



WUSC  EUMC

LIMITLESS  
2022

## Forced Migration and the Global Refugee Crisis

What is Canada doing?

Impact on Education

What is CC doing?

Get involved



# WORKSHOP FACILITATORS

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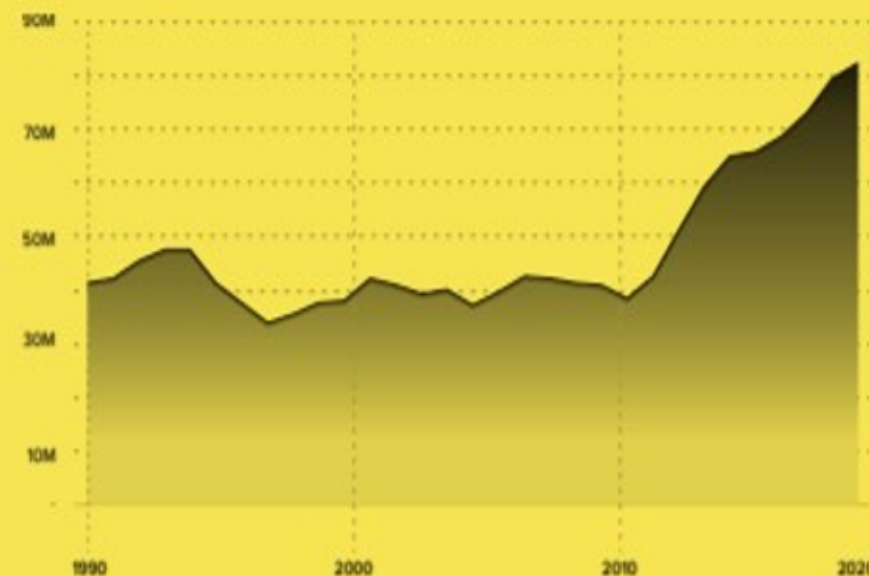
# Forced Migration and the Global Refugee Crises

## 2020

### Trends at a Glance

**82.4 MILLION**

FORCIBLY DISPLACED WORLDWIDE  
at the end of 2020 as a result of persecution, conflict,  
violence, human rights violations or events seriously  
disturbing public order.



**26.4** million refugees

**20.7** million refugees  
under UNHCR's mandate

**5.7** million Palestine refugees  
under UNRWA's mandate

**48.0** million internally displaced people<sup>1</sup>

**4.1** million asylum-seekers

**3.9** million Venezuelans displaced abroad<sup>2</sup>

**86%**  
HOSTED IN  
DEVELOPING  
COUNTRIES

**1** MILLION  
CHILDREN WERE  
BORN AS REFUGEES

UNHCR estimates that between 2018  
and 2020, an average of between  
290,000 and 340,000 children were  
born into a refugee life per year.

# Who is a refugee?

The term “refugee” refers to a person who “owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself or the protection of that country



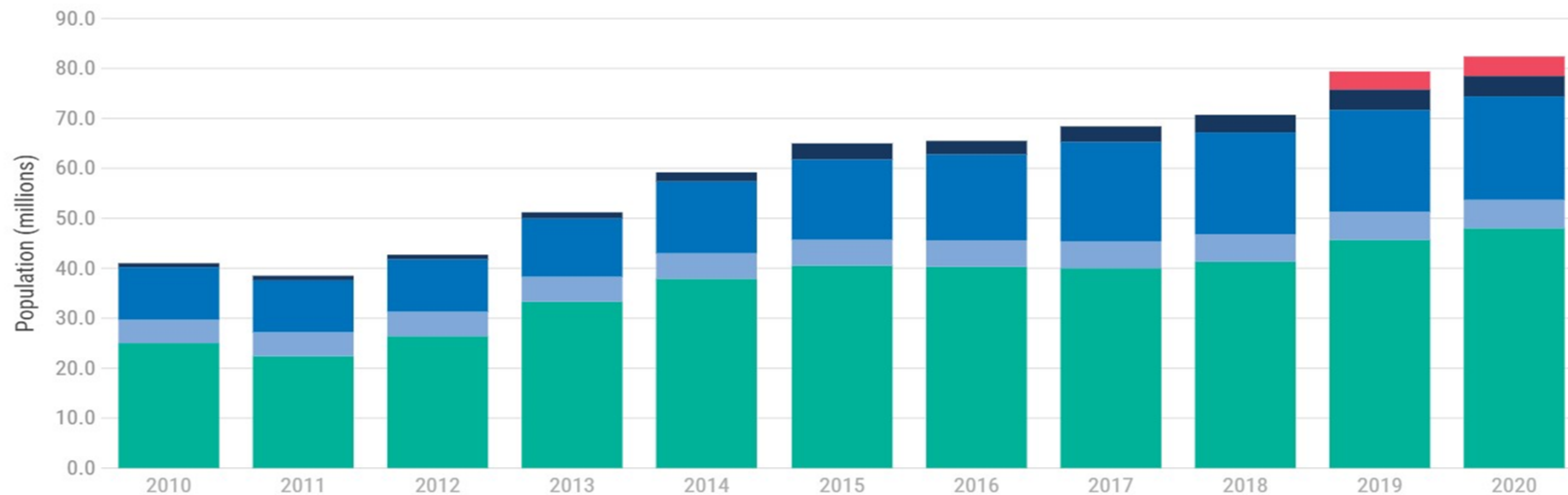


# A Decade of Displacement



## Global forced displacement (at end-year)

Internally displaced people UNRWA refugees UNHCR refugees Asylum-seekers Venezuelans displaced abroad



Source: [UNHCR Refugee Data Finder](#)

Average time in  
exile for  
refugees at end  
of 2020 was 17  
YEARS!

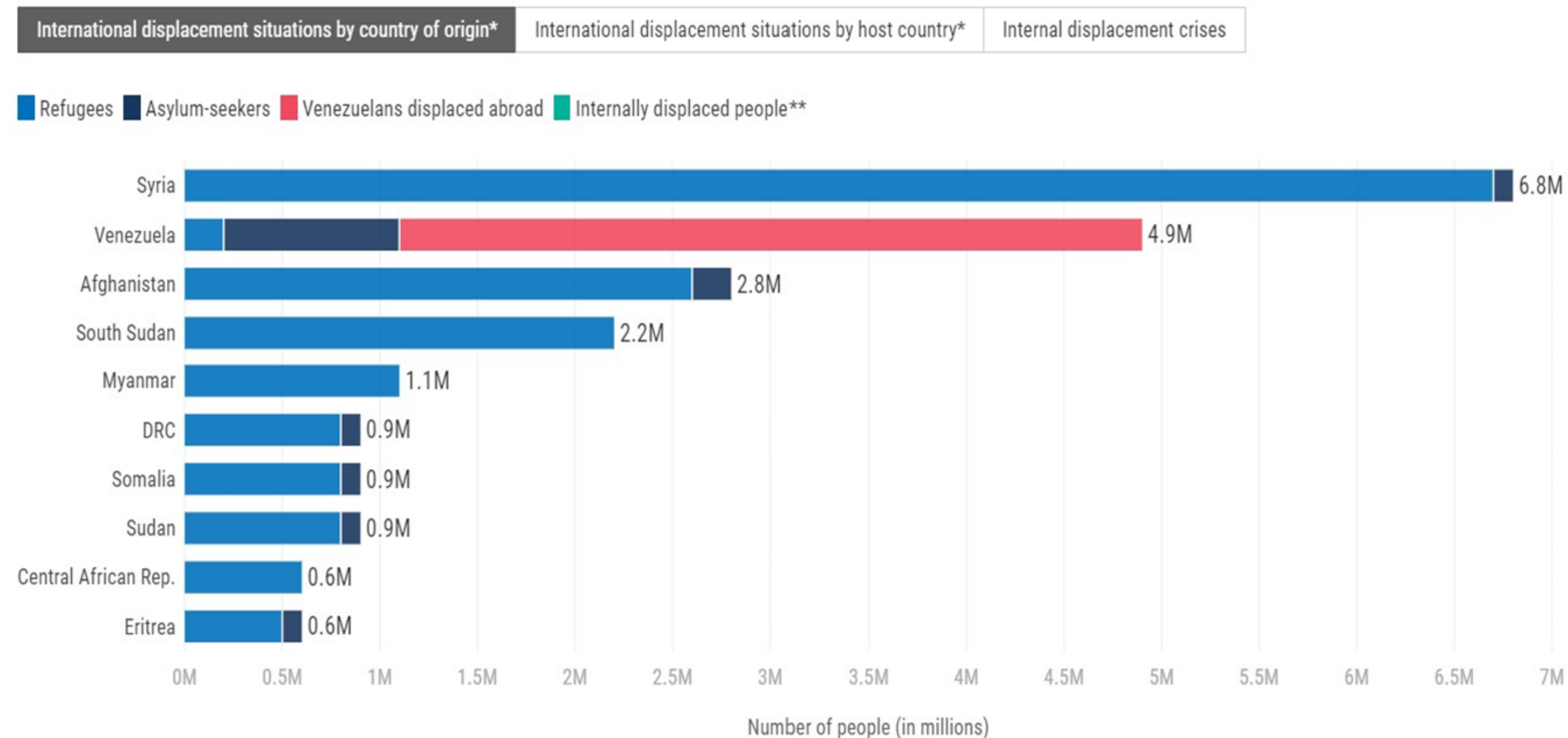
Most conflicts now in  
protracted situations,  
which means they last  
at least 5 years or  
more

# Where are refugees from?

(2020 data)



## Forced displacement situations



Source: [UNHCR Refugee Data Finder](#)

\*Excludes Palestine refugees under UNRWA's mandate. \*\*Internally displaced people protected / assisted by UNHCR.

**68%**  
ORIGINATED FROM  
JUST FIVE COUNTRIES

More than two thirds (68 per cent) of all refugees and Venezuelans displaced abroad came from just five countries:

**Syrian Arab Republic**  
6.7 million

**Venezuela<sup>5</sup>**  
4.0 million

**Afghanistan**  
2.6 million

**South Sudan**  
2.2 million

**Myanmar**  
1.1 million



# What can be done?

## Durable Solutions



The main body working with Refugees is the UNHCR.

There are 3 durable solutions for refugees: **voluntary repatriation, local integration, and resettlement.**

Canada's geographical position leads us to primarily work within resettlement.





# What can be done?

## Resettlement

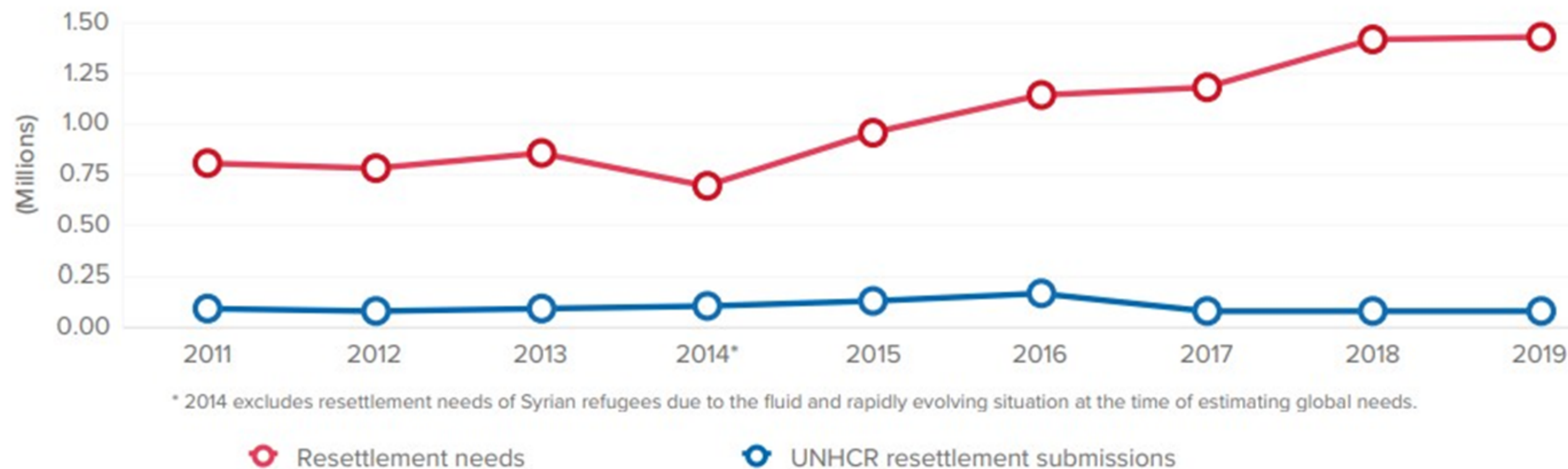
Resettlement is the process of transferring Refugees from country of asylum to third country, like Canada

- 26 countries participate in resettlement
- Upon arrivals, Refugees are granted Permanent Residency in Canada and therefore are able to work, study, and participate fully in society
- Less than 1% of worlds refugees will obtain resettlement



# Resettlement

Figure 24 | **Gap between resettlement needs and UNHCR's annual submissions**



- Global North is **REDUCING** the number of refugees willing to resettle
- Rise in populism and border security measures are decreasing opportunities for resettlement
- highest point of submissions since end of WWII.

What is Canada  
doing about it?





Did you know?

# Canada is the #1 provider of Refugee Resettlement Worldwide!

## Supporting facts and figures

### Resettled refugee admissions

	2019 Admissions	2020 Admissions	2021 Admissions Target	2022 Admissions Target	2023 Admissions Target
<b>Government-Assisted</b>	9,950	3,870	12,500	12,500	12,500
<b>Blended Visa-Office Referred</b>	995	50	1,000	1,000	1,000
<b>Privately Sponsored</b>	19,145	5,315	22,500	22,500	22,500
<b>Total</b>	30,090	9,235	36,000	36,000	36,000

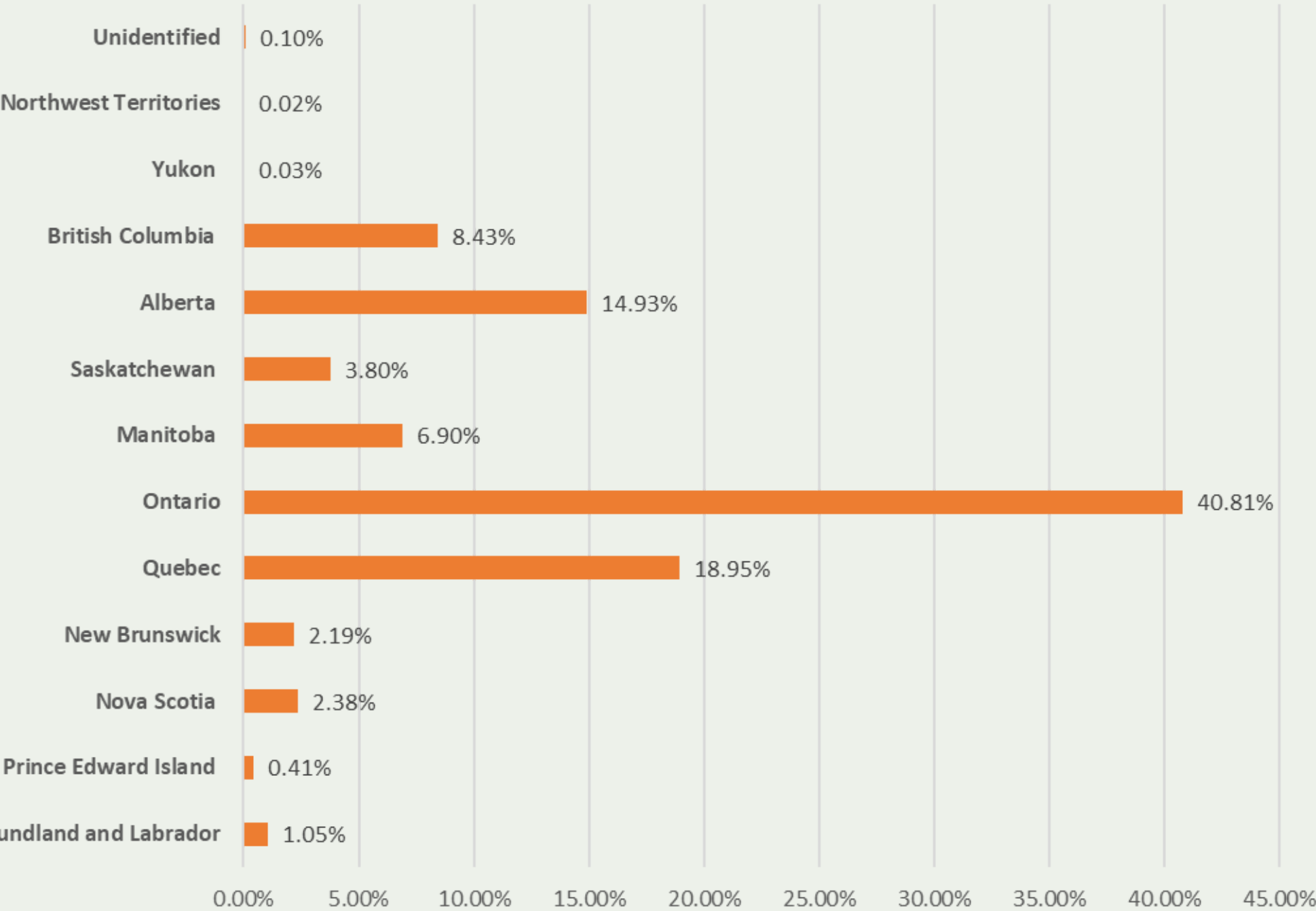
**Human rights  
defenders: 250 GAR**

Canada resettled 30%  
of all placements  
worldwide in 2020

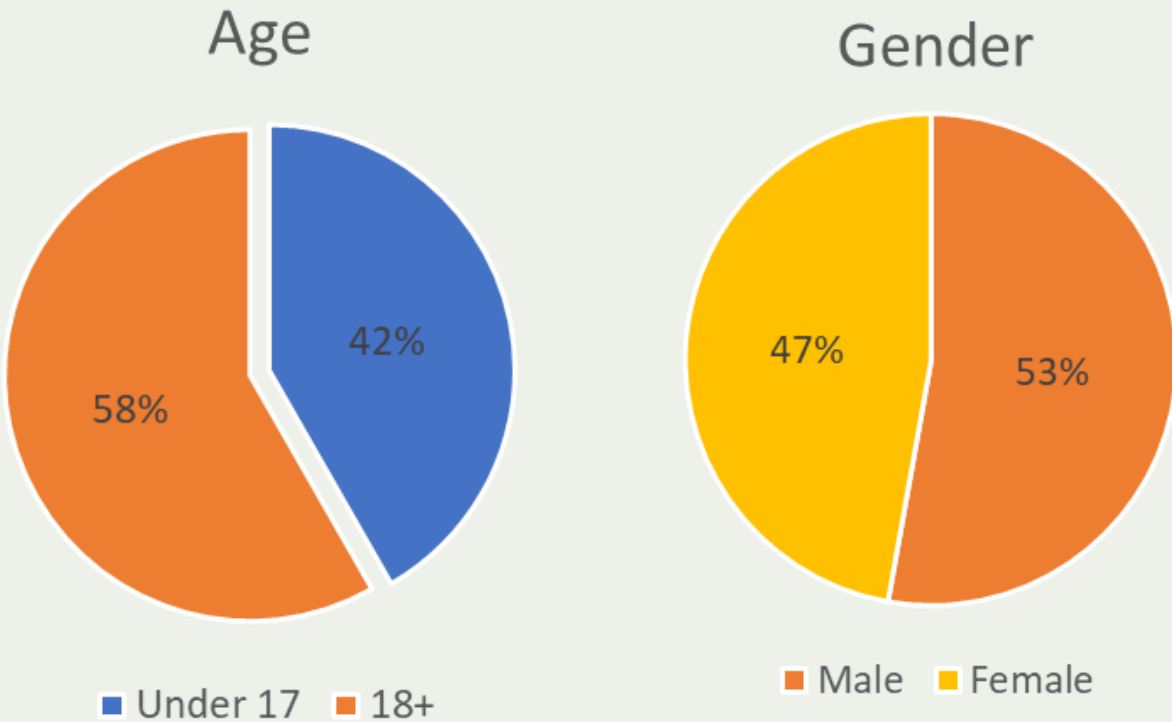
# Where do they go? Who are they?



Province of Resettlement



BC Demographics



Source: IRCC – 2015 – March 31, 2021



# Arrivals: School Aged Youth

## British Columbia

- 42% school aged children (17 and under)
- No data for 18-25 (post-secondary bound)

## Canada

- 16% school aged children 15-17
- 46% aged 19-29

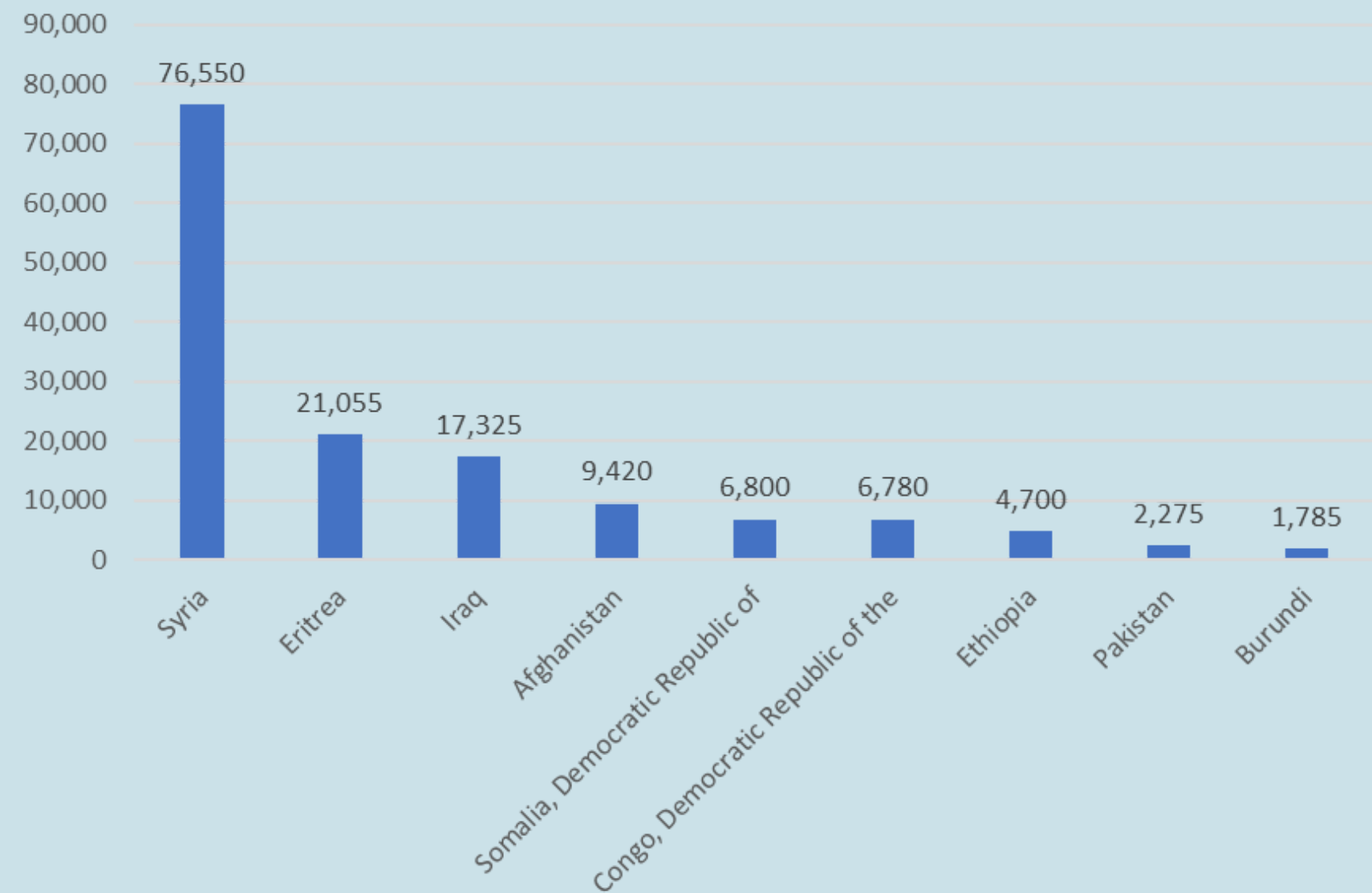
**62% of all arrivals in Canada are adolescents and youth!**

Source: IRCC, March 31, 2021 2015-March 2021

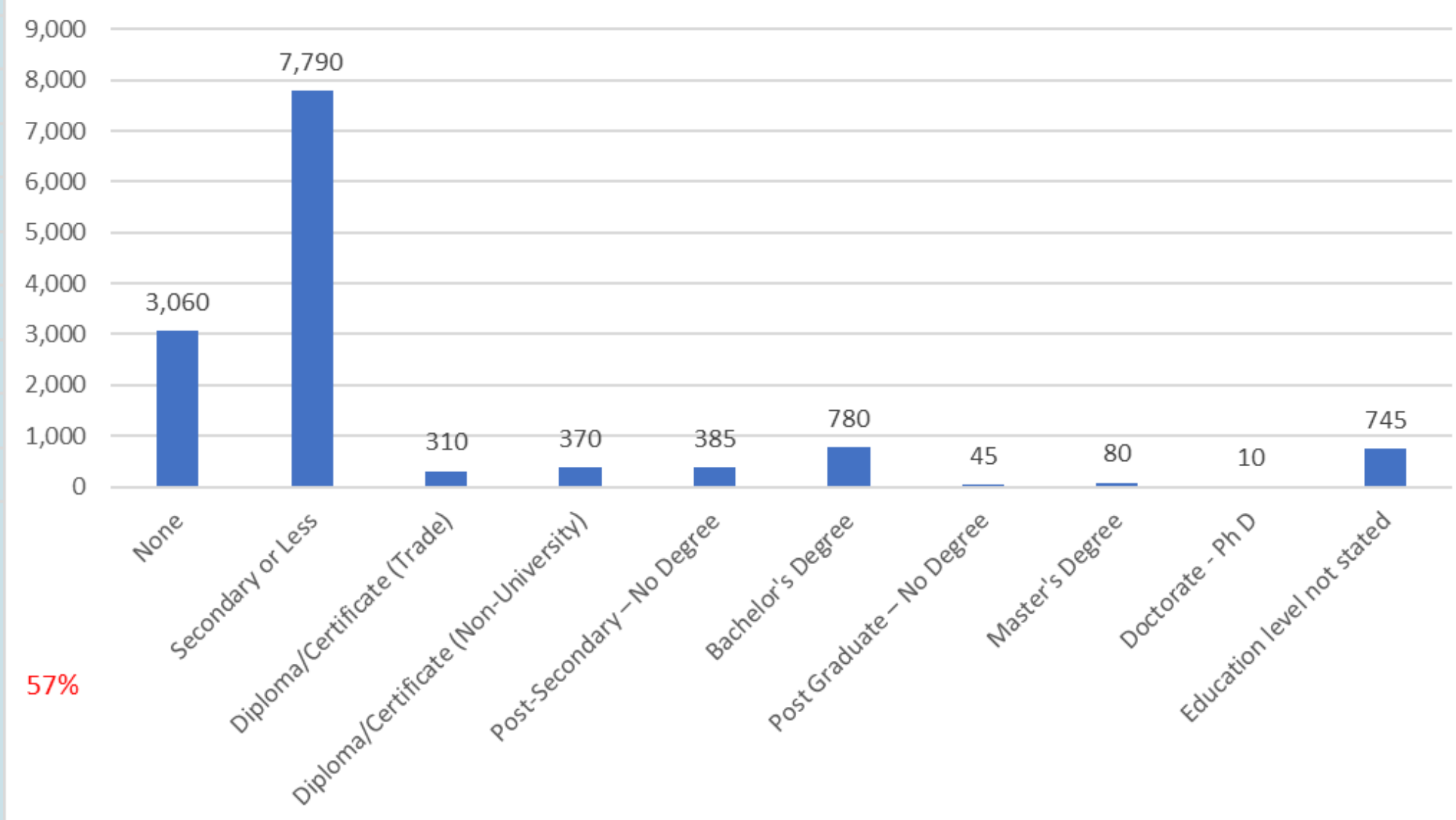


# BC Spotlight: Education & Country of Origin

Country of Origin



Level of Education



What does this data mean for educational institutions?

Source: IRCC, 2015 –March 31, 2021

# Impact of Education Sector

2015–March 2021

**British Columbia Arrivals: 80% of arrivals are Secondary and Post-Secondary eligible**

- 23% have not graduated high school
- 57% high school graduation
- 13% have more than 12 years of schooling
- 67% of arrivals speak neither English or French as first language

**Top countries of origin are non-English speakers, therefore  
require substantial educational interventions  
Diverse perspectives in and out of classroom**



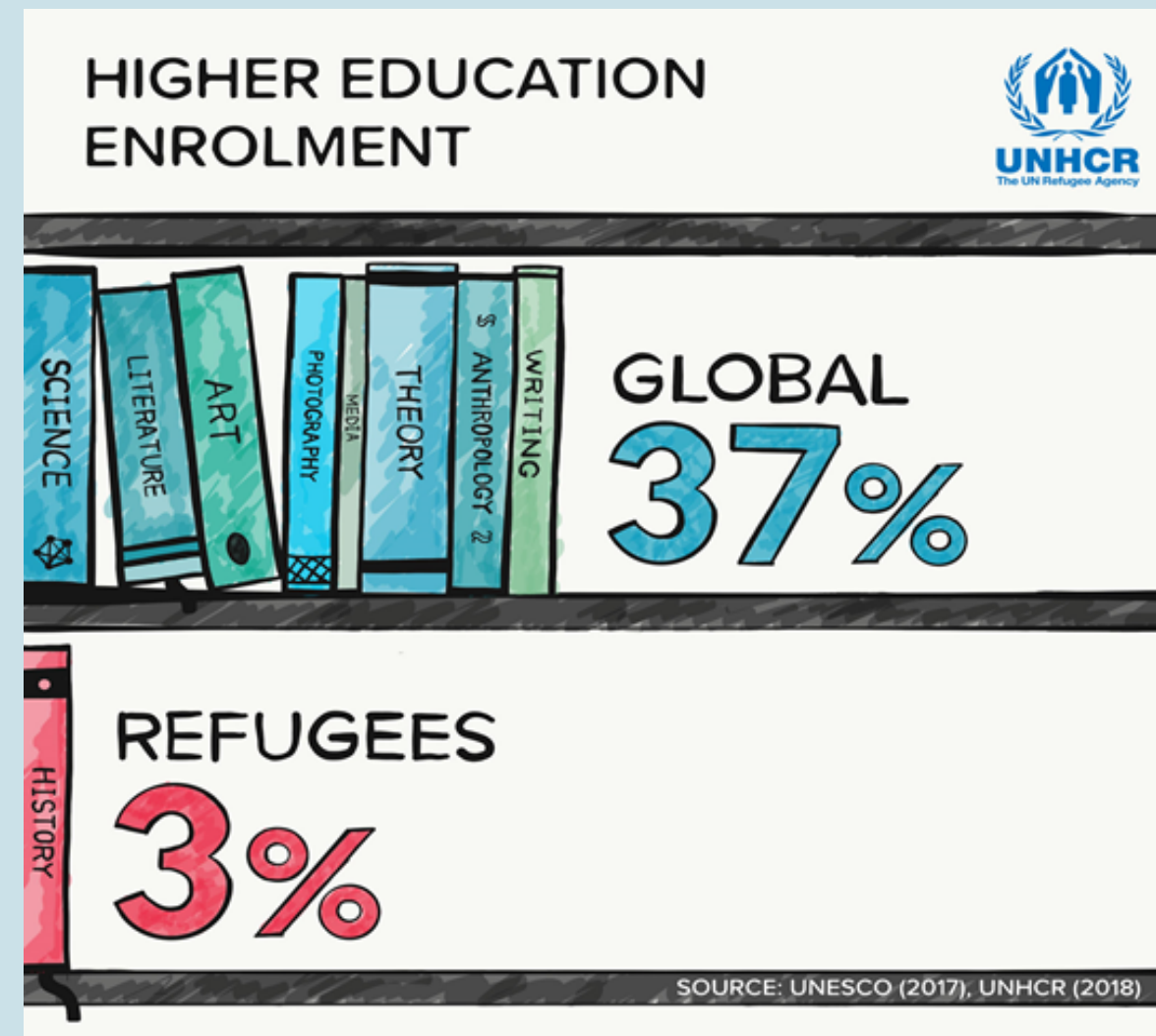
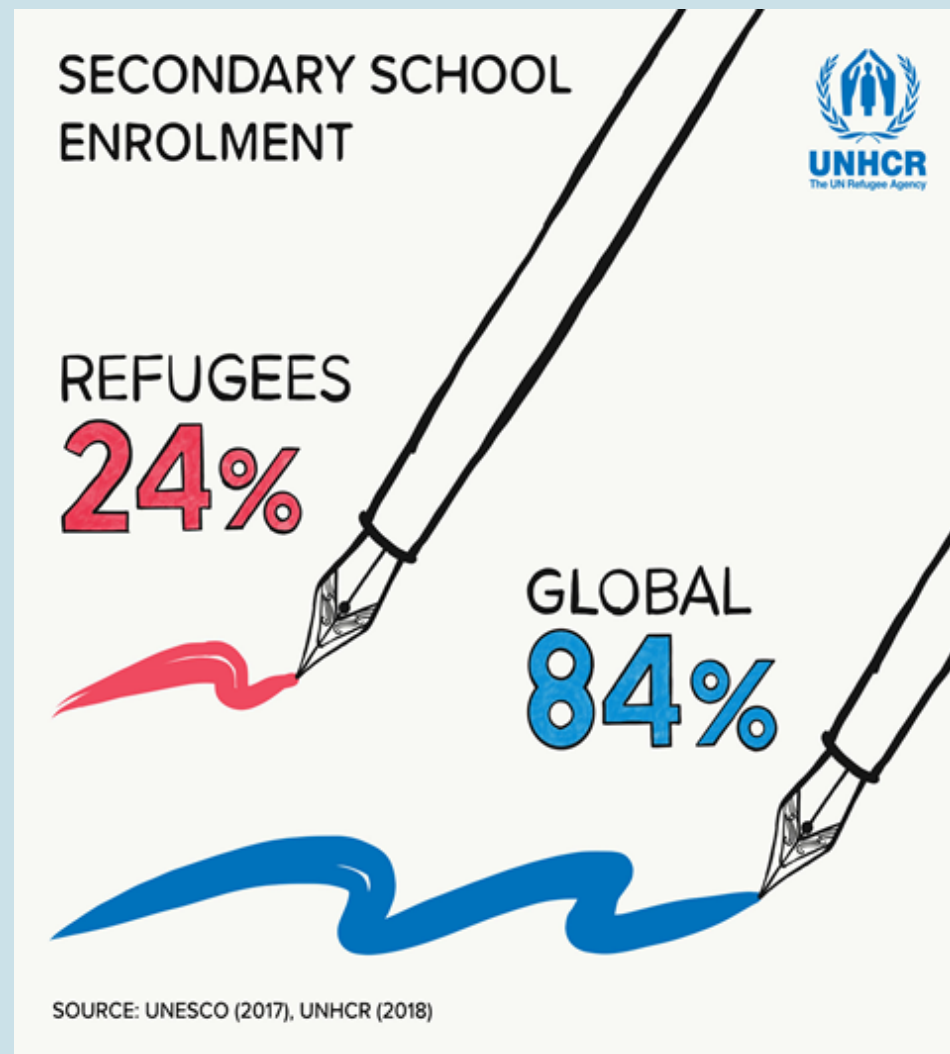




Do not take for granted that we live in a country that thinks  
with our hearts and our brains

– Jean-Nicolas Beuze – UNHCR Canada Representative

# Global Impact on Education



- Access to education is one of the main barriers refugee youth experience in their lifetime
- 9.7 Million refugee children are at risk of not returning to school due to covid
- 65% of all refugees are under 25 years old!
- BC/Canadian demographics on par with global statistics

# Global Impact on Education: Why should we care as a school?

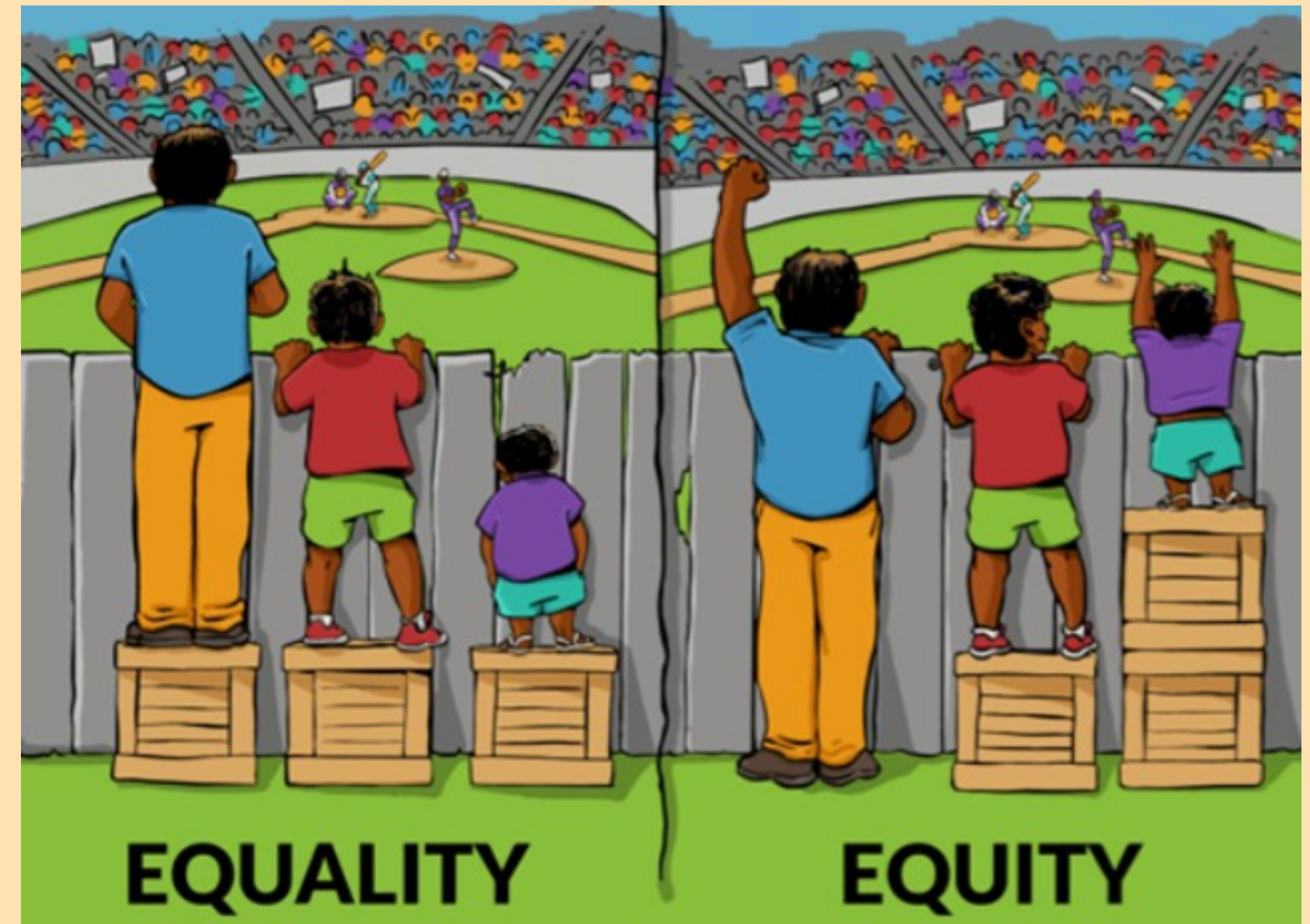
- Less than half of refugee children who start primary school make it to secondary level.
- Only 31 per cent of refugee children were enrolled at secondary level in 2019
- Refugee girls are half as likely to be enrolled in school by the time they reach secondary
- UNESCO estimates that – if all girls completed primary school – child marriage rates would fall by 14%; if all refugee girls finished secondary education, child marriage would plummet by 64%
- Each additional year of school can increase a girl's earnings by up to 20 per cent.



# Equity in Education

Equity in education requires understanding of the unique challenges and barriers faced by individual students in accessing education.

It requires interventions and strategies to tackle for those who may need a little extra to achieve success





# Barriers to Education in Canada

## Language

- Current resettlement trends are from non-English speaking regions.
- 1-2 years of training required prior to accessing further education
- Students in K-12 often "age-out" due to language upgrading and are removed from formal high school settings and into adult upgrading centers where social connections change

## Lack of Documentation

### Lack of Documentation

- Many families flee violence unexpectedly and in long, dangerous journeys, leaving important documents behind. This can present challenges re-entering educational settings as lack documentation required for admissions
- Obtaining copies can be impossible due to fragile systems, camp closures, corruption, etc

# Financial

- Limited financial support upon arrival as settlement organizations only required to provide 12 months of assistance.
- Very little room for disposable income
- High cost of living makes saving for education nearly impossible in Metro Vancouver
- Newcomers to Canada only qualify for limited credit, therefore rely on loans for post-secondary studies
- many are hesitant to take more loans due to travel loan to cover costs of travel to Canada

# Gap in Education

- Average processing time for resettlement is 5 years
- Youth may not have consistent access to education in country of asylum which can impact their ability to graduate high school
- Unstable conditions in host countries require constant movement, threatening enrollment
- families may be undocumented and will not risk enrolling in school
- re-entering education is intimidating due to time out of school

*Other barriers include Trauma and Mental Health and Digital Literacy*



# Forced Displacement will be a key challenge of our time

As educators and a college community, we have an opportunity and responsibility to step up and address barriers to education for refugee youth

- **The #1 indicator for successful resettlement in Canada is a STRONG social network**
- Schools provide a powerful foundation for integration in Canada
- Columbia College and the WUSC LC are Committed to reducing barriers
- Get involved in your community or at Columbia College by joining the WUSC LC
- Volunteer, donate, advocate!







# CALL TO ACTION

Every action counts towards giving refugees the future they deserve.

## SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES

- Welcome refugees into the classroom. Establish a dialogue with the families of refugee children and engage them in school life to reduce the likelihood of dropping out
- Give teachers the relevant training to integrate and educate refugee children
- Provide language courses for refugees who do not speak the language of instruction and offer catch-up programmes to those who have been out of school for months or years
- Offer scholarships and other ways for refugee students to access tertiary education, and partner with universities and technical and vocational institutions in refugee-hosting countries
- Be understanding of the realities of displacement. Avoid unnecessary or unrealistic bureaucratic obstacles
- Stand up to discrimination, xenophobia, sexual harassment and bullying in schools



# What is Columbia College Doing?

## Institute for Equity and Advancement in Education

*Reducing Barriers and Improving Access to Education for Resettled Youth in Metro Vancouver*



### **CENTRE FOR EQUITABLE ACCESS TO TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION (CREATE)**

#### Flexible Admissions Policies:

- Recognition of Prior Learning and Lack of Documentation
- Pathways for K-12 "Age-Out" students
- Filling in Gaps in Education

#### Improving Access:

- Tuition Free Bursaries
- Tuition Reduced Bursaries
- Supported students from Syria, Yemen, Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia, Burundi, Somalia, Myanmar, India, Armenia,



# Centre for Equitable Access to Transformative Education (CREATE)

**Resettlement Bursary:** Free Tuition for 1 year with opportunity to extend to 2 years

- Open for students already resettled to Canada
- (77 supported students to date)
- 26 students currently enrolled
- Students have advanced to UBC, SFU, BCIT, VCC, CDI, Canada College,
- Started businesses, entered workforce!

**Internal Claimant Bursary:** Reduced Tuition for students with open asylum claims in Canada

- (5 students to date)

**WUSC Student Refugee Program:** Direct Sponsorship of students from Refugee Camps

- 4 students sponsored to date from Syria, Yemen, Somalia
- Commitment of 2 students per year for 5 years

## Voice from Syria- Nour

Associate Degree Graduate -- Accepted to SFU BSc Health Science (May 2022)

Being a refugee is not a choice; it is forced on you. Without a choice, I had to leave my university as I was in my second year in civil engineering. I left all my dreams behind and lost all hope for a good future. **I fled to Turkey where I was not allowed to study. All I was thinking about was losing my right of education. However, when I first arrived in Canada, I was very grateful to be in a safe place with my family, but the idea of losing my future dreams was an obsession. The idea of leaving school and losing my education was overwhelming.**

I was lucky enough to get a second chance thanks to Columbia College Bursary Program and this was the beginning that helped me stand on my feet again. It was very challenging; I felt everything was hard especially in the beginning. I had to prove myself in a foreign country starting from zero. I had no friends, and I was totally alone. I am very grateful and thankful for Columbia College and Canada and I can't wait to start at SFU in May to kick start my next step towards becoming a future dentist.

Receiving the latest news about the Ukrainian people, only one month ago they were living peacefully, but now millions of them are refugees. **Remember, anyone can become a refugee overnight. You are not immune. Even you can become a refugee in the blink of an eye, but most importantly, no one deserves to go through this.**



"It is important to support the students with refugee backgrounds, especially now more than ever due to the uprising in stressful situations all over the world. Personally, it has been a roller coaster ride filled with uncertainties. Seeking refugee asylum here and the waiting period was the most challenging thing for me in terms of the approval and fear of the unknown.

That is why being in a Columbia College bursary program was really helpful for me and my family during those time. Even though there were a lot of stressful uncertainties with the situation back home in Myanmar and my relatives' well being, I am grateful for the support I got from the college program and the government. I am even more grateful now that we got our permanent resident in Canada earlier in 2021 when the Burmese military overthrew the democratic leaders and claimed dictatorship. This is just one example to show that there are lots of people/students out there with similar or worse situations who need all the support that we could give from every possible way!

Voice from  
Myanmar- Thet  
Lwin OO (Aziz)

CC UT Student,  
Transferred to SFU  
and now studying  
Psychology at UBC



"It is crucially important that we care about refugees because refugees are human beings who never chose to be born in a country that is affected by war. They unfortunately were in the wrong place at the wrong time. Without our help, they are very likely to face violence, abuse, rape, death or even the loss of the most basic human needs such as water and food. It should be all countries' responsibility to accept refugees to help end this refugee crisis. Refugees as much as us deserve to have a safe and happy life, and we should do whatever we can to help them have it."

*Voice from Syria*

*Columbia College Secondary Graduate*

*Working at Pepsi and starting Pilot School in Fall, 2022*





World University Services of  
Canada Student Refugee Program



WUSC works alongside the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Canadian Institutions to select students to resettle in Canada since 1957.

- [Student Refugee Program](#) resettles 130-160 students across Canada annually from Refugee Camps in **Jordan, Lebanon, Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda**
- This program has successfully resettled over 2000 students since 1978
- [The only program in the world linking resettlement with educational institutions](#)

### 86 Institutions Across Canada

- BC Colleges: Alexander, Camosun, Columbia, Northern Lights, Pearson
- BC Universities: SFU, UBC, UBCO, UNBC, UFV, UVIC, VIU

# What is a WUSC Local Committee??



A network of student, staff, and faculty who:

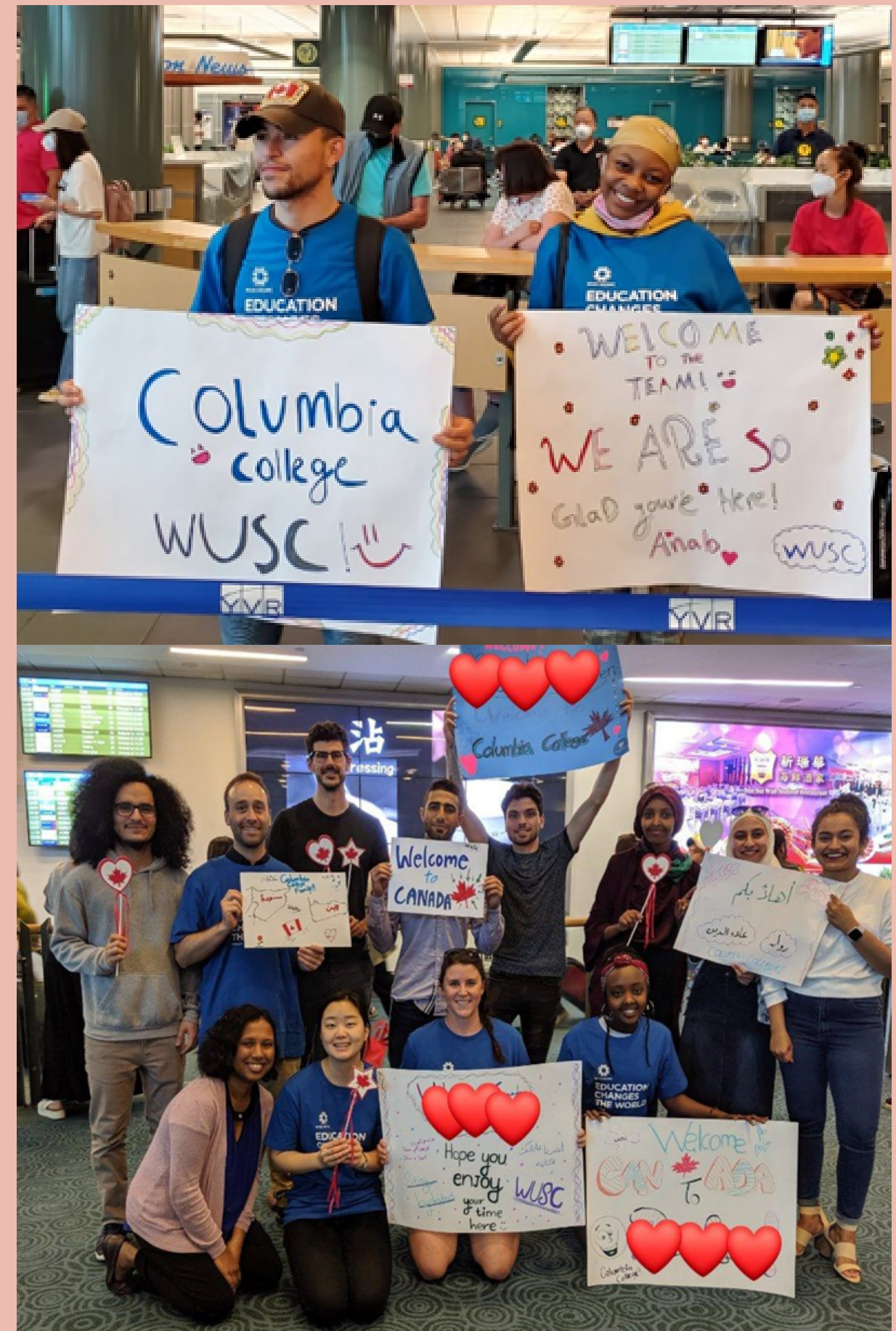
- Sponsor and support the integration of student refugees on campus
- Educate and advocate for the rights of refugees to education
- Focus on 4 Key Pillars of Successful Resettlement to help integrate into life in Canada!
- Support students to become self-reliant and live independently in Canada



# THE STUDENT REFUGEE PROGRAM

Columbia College acts as the primary sponsor to bring students directly from Refugee Camps/Situations and immigrate to Canada

- WUSC acts as Private Sponsorship agreement holder with government of Canada
- Schools provide support for 12 months financially, socially, and academically
- Students are **Permanent Residents** upon arrival
- Only program of its kind to engage youth in a peer-to-peer integration model



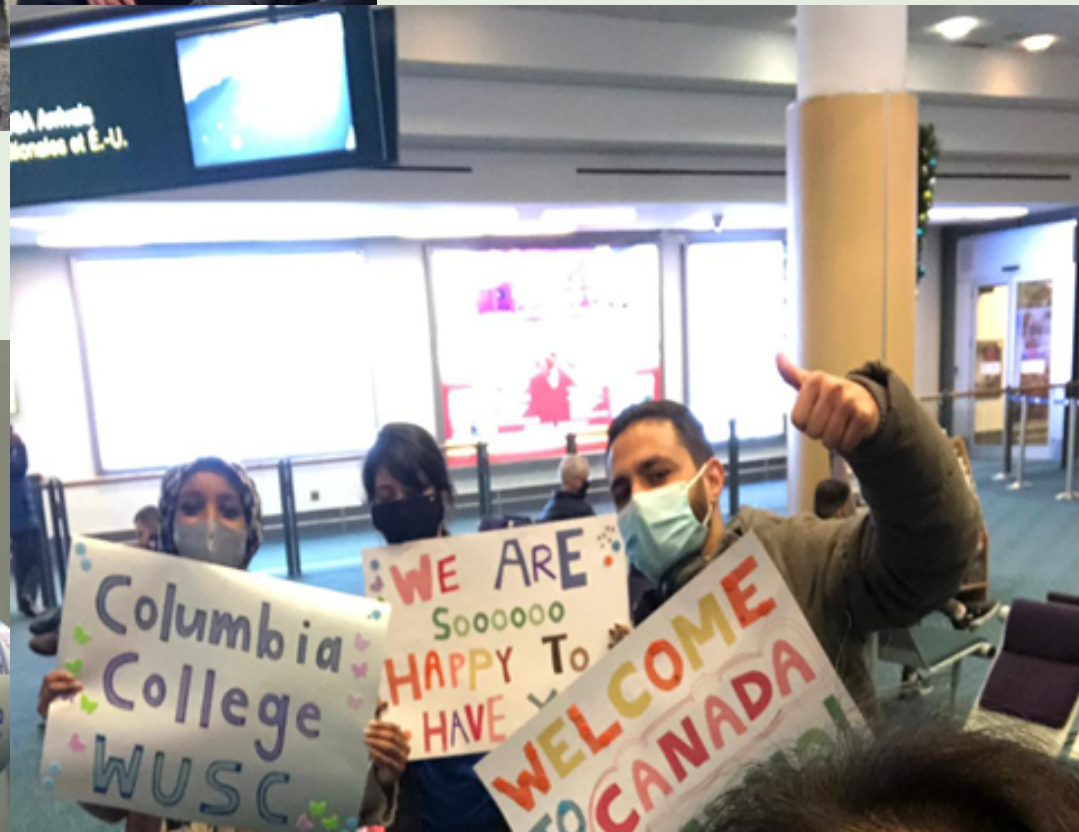
CC's Local Committee welcoming our SRP students at airport



# CC + WUSC

Columbia College joined in 2019 and to date we have sponsored 4 students to study in Canada!

- Two students in 2019/2020 from Jordan, originally from Syria and Yemen
- 1 Student in 2020 from Kenya, originally from Somalia
- 1 Student in 2021 from Uganda, originally from Somalia
- We help them settle into classes at CC, live independently, seek employment, and create a community of global learners!
- **CC has committed to sponsoring 2 students a year minimum for 5 years**







# Local Committee Events!

WUSC Local Committees also host a range of events to help spread awareness on the Global Refugee Crises and other Global Issues! Check out our Instagram for more @wuscolumbiacollege





# Fundraising:

## Ride for Refuge/ Move for Refuge

Raised over \$3000



**RIDE FOR REFUGE**

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL!  
13,866 KM | \$2,000

1 km = 1 km

1 hr = 10 km   30 min = 10 km   1 hr = 5 km

Columbia College  
Vancouver, BC, Canada



**MOVE FOR REFUGE!**

Join WUSC Local Committee in Raising Funds and Awareness for the Student Refugee Program!

Oct 2nd 1-3PM

Millions of refugees youth are stuck in crises, with little access to education. The Student Refugee Program can help make a difference!

Concord Park (Near Science World)



Learning about barriers to education

2. Lack of resources

No light to do homework  
No money to buy textbooks  
No vehicle to get to school





# Awareness Campaigns

 WUSC EUMC  
LOCAL COMMITTEE / COMITÉ LOCAL

**Calling all Artists!**

JOIN CC'S WUSC LC IN CELEBRATING  
**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2021**  
**#CHOOSETOCHALLENGE**

celebrating women and challenging  
inequality practices through art!

get a chance to be featured in our  
online exhibition and win prizes!

**accepted artwork**

- PAINTINGS
- POEMS
- PHOTOGRAPHY
- TYPOGRAPHY
- POSTER
- SHORT STORY
- SPEECH
- OTHER CREATIVE PIECES!

**SUBMIT BY**  
**12 MARCH 2021**  
wusc1936@columbiacollege.ca

 International Women's Day







WUSC  EUMC

Leadership Roles opening in Summer Semester!

Vice President: Academic, Social, Health and  
Wellness, Communication, Campus  
Engagement/Fundraising

## What's Next?

Join the WUSC LC to help us prepare  
for our incoming students in August,  
2022

Email or Teams Chelsey Acierno  
[cacierno@columbiacollege.ca](mailto:cacierno@columbiacollege.ca)



Questions?



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful,  
committed citizens can change the world;  
indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”

— Margaret Mead



Presenters:

- Chelsey Acierno
- Rawan Al Dherasi
- Gurjashan Singh Dhummi
- Muno Aden Abdirahman
- Valencia Gabrielle Hartono
- Vanessa Natania Tjiptohadikusu
- Hyang Gi Lee

Thank you  
for rising to  
the  
challenge!



# Ukraine and Afghanistan

## Crises in Ukraine

- 2.5 Million Refugees to date
- Fastest exodus in history since WWII
- Canada has 2nd largest Ukrainian diaspora
- Canada has committed to offer visas to "unlimited" Ukrainians
- Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel: NOT a Resettlement Program
- Fastest, safest, and most efficient way for Ukrainians to come to Canada and eliminates many of the normal visa requirements. All Ukrainian nationals will be able to apply through this new path, and, pending background check and security screening, their stay in Canada could be extended by at least 2 years. Will allow for Open Work Permit

## Crises in Afghanistan

- Canada has committed to resettling 40,000 Afghans
- Canada has resettled 8500 Afghans to date
- Significant Language interventions needed
- WUSC will support some pathways via Pakistan

# What do we know about Forced Migration?

How many people forcibly displaced at end of 2020?

Has anyone or their families experienced being a refugee?

How do you think resettlement and education are related?

What percentage of refugees are hosted in developing countries?

What are the top 3 refugee producing countries in the world?

What percentage of refugees will access higher education in their lifetime?





# Resource Page

Use these icons and illustrations in your Canva Presentation. Happy designing! Don't forget to delete this page before presenting.

