

Refugee Cash Assistance and Refugee Medical Assistance

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

Economic Services Administration · Community Services Division

The Department of Social and Health Services' Economic Services Administration's **Refugee Cash Assistance** program is a federally funded cash assistance program that provides up to eight months of cash assistance to single and married adults with eligible immigration status, and who do not have children under the age of 18.

Refugee Medical Assistance is a federally funded medical assistance program available to refugees and eligible immigrants for up to eight months for those who are otherwise ineligible for Washington Apple Health. Since the expansion of Medicaid, less than 1% of all refugee families are ineligible for Washington Apple Health. In an average year, fewer than 50 refugees a year receive RMA.

DSHS seeks to improve the lives of clients receiving RCA by:

- Ensuring refugees receive consistent referrals to employment, education and social service providers.
- Coordinating across systems, agencies and programs by increasing accountability to advance economic security.

Who is eligible for RCA?

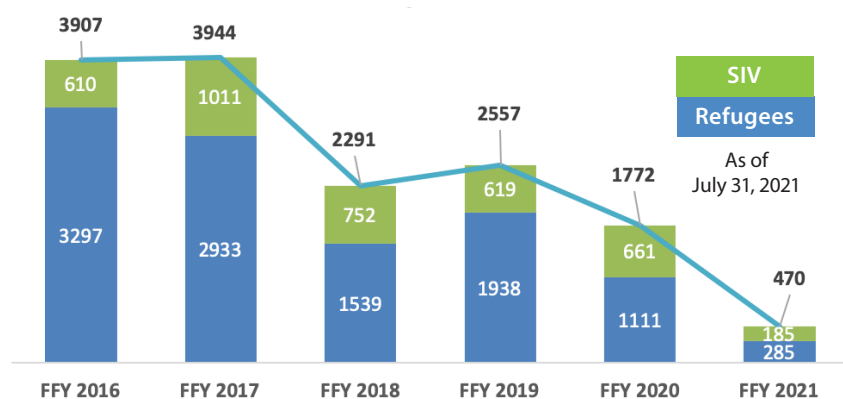
- Refugees
- People granted asylum ("asylees")
- Certified Victims of Human Trafficking
- Amerasians
- Cuban-Haitian Entrants
- Special Immigrant Visa holders from Iraq and Afghanistan

Who are refugees?

Refugees are individuals and families who are unable to return to their home country due to a well-founded fear of persecution based on their race, religion, ethnicity, membership in a particular group or political opinion. They resettle through the federal U.S. Refugee Admissions Program.

Washington State Refugee and Special Immigrant Visa Arrivals FFY 2016 to FFY 2020

(Partial FFY 2021: Oct. 1, 2020 - July 31, 2021)



Source: State Post-Arrival Demographics Report, Dept. of State, Bureau of Populations, Refugees, and Migration, Refugee Processing Center, Washington.

More information:

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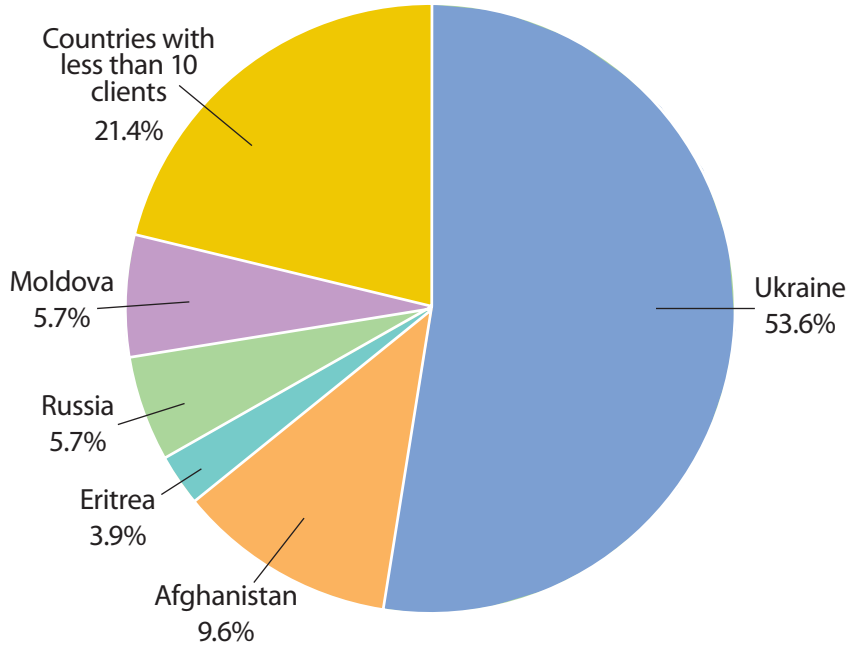
Transforming lives

9/2021

Refugee Cash Assistance Facts 2020

RCA Caseload by Country of Origin

June 2020 Snapshot



RCA Caseload 2009-2020

State Fiscal Year	Monthly Average Cases
2009	447
2010	605
2011	464
2012	348
2013	414
2014	425
2015	428
2016	454
2017	569
2018	324
2019	211
2020	268

Expenditures for State Fiscal Year 2020

Month	Total Caseload	Grant Expenditures	Average Payment Per Case
July	234	\$72,340	\$309.15
August	269	\$85,809	\$318.99
September	301	\$99,340	\$330.03
October	290	\$102,619	\$353.86
November	274	\$96,434	\$351.95
December	300	\$101,692	\$338.97
January	309	\$99,378	\$321.61
February	295	\$99,211	\$336.31
March	261	\$88,601	\$339.47
April	219	\$77,946	\$355.92
May	226	\$77,875	\$344.58
June	237	\$84,558	\$356.78
Average	268	\$90,484	\$337.63

RCA Caseload by DSHS Region and Community Service Office of Issuance

June 2020 Snapshot

