



FACTS ABOUT THE GLOBAL REFUGEE CRISIS

Who is a refugee and how many refugees are there in the world today?



A refugee is **someone who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war, or violence**. There are currently **25.9 million refugees worldwide** — the highest number the world has ever seen. This is more than half of Canada's population.

Where do refugees come from?



67% of the world's refugees come from just five countries: **Syria, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Myanmar, and Somalia**.

What is the latest wave of refugee displacement?



The crisis in Venezuela has triggered a new wave of refugee displacement where **4 million people have fled the country**. The greatest number of new asylum applications in 2018 was from Venezuelans (**341,800**).

What countries host the most refugees?



The vast majority of the world's refugees are hosted by low and middle-income countries which struggle to accommodate them. **Turkey, Pakistan and Uganda host over 6.3 million refugees combined**.

How many of the world's refugees are children?



In 2018, **every second refugee was a child**, many (**111,000**) alone and without their families.

How many of the world's refugees are in need of resettlement?



In 2018, **1.4 million people needed to be resettled to another country**. However, only **92,000** were able to be resettled.



FACTS ABOUT REFUGEES IN CANADA



Since the end of World War II, **Canada has welcomed more than one and a quarter million refugees**. More than 327,000 of these refugees have been privately sponsored.



It is a myth that refugees in Canada receive more than Canadians on social assistance. Government sponsored refugees receive income through the Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) during their 12 month sponsorship period, which is roughly equivalent to what Canadians receive on social assistance. Privately sponsored refugees are not eligible to receive RAP or social assistance during their sponsorship year.



Research shows that, **with time, refugees have the same levels of economic success as other Canadians**, in terms of household income and home ownership.



Canada resettled more refugees than any other country in 2018. Canada welcomed **28,100** of the **92,400** refugees who were resettled in 25 countries. In addition, during this time Canada granted citizenship to a total of **18,000** refugees.

CHANGE THE STORY

World Renew believes that refugee sponsorship is a meaningful way for a church or group to live out the words of Matthew 25:35, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

You can make a difference. By sponsoring a refugee, you can demonstrate Christ's love in action in the midst of the world's greatest refugee crisis. **When strangers become neighbours, cultures are shared, friendships are formed, and communities become stronger.**

