

# Welcoming Washington: Statewide Refugee Advisory Council

Oct. 26, 2023

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Washington State Refugee Coordinator  
Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance



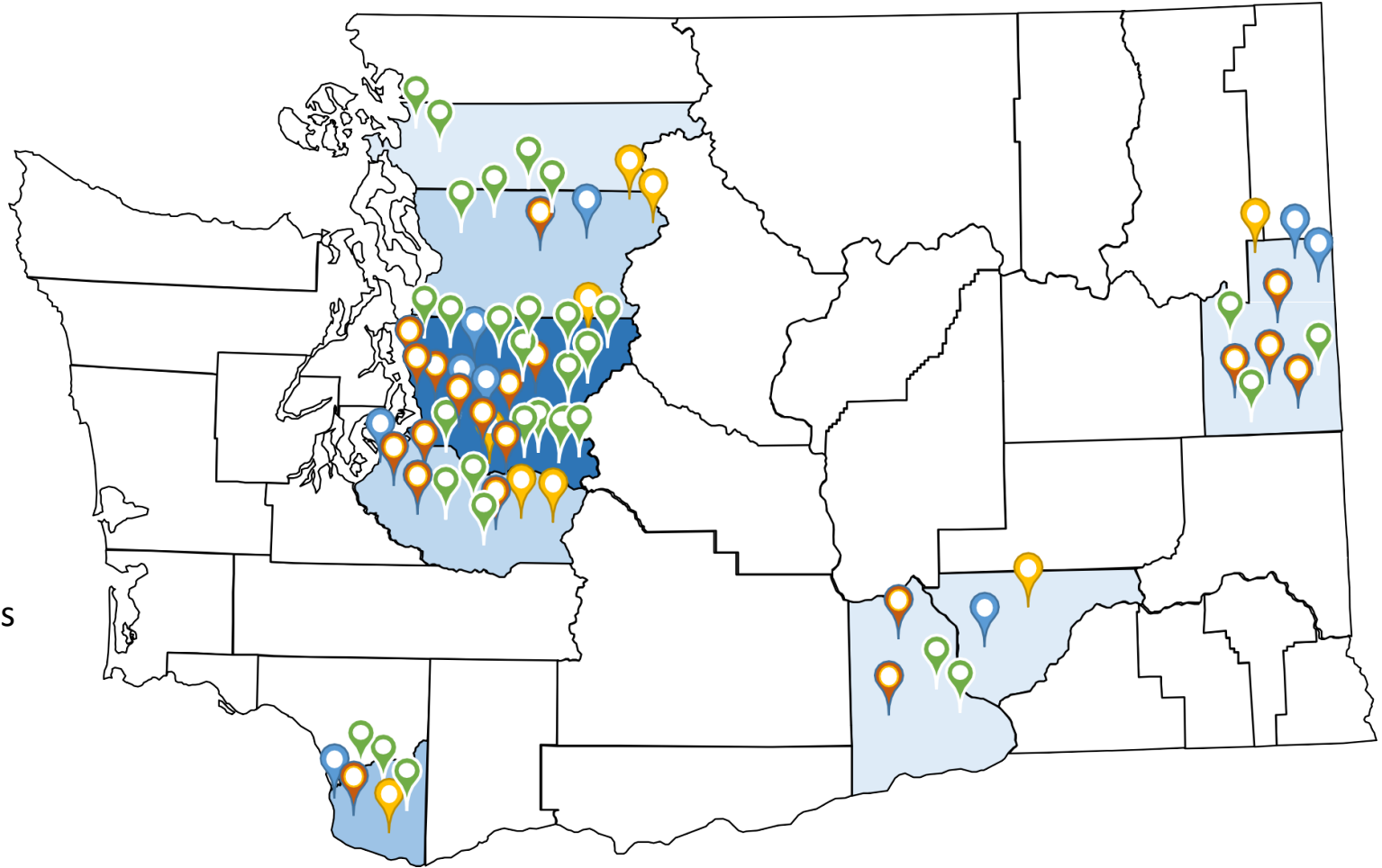
# Welcoming refugees is a collective effort.


## WA Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance


invests federal and state funding into local community across Washington to provide services and resources that help refugees and humanitarian immigrants achieve economic stability and supports long-term integration.


### Partners with more than 80 organizations:


- Refugee Resettlement Agencies
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Ethnic Community-Based Organizations
- Public Health Departments and Health Clinics
- Community Colleges
- Other State Agencies



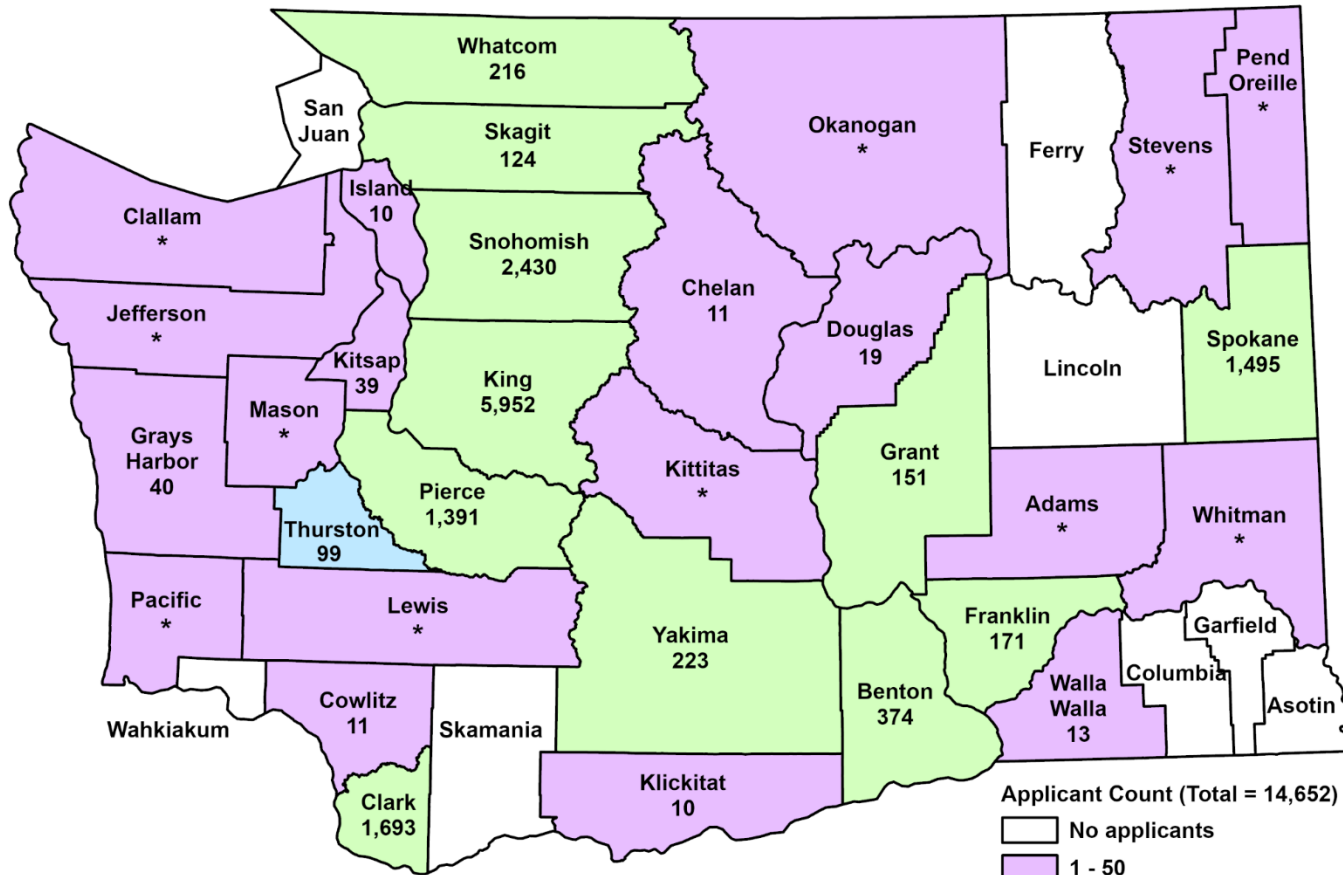
 Refugee Health & Wellness

 Employment & Training

 Immigration Assistance & Naturalization Services

 Whole Family Programs

## Newly Arrived Refugee and Humanitarian Immigrant Applicants for DSHS Services by Residential County in Washington State: October 2022 - September 2023



### Serves all federal eligible immigrants, including:

- Refugees admitted under [§ 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act \(INA\)](#)
- People granted asylum [under § 208 of the INA](#)
- Cuban and Haitian entrants
- Amerasians
- Certified victims of human trafficking
- Special Immigrant Visa Holders from Iraq and Afghanistan
- Afghan Humanitarian Parolees (See [ORR Policy Letter 22-01](#) and [22-02](#))
- Afghan Special Immigrant Conditional Permanent Residents
- Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees (See [ORR Policy Letter 22-13](#))

#### Unduplicated # of Newly Arrived Refugee Applicants

September 2023	1,271
FFY 2023 (Oct. 2022 – September 2023)	14,652

#### Top 10 Newly Arrived Refugee Applicants by Country of Origin

Country	# of Applicants August 2023	# of Applicants October 2022 - August 2023
Ukraine	654	8,585
Afghanistan	173	2,284
Cuba	27	459
Syria	65	329
Congo, Democratic Republic of	64	261
Haiti	27	219
Moldova	*	148
Colombia	*	142
Somalia	24	122
Eritrea	10	116

Source: Barcode data

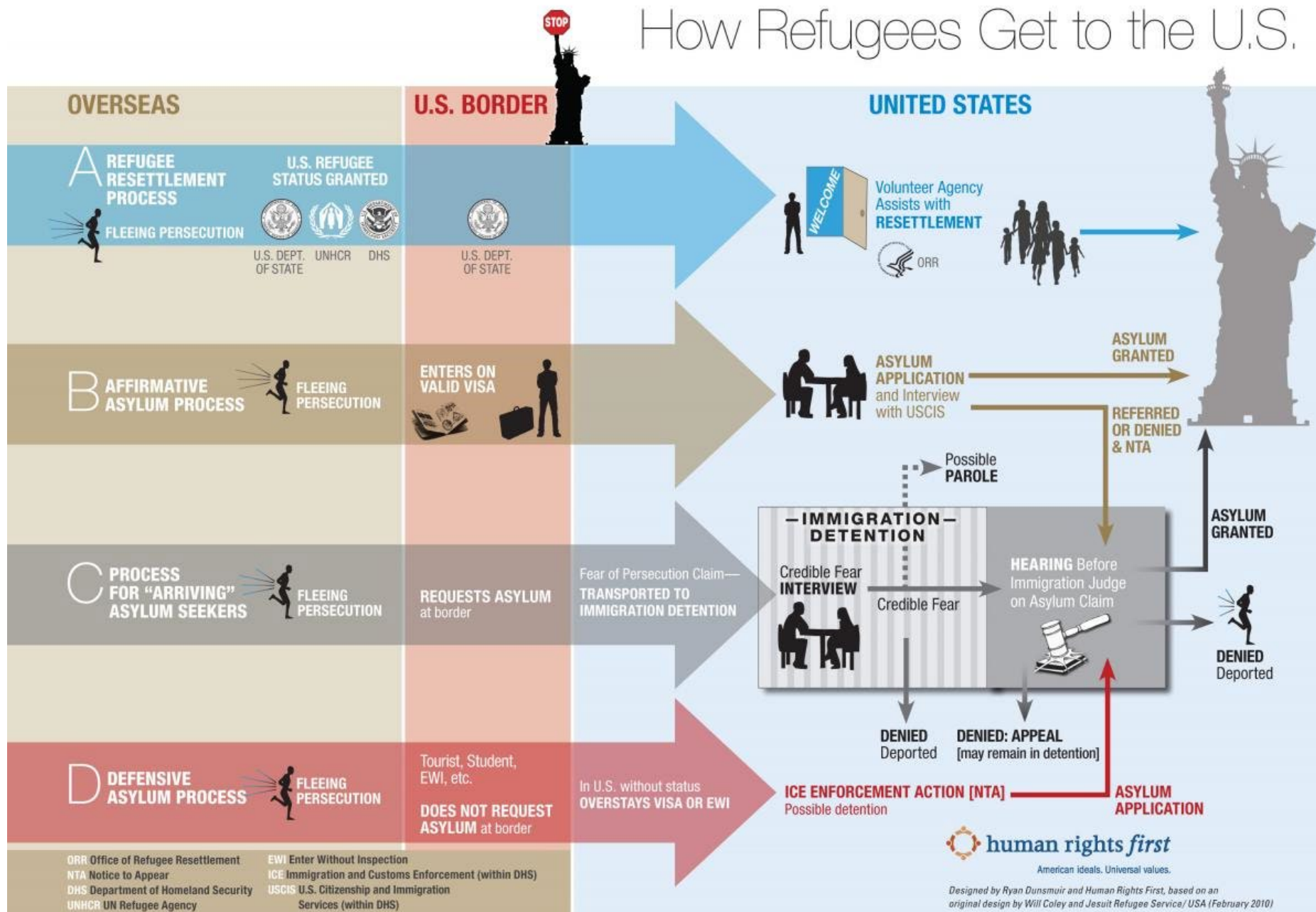
Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS - October 2023

\* When necessary, values less than 10 (but greater than zero) are not displayed in order to help protect client confidentiality. These counties are denoted with an asterisk (\*).

### Newly Arrived Refugee Applicants<sup>1</sup> for DSHS Services, September 2023

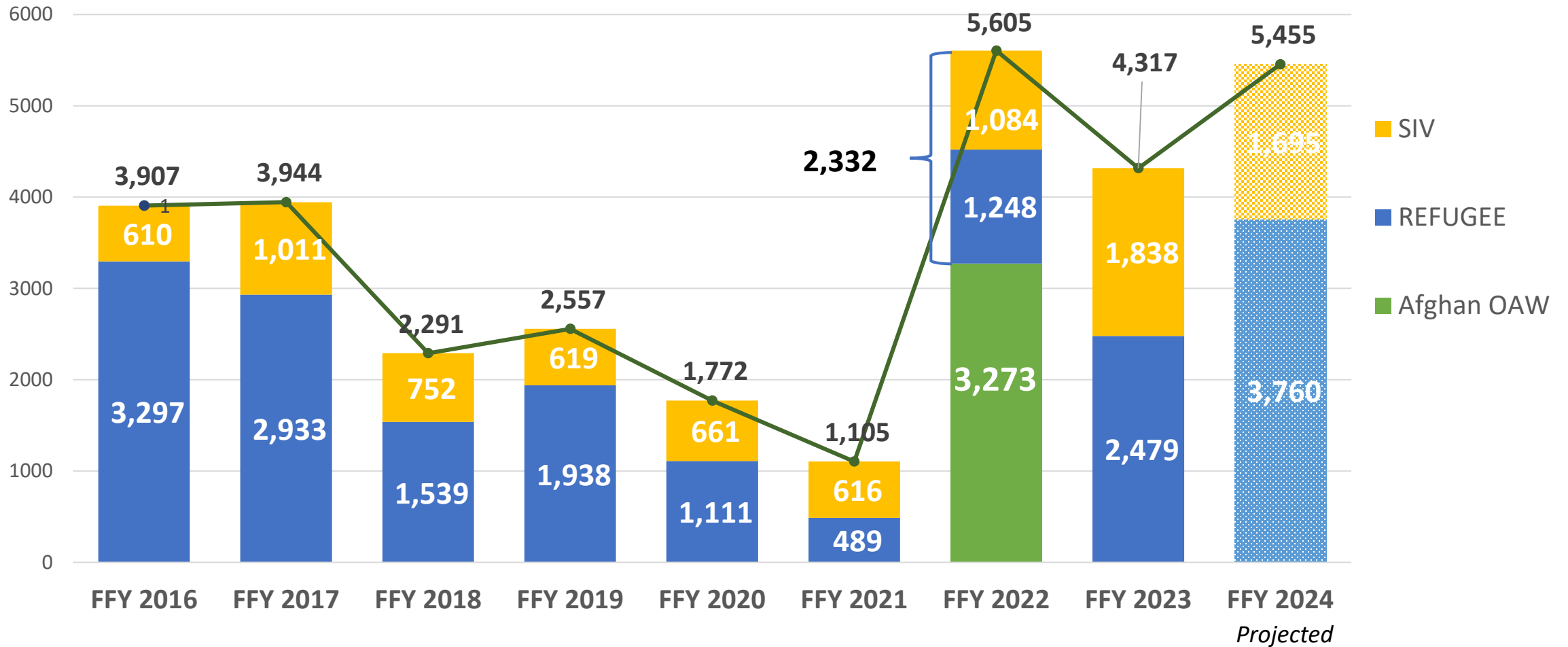
Source: DSHS-ESA/EMAPS Assignment M5363 using the Barcode database as of October 17, 2023

# How Refugees Get to the U.S.



Source: Human Rights First, 2014: <https://humanrightsfirst.org/library/asylum-overview-how-refugees-get-to-the-united-states/>

# Washington State Arrivals: Refugee, Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) and Afghan Humanitarian Parolees – Operation Allies Welcome Arrivals FFY 2016 to FFY 2023 and Projected Numbers for FFY 2024



Sources: State Post-Arrival Demographics Report, Dept. of State, Bureau of Populations, Refugees and Migration  
Afghan Placement and Assistance Program - Weekly Departure Status Report

# New Humanitarian Pathways

- What is humanitarian parole?

The Immigration and Naturalization Act allows the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to use their discretion to parole any noncitizen applying for admission into the United States temporarily for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit.

- What it is not?
  - An immigration status
  - A pathway to a permanent immigration status or lawful permanent residence

# New Pathways for Refugees and Immigrants

## Welcome Corps – Private Sponsorship

- Designated for people eligible for the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program
- Group of five adults that pass security screenings
- Min. of \$2,275 per refugee
- Provide basic supports for up to 90-days, including long-term housing
- Make connections to local services
- Receive training and supports

## Supporter Processes Programs

- Available for people from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, Ukraine and Venezuela
- Have a supporter in the U.S.
- Must be outside the U.S.
- Undergo and pass security and screening
- Receive travel authorization and enter as humanitarian parolees
- Only Cubans, Haitians and Ukrainians are eligible for federal benefits and refugee services

# Ukrainian Arrivals in Washington January 2022 – August 2023

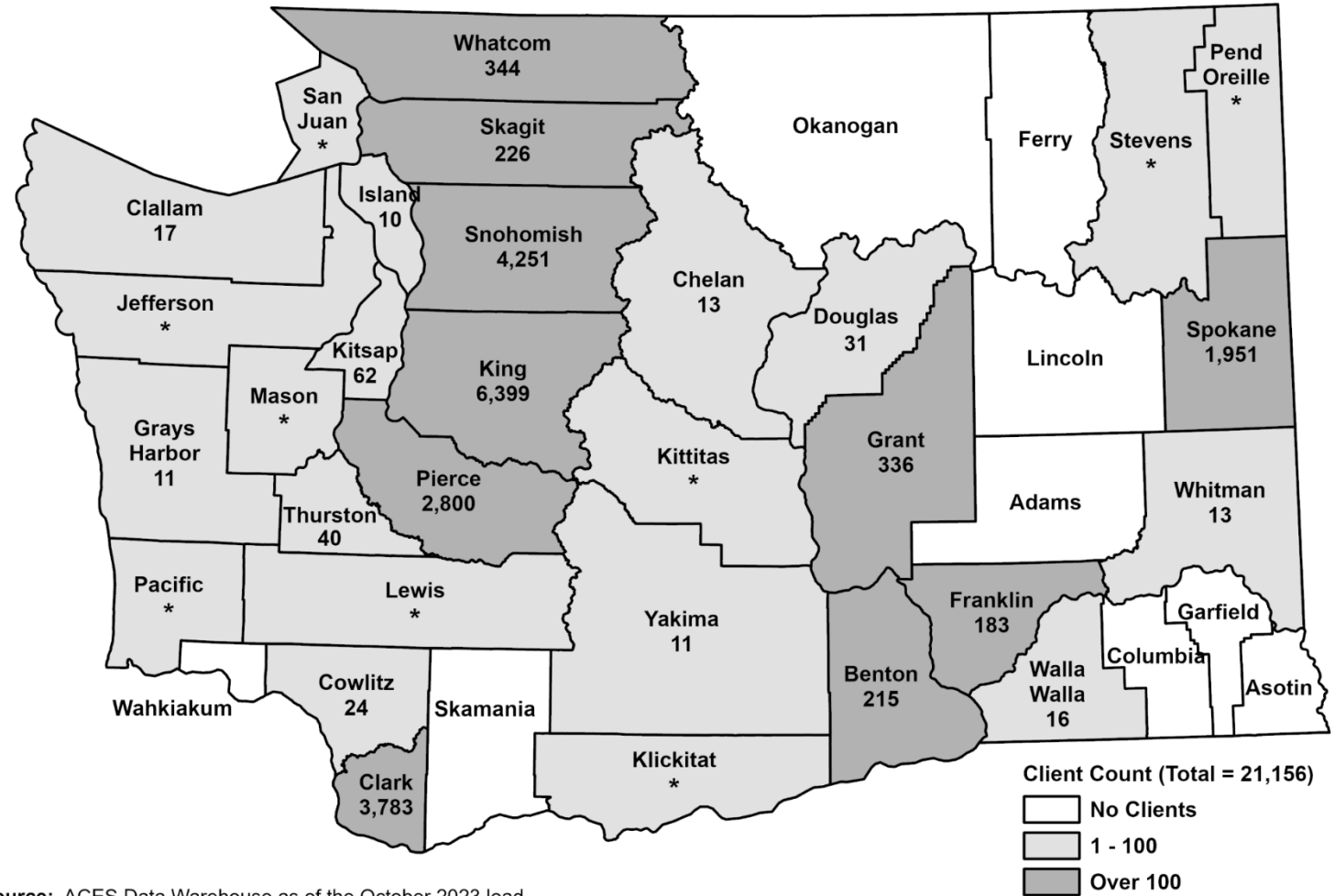
**21,156 Ukrainians** have arrived in Washington and received cash, food, and/or medical assistance from DSHS .

**9,761 Ukrainian households** received food assistance from DSHS.

*Please join the Washington Ukrainian Welcoming Task Force for more information about our statewide effort.*

*Email: [oriainfo@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:oriainfo@dshs.wa.gov)*

Ukrainian Clients on Select Cash, Food, and Apple Health Medical Programs by County in Washington State, January 2022 - September 2023



Source: ACES Data Warehouse as of the October 2023 load  
 Provided by DSHS/ESA/OAS/EMAPS Assignment #M5655 - October 2023

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Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance:  
Policy Changes to Eligibility for Benefits and Services

## Ukrainian and Afghan Humanitarian Parolees

Due to current federal law, **Ukrainian and Afghan humanitarian parolees who are paroled into the United States on or after Oct. 1, 2023, are *not* eligible for federal public benefits and refugee resettlement services, *unless* they are arriving to join certain immediate family members who have been previously paroled into the United States.**

Afghan Humanitarian Parolees	
Eligible for ORIA-Funded Programs	Afghans who were paroled into the U.S. between July 31, 2021, and Sept. 30, 2023.
	<p>Afghans who were paroled into the U.S. after Sept. 30, 2023, <b><u>ONLY IF</u></b> they are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A spouse or child of an Afghan humanitarian parolee who was paroled into the U.S. between July 31, 2021, and Sept. 30, 2023,</li> <li>• <b><u>OR</u></b></li> <li>• A parent or legal guardian of an Afghan humanitarian parolee who is an unaccompanied child and was paroled into the U.S. between July 31, 2021, and Sept. 30, 2023.</li> </ul>
Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees	
Eligible for ORIA-Funded Programs	Ukrainians who were paroled into the U.S. between Feb. 24, 2022, and Sept. 30, 2023.
	<p>Ukrainians who were paroled into the U.S. after Sept. 30, 2023, <b><u>ONLY IF</u></b> they are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A spouse or child of a Ukrainian humanitarian parolee who was paroled into the U.S. between Feb. 24, 2022, and Sept. 30, 2023, <b><u>OR</u></b></li> <li>• A parent, legal guardian, or primary caregiver of a Ukrainian humanitarian parolee who is an unaccompanied refugee minor or unaccompanied child and was paroled into the U.S. between Feb. 24, 2022, and Sept. 30, 2023.</li> </ul>

# What programs and services are available?

Publically Funded Programs and Services	Afghan & Ukrainian humanitarian parolees Arrived between Feb. 24, 2022 – Sept. 30, 2023 and (ORR Eligible Populations)	Afghan & Ukrainian humanitarian parolees On or after Oct. 1, 2023 (Other Humanitarian Parolees)	Afghan & Ukrainians with <i>only</i> Temporary Protective Status
<b><i>Administered via Resettlement Agencies</i></b>			
U.S. Reception and Placement Services	✘	✘	✘
Preferred Communities Grant Program	✓	✘	✘
Matching Grant Program	✓	✘	✘
<b><i>Publicly Administered Public Benefits Programs</i></b>			
TANF/SFA Cash Assistance (households with children)	✓	★	★
Refugee Cash Assistance (single and married adults)	✓	✘	✘
Washington Basic Food Program (SNAP/FAP)	✓	★	★
Women, Infant, Children's Program (WIC)	✓	✓	✓

✓ Eligible

✘ Ineligible

★ May be Eligible

# What programs and services are available?

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<b><i>Apple Health (Medicaid)</i></b>			
Apple Health for Adults	✓	✗	✗
Apple Health for Kids	✓	✓	✓
Apple Health for Pregnant Individuals	✓	✓	✓
Family Planning Only	✓	✓	✓
Alien Medical Programs (AMP)	✗	✓	✓
Medical Care Services (MCS)	✗	✓	✓
SSI-related Medicaid	✓	✗	✗
Apple Health for Families & Caretaker Relatives	✓	✗	✗

✓ Potentially Eligible

✗ Not eligible

# Program and Services Administered by the Office of Refugee & Immigrant Assistance

Publically Funded Programs and Services	Afghan & Ukrainian humanitarian parolees Arrived between Feb. 24, 2022 – Sept. 30, 2023 and (ORR Eligible Populations)	Afghan & Ukrainian humanitarian parolees On or after Oct. 1, 2023 (Other Humanitarian Parolees)	Afghan & Ukrainians with <i>only</i> Temporary Protective Status
Career Ladder for Educated and Vocationally Experienced Refugees (CLEVER)	✓	✗	✗
Immigration-Related Legal Services	✗	✗	✗
LEP Pathway Employment and English Language Classes	✓	★	★
ORIA Basic Food Employment and Training	✓	✗	✗
State Food Assistance Program Employment and Training	✓	★	★
Promoting Refugee Integration Mobility and Empowerment (PRIME)	✓	✗	✗
Refugee Elders Services	✓	✗	✗
Refugee Health and Mental Health Services	✓	✗	✗
Refugee Housing Stabilization Services	✓	✗	✗
Refugee School Impact Program	✓	✗	✗
Refugee Youth Mentoring	✓	✗	✗

✓ Eligible

✗ Ineligible

★ May be Eligible

# Are “Survivors of Certain Crimes” Eligible for Public Benefits?

- Survivors of Certain Crimes are noncitizens and their qualifying family members who have:
  - Been harmed by a crime
  - Filed or are preparing to file for a T visa, U visa, or asylum
- Survivors of Certain Crimes may be eligible for:
  - Food Assistance Program (FAP)
  - State Family Assistance (SFA)
  - Aged, Blind, and Disabled (ABD) Cash Assistance
  - Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral
  - Medical Care Services (MSC)

## Required Verification or Documentation for Eligibility Determination

**Verbal self-attestation** that the individual has been harmed by a crime and has filed or is preparing to file a T visa, U visa, or asylum application

## Documents that are NOT required for Eligibility Determination

Social Security Number

Passport

Alien Registration Number

Any USCIS documentation

**Thank you!**

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