Population Data for Refugee and Special Immigrant Visa Holders Resettled in New York State

FFY 2020

A total of 860 Refugees and Special Immigrant Visa holders (SIVs) resettled in New York State in FFY 2020.
- Upstate New York resettled 525 refugees (85% of all refugees resettled in FFY 2020) and 194 SIVs (79% of total)
- New York City resettled 90 refugees (15% of total) and 51 SIVs (21% of total)

For FFY 2020, 5 of the top 6 arrival counties are in Upstate NY.

The top seven countries from which refugees/SIVs have resettled in FFY 2020 come from five regions. Asia is represented by Burma; African countries by The Democratic Republic of Congo and Eritrea; Europe by Ukraine; the Mideast by Afghanistan and Syria; and South America by Colombia.

Over 74% of all refugee and SIV arrivals were from four source countries: The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ukraine, Afghanistan, and Burma. We continue to track this trend and address service needs accordingly.

Refugee and Special Immigrant Visa Arrivals by Country FFY 2020
Refugee Services, Persons Served:
(As captured in the BRS Information Network (BIN). BIN is a web based, data management application that allows contractors to create client Applications for Services, verify client eligibility, record client service history, and prepare Claims for Payment for the OTDA Bureau of Refugee Services. OTDA users maintain program and contract information to assist with monitoring contractors for program and contract compliance.)

BIN Data/Refugees
During FFY 2020, a total of 3,217 refugees from 51 countries of origin were served. The top seven countries (Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burma, Somalia, Congo, Syria, Ukraine, and Bhutan) account for 2,330, or 72% of the total refugee population served.

BIN Data/Special Immigrant Visa Holders (SIVs)
During FFY 2020, a total of 204 SIVs from Iraq and Afghanistan were served, 195 from Afghanistan and 9 from Iraq.

BIN Data/Asylees
During FFY 2020, a total of 403 asylees from 62 countries were served. The top seven countries are Russia, Guinea, Honduras, Venezuela, Ukraine, Egypt and El Salvador. They account for 190, or 47% of the total Asylee population served.

BIN Data/Entrants
During FFY 2020, 72 Cuban entrants were served.

Refugee Services, Persons Served -- County

BIN Data/Refugees
Of the 3,217 refugees served in FFY 2020, 3,062 (95%) were served Upstate and 155 (5%) were served in NYC. The top five counties of refugees served are Upstate, (Onondaga, Erie, Oneida, Monroe and Albany) accounting for 3,038 (94%) of all served.

BIN Data/Special Immigrant Visa Holders (SIVs)
Of the 204 SIVs served in FFY 2020, 178 (87%) were served Upstate and 26 (13%) were served in NYC. The top four counties of SIVs served are Upstate, (Monroe, Albany, Onondaga, and Erie) accounting for 157 (77%) of all served.

BIN Data/Asylees
Of the 403 asylees served in FFY 2020, 371 (92%) were served in NYC and 32 (8%) were served Upstate. The distribution of asylees served is dramatically different than both refugee arrivals and refugees served. The top five counties for asylees served are Kings, Queens, Bronx, New York and Nassau.

BIN Data/Entrants
Of the 72 Cuban entrants served in FFY 2020, 64 (89%) were served in Onondaga county.

Trafficking Victims
County-identifying information has been withheld for purposes of confidentiality. New York State confirmed 301 victims in calendar year 2020 who are eligible for the Response to Human Trafficking Program. It should be noted that to our knowledge New York State is the only State that has a State confirmation process.