Article 1
1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees

A Refugee:
'owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country'

Source: UNHCR.org
65.3 million forcibly displaced (2015)

- 40.8 million internally displaced people
- 21.3 million refugees
  - Syrian Arab Republic: 4.9 million
  - Afghanistan: 2.7 million
  - Somalia: 1.1 million
  - South Sudan: 778,700
  - Sudan: 628,800
  - DR of Congo: 541,500
  - Central African Republic: 471,100
  - Burma/Myanmar: 451,800
  - Eritrea: 411,300
  - Colombia: 340,200
- 3.2 million asylum seekers

Source: UNHCR.org
2015: Forced Displacement Hits a Record High

Conflict and persecution caused global forced displacement to escalate sharply in 2015. Now at the highest level ever recorded, it represents immense human suffering around the world.

Source: UNHCR / 20 JUNE 2016

Germany - received 441,900 asylum claims in 2015, the most of any country

Sweden - received asylum applications from 35,800 unaccompanied or separated children in 2015, five times as many as in 2014

Ukraine - Fighting in the east drove 148,400 to flee Ukraine in 2015, bringing the total number of Ukrainian refugees to 321,300

Turkey - hosted 2.5 million refugees at year end, more than any other country

Syria - The war in Syria produced 4.9 million registered refugees by the end of 2015, more than from any other country

Lebanon - hosted 183 refugees for every 1,000 residents, the highest ratio of any country

Canada - took in 20,000 resettled refugees in 2015, surpassed only by the United States

The United States - admitted 66,500 refugees for resettlement last year, 60 per cent of the global total

Mediterranean Sea / Greece - 1 million refugees and migrants crossed the Mediterranean Sea in 2015, with the vast majority arriving in Greece. At least 3,771 drowned or went missing along the way.

Guatemala / El Salvador / Honduras - Increasing violence in Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras has led to a fivefold increase in pending asylum cases - now 109,800 - in Mexico and the United States since 2012

Nigeria - Violence and human rights abuses in northern Nigeria left nearly 2.2 million people internally displaced at year end. Over 200,000 others were sheltering in Cameroon, Chad and Niger

Somalia - After more than two decades of conflict, Somalia accounts for the largest refugee crisis in Africa - and the third largest worldwide

Central African Republic - Renewed conflict forced another 85,000 people to flee to neighbouring countries in 2015, bringing the total number of CAR refugees to 471,000

South Sudan - produced 162,100 new refugees amid worsening conflict, more than every country but Syria and Burundi

Sub-Saharan Africa - hosted 4.4 million refugees, with Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda taking in the greatest number

Burundi - Conflict in Burundi forced 221,600 people to flee to neighbouring countries in 2015; more new refugees than any other country but Syria

Afghanistan - Globally, only 201,400 refugees were able to return home in 2015, including 61,400 who went back to Afghanistan

Myanmar - Last year, more refugees from Myanmar were resettled - 19,500 people - than from any other country

Colombia - Even as it strives to resolve decades of conflict, Colombia reported a total of 6.9 million internally displaced people at year end, slightly more than Syria

South Sudan - produced 162,100 new refugees amid worsening conflict, more than every country but Syria and Burundi

Burundi - Conflict in Burundi forced 221,600 people to flee to neighbouring countries in 2015; more new refugees than any other country but Syria

Australia - admitted 9,400 resettled refugees in 2015, third after the United States and Canada

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
Refugee host countries (2015)

- Turkey: 2.5 million
- Pakistan: 1.6 million
- Lebanon: 1.1 million
- Islamic Republic of Iran: 979,400
- Ethiopia: 736,100
- Jordan: 664,100
- Kenya: 553,900
- Uganda: 477,200
- DRC: 383,100
- Chad: 369,500

Source: UNHCR.org
Numbers resettled in 2015

- 107,100 to 23 countries
  - Myanmar: 19,500
  - Syrian Arab Republic: 13,800
  - DR of Congo: 10,700
  - Somalia: 8,400

- US received the largest total: 66,500 (60%)
  - Canada: 20,000
  - Australia: 9,400
  - Norway: 2,400

Source: UNHCR.org
Refugees resettled in the US (2015)

1. Myanmar -- TX, CA, NY, AZ, MI, OH
2. Iraq
3. Somalia
4. DRC
5. Bhutan
6. Iran
7. Syria
8. Eritrea
9. Sudan
10. Cuba

Source: migrationpolicy.org
Let’s do the numbers...

150,000 refugees in camps along border

Over 166,000 resettled to 3rd countries since 2005

149,000 to the US

200 in Worcester, MA

Source: UNHCR.org
# Refugee and IDP Camp Populations: July 2016

## Refugee Camps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province/Camp</th>
<th>TBC Verified Caseload</th>
<th>TBC Assisted Population</th>
<th>MOGIUNHCR Verified Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chiang Mai</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuang Jor</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mae Hong Son</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ban Mai Nai Soi</td>
<td>5,213</td>
<td>5,458</td>
<td>10,671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ban Mae Surin</td>
<td>1,307</td>
<td>1,268</td>
<td>2,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mae La Oen</td>
<td>4,818</td>
<td>4,707</td>
<td>9,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mae Ra Ma Luang</td>
<td>5,364</td>
<td>5,177</td>
<td>10,541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal:</strong></td>
<td>16,782</td>
<td>16,010</td>
<td>32,792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tak</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mae La</td>
<td>19,379</td>
<td>18,814</td>
<td>38,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umphiem Mai</td>
<td>5,816</td>
<td>5,701</td>
<td>11,517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nu Po</td>
<td>5,295</td>
<td>5,035</td>
<td>10,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal:</strong></td>
<td>30,480</td>
<td>29,550</td>
<td>60,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanchanburi</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ban Don Yang</td>
<td>1,499</td>
<td>1,445</td>
<td>2,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banchaburi</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tham Hin</td>
<td>3,362</td>
<td>3,039</td>
<td>6,401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Refugees</strong></td>
<td>53,261</td>
<td>50,949</td>
<td>104,210</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## IDP Camps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IDP Camps</th>
<th>TBC Verified Caseload</th>
<th>TBC Assisted Population</th>
<th>MOGIUNHCR Verified Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loi Kao Wan</td>
<td>1,365</td>
<td>1,401</td>
<td>2,766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loi Sam Sip</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>373</td>
<td>556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loi Lam</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loi Tai Lang</td>
<td>1,171</td>
<td>1,243</td>
<td>2,414</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eo Tu Ha</td>
<td>1,570</td>
<td>1,652</td>
<td>3,222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td>4,408</td>
<td>4,079</td>
<td>8,487</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
1. The verified caseload includes all persons, registered or not, confirmed living in camp & eligible for rations.
2. The TBC Assisted Population is the number of beneficiaries who collected rations during the previous month. Rations are only provided to those who are physically present at distributions.
3. Access and assistance authorised at the District level.
4. IDP camp population figures are derived from camp committees on a monthly or quarterly basis.
   The population of 3,046 people from Halockhani Mon IDP camp is removed in this month since TBC food support to this camp has been stopped in 2016.

Source: TBBC.org
Why are there refugees from Burma?
Aung San Suu Kyi
The world’s only imprisoned Nobel Laureate from 1989 to 2010

Source: uscampaignforburma.org
Source: forbes.com
8888 People’s Uprising

2007 Saffron Revolution

Source: uscampaignforburma.org

Source: dw.de
Forced displacement

Source: uscampaignforburma.org
Refugee camps

Source: Meredith Walsh
Water

Source: Meredith Walsh
Food

Source: Meredith Walsh
And then resettlement...

Source: Chad Nelson/World Relief
Refugees arrivals in MA 2006–2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>687</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>767</td>
<td>697</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>4,374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>515</td>
<td>517</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>2,692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>2,177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burma</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>1,587</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Refugee resettlement services

- Voluntary agencies (VOLAGS)
  - Ascentria Care Alliance
  - Catholic Charities
  - Refugee and Immigrant Assistance Center
  - International Rescue Committee
  - International Institute
  - Jewish Family Services

Services for 8 months:
- Refugee cash assistance
- Housing
- Food stamps
- Medicaid
- Employment
- English language classes
- Transportation to Refugee Health Assessment x2
WRAP: WHAT WE DO

Organizational development

Family and Individual Support

Community Building

Advocacy

Worcester Refugee Assistance Project
Wraparound services

- English language assistance
- Homework tutoring
- Youth development
- Children’s program
- Family mentoring
- Social services
- Weaving
- Material donations

Source: Meredith Walsh
English Language Assistance

Reading groups

Adult ESL class for basic functional literacy
English Language Assistance

Homework help

English language tutoring
Arts and crafts

Guitar lessons

Children’s activities
Family mentoring

- Cultural adjustment
  - Friendship
  - Grocery shopping
  - Field trips
  - Sharing a meal
  - Reading mail

- Access services
  - WIC
  - Medical appointments
  - Social security/disability
  - HeadStart
  - Fuel assistance
  - MassHealth
  - Parent-teacher conferences
Weaving: Refugee Artisans of Worcester (RAW)
Youth development

WPI Touch Tomorrow

Mt Wachusett

National Junior Honor Society
Youth development

Health and wellness

Youth publication

When We Were Home
A collection of memories from Burmese refugee youth

Illustrations by Hay Reh
Mark Fusunyan | Courtney Temple | Alyse Wheelock
Youth development

Soccer with Bancroft School

Burma United: Worcester World Cup

Soccer with WYSL
Children’s program

- Soccer with Bancroft School
- Hour of code
- Martial arts
- Old Sturbridge Village
Community building

- Karenni National Day
- Holiday party
- Summer camps
- Halloween party
- Ice skating
- Mother’s Day Tea
- 5K races

Source: Meredith Walsh
How to volunteer

- Have an open mind, take initiative
  - Offer to play with kids, they won’t ask you
- Safety first, buddy system
  - Bathroom key, first aid
- Street parking, building doors lock at 6pm
- Sign in at front desk, complete volunteer report
- Drivers and snacks needed
- Crafts welcome -- share your talents!
- Reading/homework for 30 min, then play
- Share space with SEAC
www.worcesterrefugees.org
Volunteer report

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSefzzDKNjxMCQEYD9fOozrv2kaCHI5wjGkTX7j05PnpT96vuA/viewform