

# NEIGHBORS FOR REFUGEES

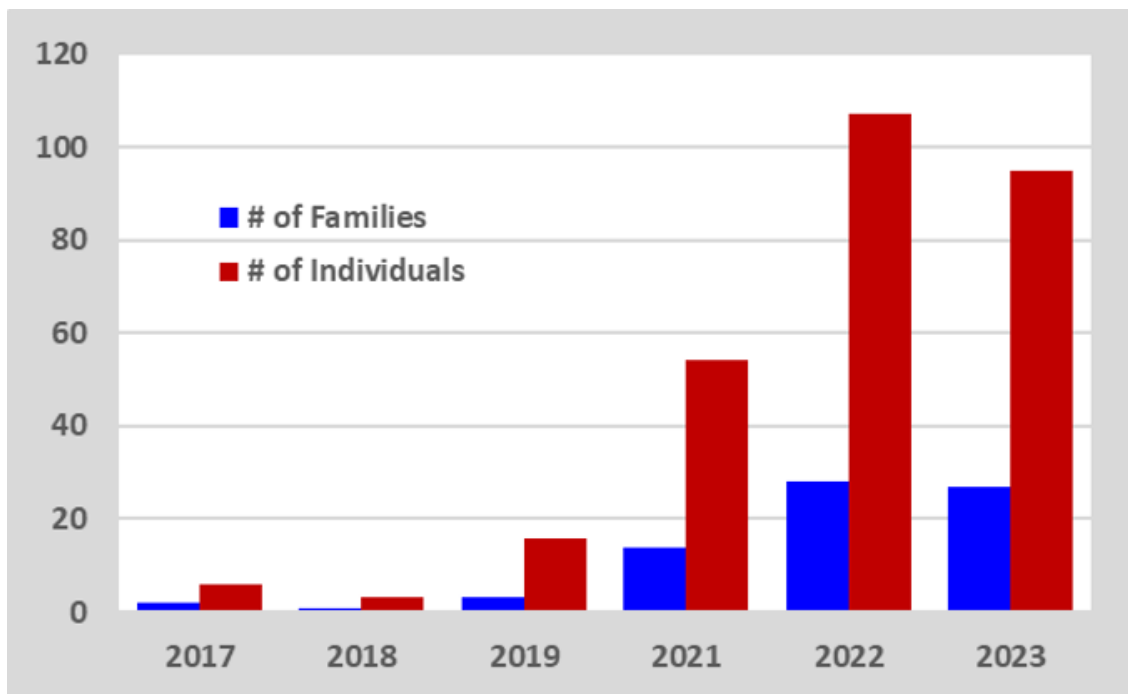
December 2023

Dear Neighbors,

This brief recap of Neighbors' 2017-2023 resettlement experience highlights the dramatic increase in refugees resettled, changes in refugee countries of origin, and shift in the status of displaced persons being admitted to the U.S. for resettlement. The related financial and volunteer resource challenges are striking.

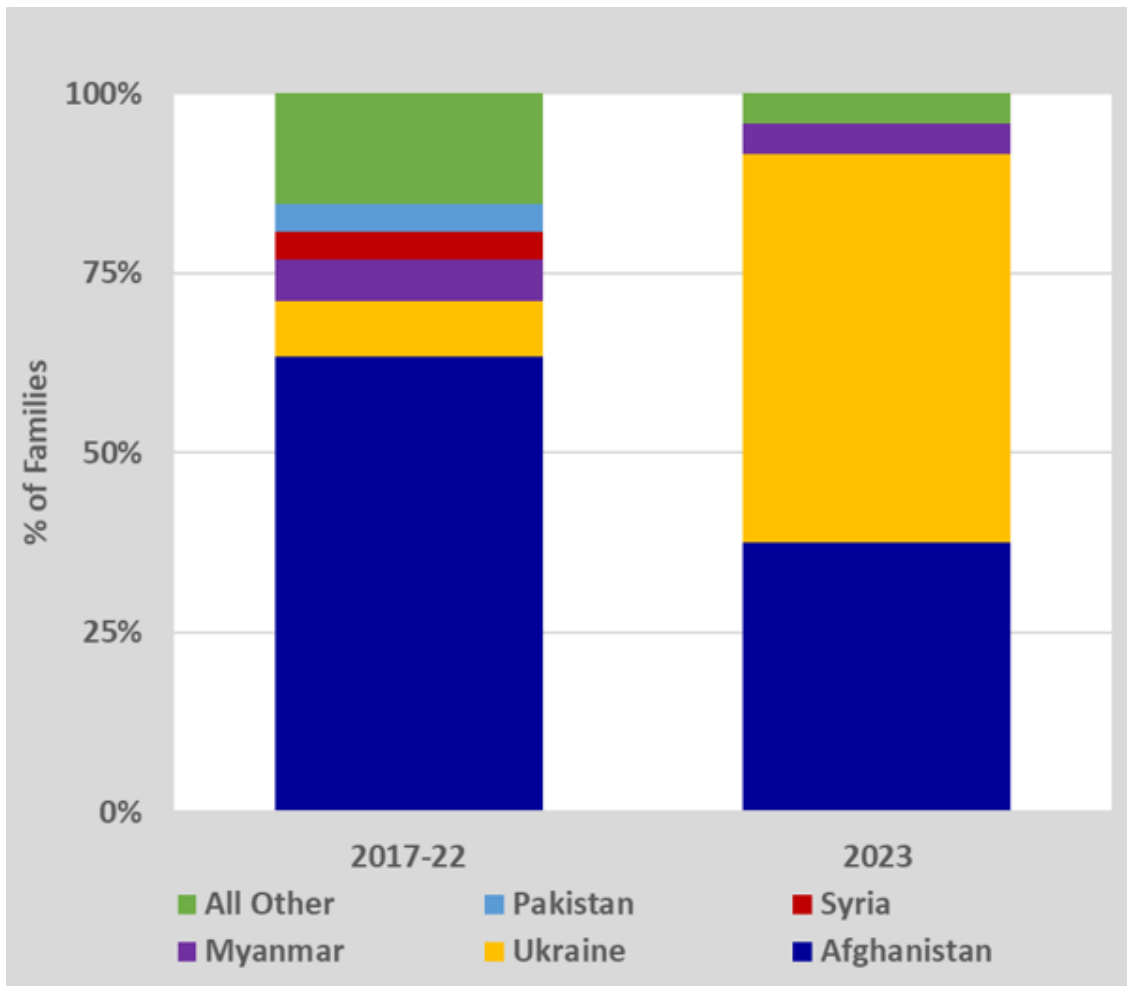
## Resettlements

The number of families and individuals resettled by Neighbors has shot up in the last three years.



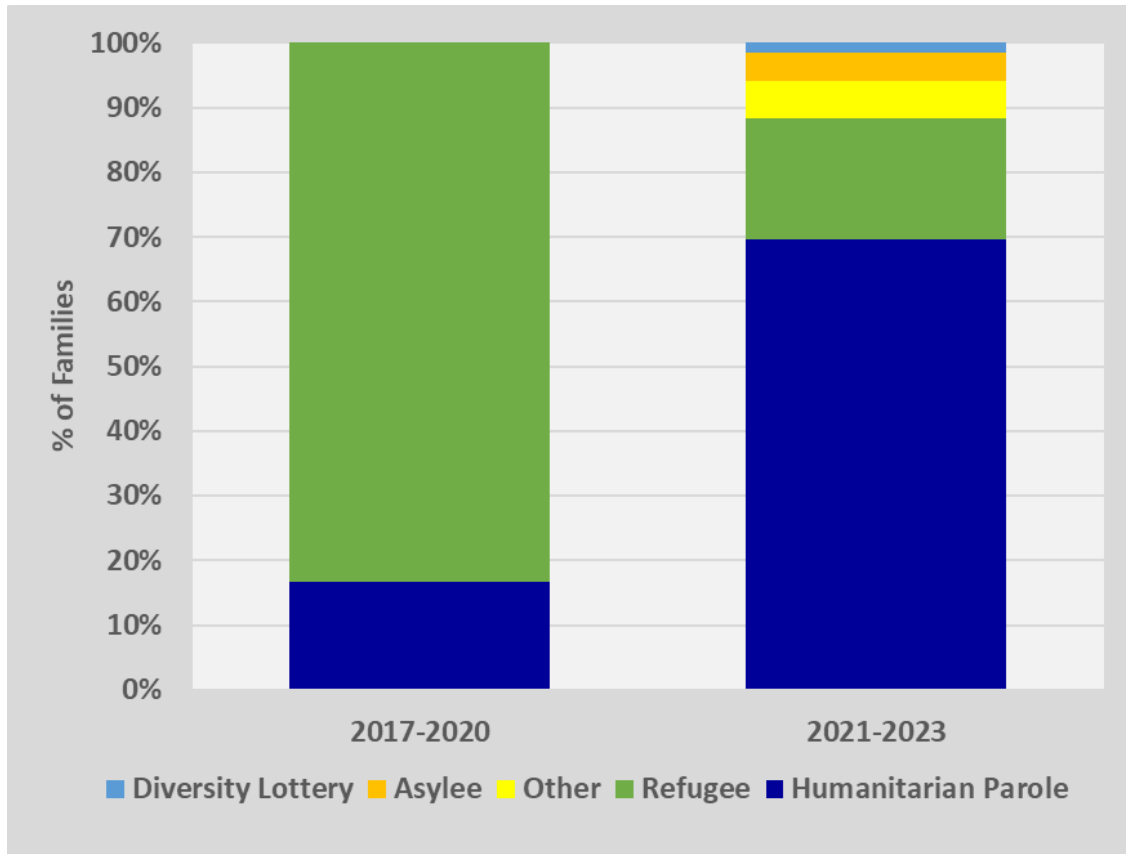
## Country of Origin

Although we continue to see refugees from Afghanistan, Ukraine is now the #1 country of origin in 2023.



## Family Status

Starting with the fall of Afghanistan to the Taliban in 2021 and continuing with the war in Ukraine, most families are admitted to the U.S. as "Humanitarian Parolees" -- which has expedited their entry but with more limited access to State Department financial support, less timely access to social safety net programs, and (so far) slower access to employment authorization documents (EADs).



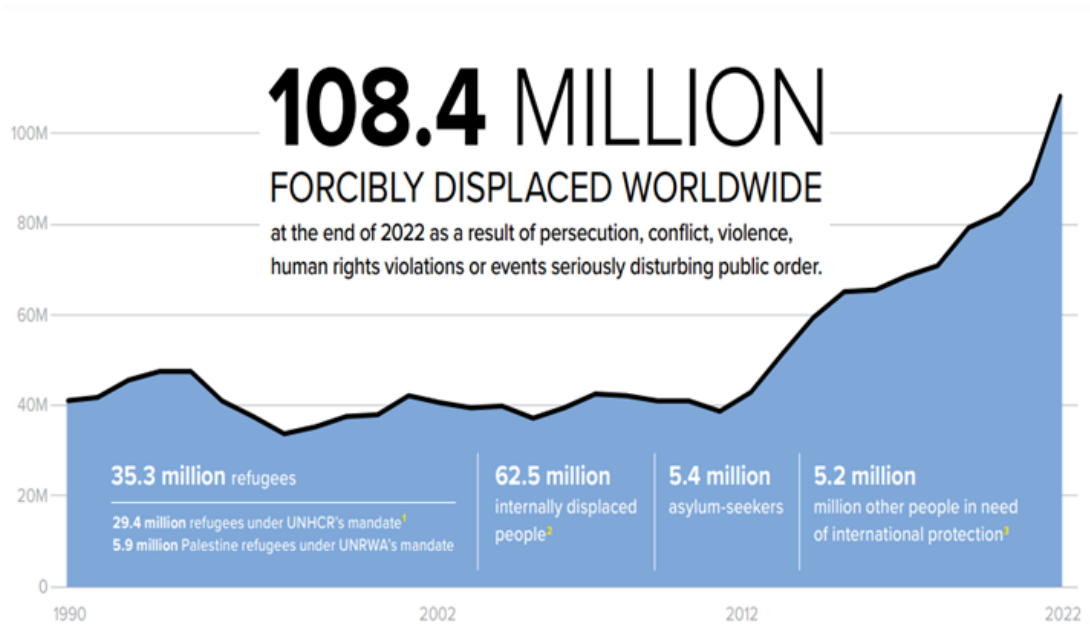
## Broader Context

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) released its [annual Global Trends report](#) in June. The report highlights the largest ever number of displaced people (108.4 million) as of the end of 2022, an annual increase of 19 million people, who have been forcibly displaced from their homes because of conflict, violence, and disaster.

In 2022 alone, the world witnessed the **largest increase in the number of who have been forced to leave their home country refugees (from 8.2 million to 35.3 million)**. The UNHCR states that, "The Russian Federation's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 created the fastest displacement crisis, and one of the largest, since the Second World War. At the end of 2022, a total of 11.6 million

Ukrainians remained displaced, including 5.9 million within their country and 5.7 million who fled to neighbouring countries and beyond."

The UNHCR expects continued growth in refugees as the result of conflicts in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Sudan, violence in Myanmar, and insecurity and drought in Somalia.



Source: *UNHCR, Global Trends Forced Displacement in 2022*, pg 2 "Trends at a Glance"

We are so grateful to the generosity of Neighbors' many supporters, who have donated the financial and in-kind resources, plus Neighbors' volunteers' hands-on skills and time to welcome and help launch so many refugee families.