



FACT SHEET

REFUGEE HEALTH

Division of Health Protection
Refugee Health Section

The State Refugee Health Program (SRHP) is committed to promoting the physical, mental, and social well-being of all the newly arriving refugees. Georgia is considered one of the top 10 states for refugee resettlement.

WHAT IS A REFUGEE?

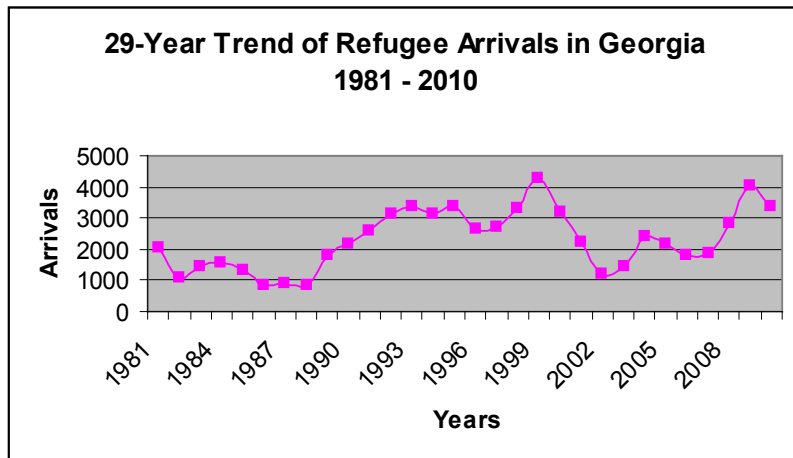
A refugee, as defined by the Refugee Act of 1980, is a person who is outside of and unable or unwilling to avail himself/herself of the protection of the home country because of persecution or fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.

GOALS

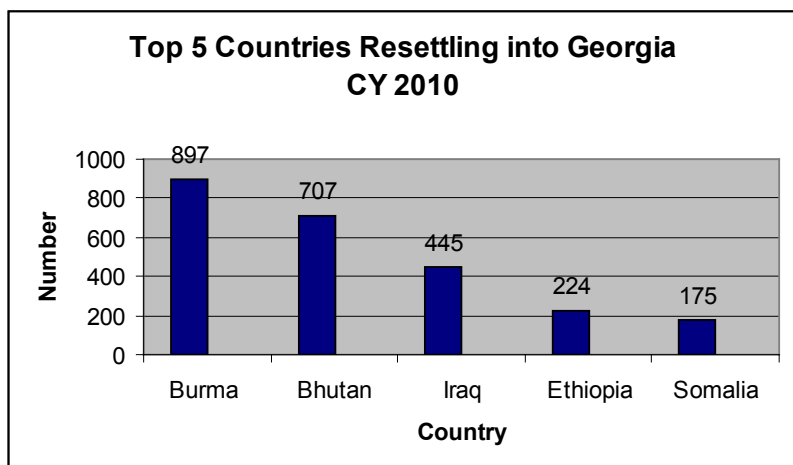
To increase the number of newly arriving refugees screened for infectious diseases, chronic diseases and other health conditions harmful to the health of the refugees and the endogenous population within 30-days

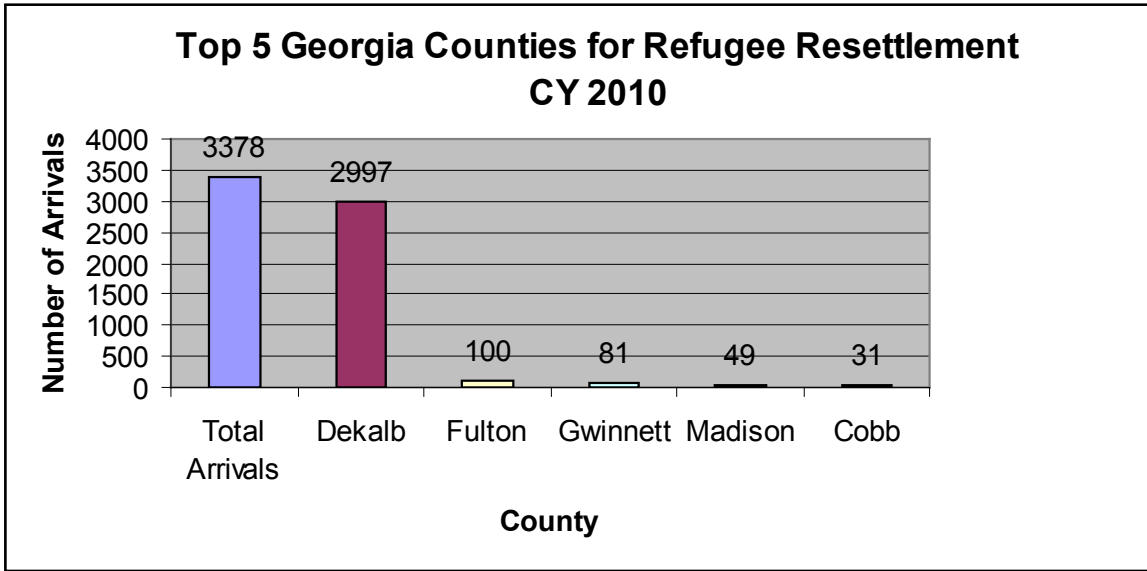
REFUGEE ARRIVAL DATA

- From 1981 to 2010, 69,127 refugees initially resettled into the state of Georgia (Figure 1).



- During calendar year 2010, 3,378 refugees from 61 countries resettled into 28 counties in Georgia.
 - 96.6% (3,264) of refugees resettled in the Metro Atlanta area.
 - 88.7% (2,997) of refugees were resettled in DeKalb County.
 - 26.6% (897) of newly arriving refugees were from Bhutan.

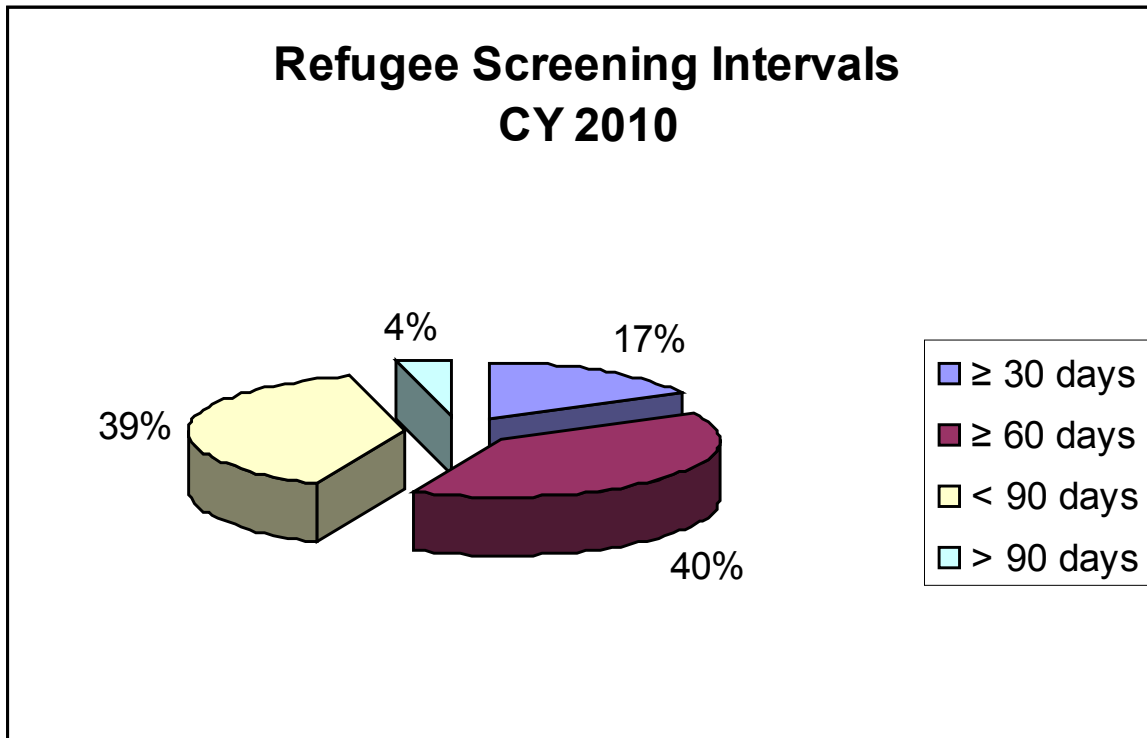




HEALTH STATISTICS, CY2010

The purpose of the refugee health screening is for disease prevention and control. Priority health activities include basic public health care with education and outreach and immunization against vaccine preventable diseases. During calendar year 2010, 3,167 (93.7%) received a health screening.

- Most refugees are screened within 90 days; however, it is desirable for the health screening to be initiated within the first 30 days of their arrivals. Based on date, during CY 2010, 17% of screened refugees received a health screening within 30 days of their arrival.



REFUGEE HEALTH

Screening Intervals for the Top 5 Georgia Counties, 2010

County	≥ 30 days	≥ 60 days	≥ 90 days	> 90 days
DeKalb	509	1146	1107	110
Fulton	38	51	1	3
Gwinnett	33	23	20	15
Madison	63	3	0	0
Cobb	4	25	13	3

Abnormal Infectious and Chronic Health Issues in Refugee Populations, CY 2010

Infectious Health Issues	# Screened with Abnormal Results	Chronic Health Issues	# Screened with Abnormal Results
Tuberculosis	968 (30.6%)	Dental	699 (22.1%)
Anti-Hepatitis B Surface Antigen	451 (14.2%)	Hearing	42 (1.3%)
Hepatitis B Surface Antigen	162 (5.1%)	Anemia	14 (0.4%)
Parasites	226 (7.1%)	Diabetes	15 (0.5%)
STI: Syphilis	5 (0.2%)	Malnutrition	10 (0.3%)

FIRST TRIMESTER (OCTOBER 1, 2010 – JANUARY 31, 2010)

For the periods covering October 1, 2010 to January 31, 2010, there were 822 arrivals that resettled in Georgia into 16 counties from 25 countries. Of these arrivals, 86% initially resettled into DeKalb County.

Top 5 Arrivals during this Trimester

Burma	299 (36%)
Bhutan	237 (29%)
Iraq	92 (11%)
Cuba	42 (5%)
Somalia	34 (4%)

There were a total of 586 refugees (children and adults) that arrived during this trimester that received health screenings. The intervals for the screenings are as follows:

≥ 30 days	429 (73%)
≥ 60 days	153 (26%)
≥ 90 days	4 (1%)
> 90 days	0 (0%)