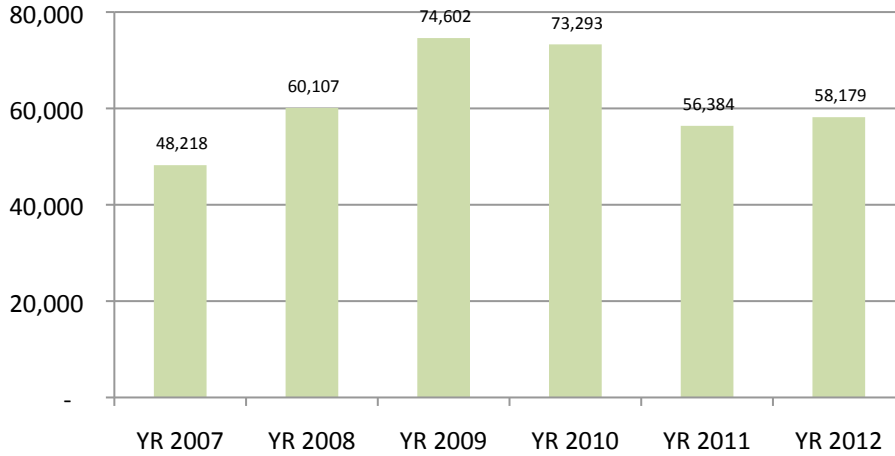


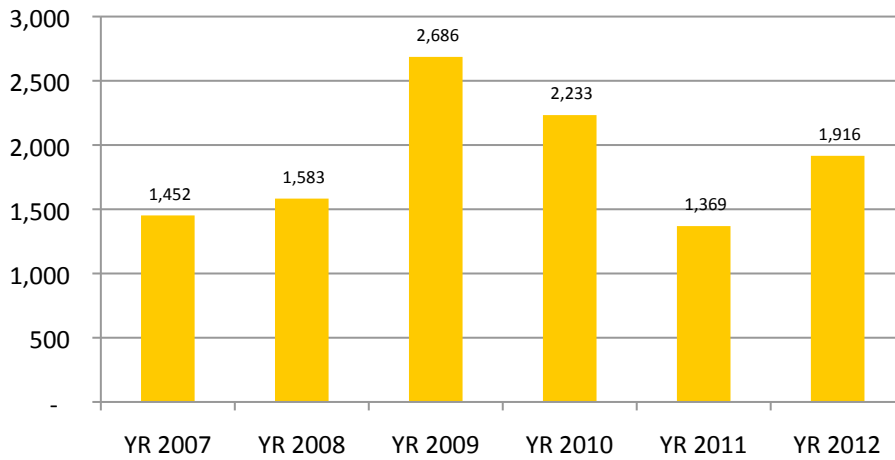
Refugee Arrivals

United States Refugee Arrivals



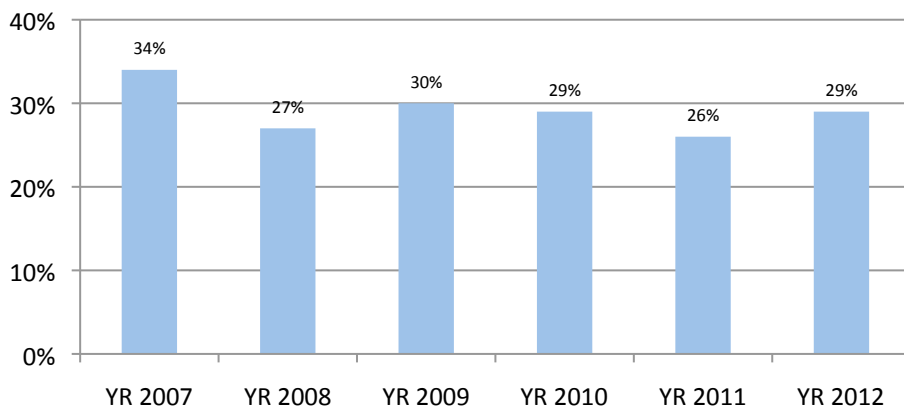
Source Data: US Department of State
Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration

Houston Refugee Arrivals



Source Data: Department of State, Office of Admissions
Refugee Processing Center

Houston Percent Share to Total Texas Arrivals



*Source Data: Department of State, Office of Admissions
Refugee Processing Center*

Research Findings:

Overcoming Barriers to Economic Barriers

- Targeted employment support programs have a better outcomes for refugees
- Refugees are strongly motivated to secure employment as quickly as possible after their arrival.
- Interpersonal discrimination will have an impact on the labor market situations for refugees
- Strategies to consider are: professional mentoring programs, their native skills and qualifications being recognized, access to driver's license, family support etc,
- There are only short-term costs as refugees make their settlement in their new surroundings. Once they get adjusted to the new environment, they infuse vitality and multiculturalism in our local communities.

Important Messages

- Refugees impact has been positive to the local economy based on some true success stories. Refugees make substantial contributions to their new country. They consume local goods, open new businesses and create local employment and bring in new skills.
- It surely stimulates economic growth and lower level jobs will get filled quickly.
- Mentors and volunteers are encouraged to participate
- Efforts should be made to encourage the refugees to enter the main stream, than getting concentrated with their group

- Research articles reveal that refugees after overcoming initial barriers, they subsequently achieve tremendous success in their chosen career.
- Invest in human capital: education, training and citizenship
- Success stories of second and third generation families need to be identified and show as mentors.
- Employment is a key component of integration. It provides refugees an income, access to credit, identity, and provisions to step up the career ladder.
- Upon arrival most refugees want to find work in their host country which is a passage towards long term integration.
- Refugees initially could volunteer that lead towards a pathway to employment. Volunteering could enable them to have access to resources to employment sources.