The United States provides refuge to persons who have been persecuted or have a well-founded fear of persecution through two programs: a refugee program for persons outside the United States and an asylum program for persons in the United States and their immediate relatives. This infographic provides information on persons admitted as refugees or granted asylum in the United States in Fiscal Year 2016.

**Refugees**

**TOP 5 COUNTRIES OF NATIONALITY**

- Dem. Rep. of Congo: 16,370 (19%)
- Syria: 12,587 (15%)
- Burma: 12,347 (15%)
- Iraq: 9,880 (12%)
- Somalia: 9,020 (11%)

**84,989** persons were admitted to the United States as refugees in Fiscal Year 2016.

**TOP STATES OF INITIAL RESETTLEMENT**

In 2016, 34% of admitted refugees were resettled in 5 states:

- California: 14,040 (9.2%)
- Texas: 13,820 (9.2%)
- New York: 10,140 (5.9%)
- Michigan: 6,900 (5.0%)
- Ohio: 6,600 (4.9%)

**Asylees**

**TOP 5 COUNTRIES OF NATIONALITY**

1. El Salvador: 14,040 (19%)
2. China: 13,820 (19%)
3. Guatemala: 11,317 (15%)
4. Honduras: 10,885 (15%)
5. Egypt: 6,900 (11%)

**20,455** individuals were granted asylum in Fiscal Year 2016.

**WAYS OF OBTAINING ASYLUM**

2. Defensively before an immigration judge of the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) of the Department of Justice.
3. Through derivative asylum status as the spouse or child of an asylee.

**CREDIBLE FEAR**

73% of Credible Fear screenings in Fiscal Year 2016 were from the Northern Triangle countries of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.