

Refugee Cash Assistance and Refugee Medical Assistance

Program Description

Refugee Cash Assistance is a federally funded program that provides limited-time cash assistance (depending on the date of eligibility for refugee benefits). It is available to single and married individuals with an eligible immigration status who do not have dependents.

Refugee Medical Assistance is a federally funded medical assistance program available to refugees and eligible immigrants for a limited time (depending on the date of eligibility for refugee benefits). It is available for those who are ineligible for Washington Apple Health (Medicaid). Since the expansion of Medicaid, less than 1% of all refugee and humanitarian immigrant individuals and families are ineligible for Washington Apple Health. In an average year, fewer than 100 arrivals a year receive RMA.

DSHS seeks to improve the lives of clients receiving RCA by ensuring all participants receive consistent referrals to employment, education and social service providers to support them in enhancing their English skills, finding and maintaining employment, and moving toward economic stability.



Who Is Eligible for RCA?

- Refugees.
- People granted asylum (“asylees”).
- Certified Victims of Human Trafficking.
- Afghan Humanitarian Parolees.
- Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees.
- Amerasians.
- Cuban-Haitian entrants.
- Afghan and Iraqi Special Immigrants.

Who Are Refugees?

The term “refugee” is a legal immigration status given to people who resettle in the United States as part of a federal Refugee Admissions Program. Refugees have been forced to flee their countries of origin due to a well-founded fear of persecution based on their race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular group or political opinion.

More information:

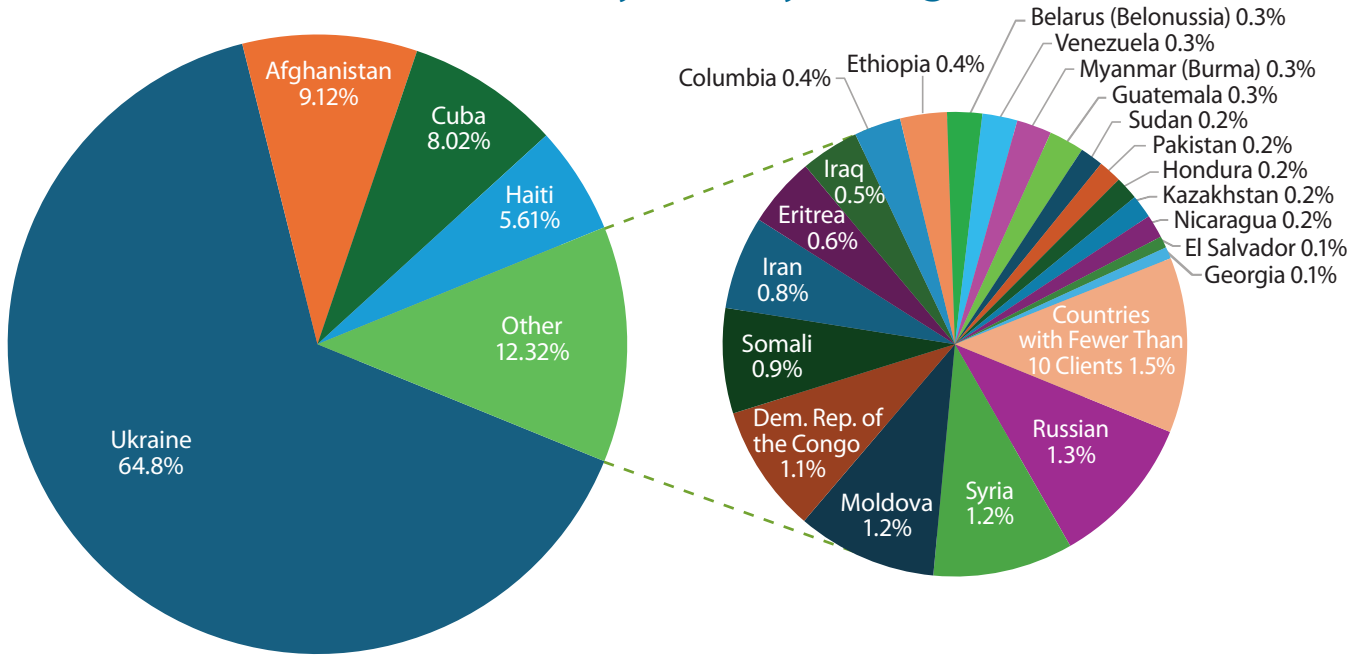
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RCA Clients by Country of Origin



RCA Facts 2024

Month	Total Caseload	Grant Expenditures	Average Payment Per Case
July	3,399	\$1,377,280	\$405.20
August	3,227	\$1,278,357	\$396.14
September	3,147	\$1,235,582	\$392.62
October	2,969	\$1,200,738	\$404.43
November	2,728	\$1,122,839	\$411.60
December	2,561	\$1,045,571	\$408.27
January	2,381	\$1,045,644	\$439.16
February	2,167	\$944,070	\$435.66
March	2,057	\$911,608	\$443.17
April	1,945	\$842,054	\$432.93
May	2,055	\$823,241	\$400.60
June	2,291	\$935,396	\$408.29
Average	2,577	\$1,063.542	\$412.70

State Fiscal Year	Monthly Average Cases
2015	428
2016	454
2017	569
2018	280
2019	211
2020	268
2021	175
2022	476
2023	3,779
2024	2,577

