Insights into Refugee Outcomes in the UK

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Presentation outline

• Asylum and refugee flows to the UK
• UK Humanitarian Response Insights Survey (UKHRIS)
• Refugee Integration Outcomes (RIO) Cohort Study
• The future
• References
• Collaboration
Asylum applications and initial decisions

Source: Home Office Immigration Statistics, year ending June 2022, table Asy_D01 and Asy
Which countries do refugees come to the UK from?

This chart shows the number of grants of asylum or other forms of humanitarian protection, by refugees' country of origin, in each year since 1989. The height of each 'stream' represents the number of grants of asylum to that nationality in a given year. In each year, the streams are ranked from top to bottom, by number of grants. Not all nationalities are shown.

Conflict in Sri Lanka, beginning in the early 1980s, led to 15,000 asylum seekers and their dependants being granted asylum in the UK, mainly between 1991-93 and 1995-99.


Between 1995 and 2000, the UK granted asylum to 5,600 Afghans. With the escalation of conflict, this number rose to 9,800 in 2001 and 4,900 in 2002.

In 2003, one third of asylum grants went to Iraqis. Most Iraqi refugees were granted asylum prior to the military intervention in Iraq in 2003.

In 2001, over 2,000 Zimbabweans were granted asylum in the UK following political unrest and land seizures from White farmers.

Fijians were the largest group granted asylum in the UK between 2001 and 2005.

Fijians, Palestinians and Iraqis were the largest group granted asylum in 2006 and 2007.

In 2008, 4,900 Afghans were granted asylum. Asylum seekers from Afghanistan continued to arrive in 2009 and 2010.

Sudanese were the second largest nationality granted asylum in 2015 (13,300 grants). Armed conflict between the Government and rebels is among the reasons for Sudanese seeking asylum abroad.

Prior to 2011, virtually no one from Syria sought asylum in the UK. Between 2011 and 2021, nearly 31,000 Syrians were granted asylum, fleeing conflict. Most were resettled directly from refugee camps via the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme.

Around 20,000 Vietnamese refugees were resettled in the UK in the 1980s and early 1990s under the UNHCR’s ‘Orderly Departure Programme’.

Nearly 47,000 Somalis plus their dependants have been granted asylum since the outbreak of civil war in 1991. The largest waves came in 1996 after the withdrawal of the UN’s peacekeeping mission and in 2000, following a change of government.

Fijians were the largest group granted asylum in 2015 (13,300 grants). Armed conflict between the Government and rebels is among the reasons for Fijians seeking asylum abroad.

These bars show the total number of grants per year. The darker bar shows grants to people from countries other than those in the chart above.
Resettled refugees

• 2014-2021: UK Government launched Vulnerable Persons resettlement scheme those fleeing conflict in Syria **20,319 resettled**

• 2016-2021: UK Government launched Vulnerable Children’s resettlement scheme – at-risk children and their families from MENA region **1,838 resettled**

• April 2021: Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP)

• January 2022: Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS)

• March 2022: Ukraine Family Scheme – allows applicants to join family members or extend stay in UK **33,500 arrivals**

• March 2022: Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme – allows applicants to come to UK if have a named sponsor **81,700 arrivals**

• May 2022: Ukraine Extension Schemes – Ukrainian nationals and families apply to extend permission to stay in UK **16,800 granted permission to stay**
UK Humanitarian Response Insights Survey

• Understand Ukrainian nationals’ experiences since arriving in UK and intentions
• Wave 1 online survey launched April 2022: arrival, English language, living arrangements, intention to stay, health and well being, employment etc Response rate 28% (3,412 respondents)
• Second wave June 2022 to capture arrivals since wave 1 Response rate 31% (9,601 respondents)
• Follow up survey July 2022: housing, support, childcare, social care, internal moves, access (or barriers) to services and employment etc Response rate 39% (1,132 Wave 1 respondents who agreed to be recontacted)
UKHRIS Results

UK country and English region where adults from Ukraine lived in April and where they live now
Base population: All adults

The length of time adults from Ukraine think they will stay in the UK
Base population: All adults

Current employment status of adults from Ukraine in the UK
Base population: All adults

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Employed or self-employed</th>
<th>Unemployed</th>
<th>Retired</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: UK Humanitarian Response Insight Follow-up Survey, 20 July – 4 August 2022

Barriers to being able to take up work in the UK experienced by Ukrainian adults
Base population: Adult who experienced barriers to employment.

My English language skills have not met job requirements
My qualifications not recognised / not valid in the UK
I have not found a job that suits my skills
I have limited access to required transport
I have not found a job with suitable working hours
My physical or mental health has limited my job...
I have not been able to find childcare
Other
I have not found a job that pays enough
I do not have the required documentation / visa

Source: UK Humanitarian Response Insight Follow-up Survey, 20 July – 4 August 2022

Notes:
1. Respondents were able to choose more than one response option.

Education services attended by dependent children
Base population: All adults who have at least one dependent child living with them

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Statistic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nursery, pre-school or childminder (0 to 4 years)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary school (aged 4 to 11 years)</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary school (aged 11 to 16 years)</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Further education (aged 16 or over)</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: UK Humanitarian Response Insight Follow-up Survey, 20 July – 4 August 2022

How often adults used the four most used public services
Base population: All adults

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>At least monthly</th>
<th>Couple of times a year</th>
<th>Never</th>
<th>Prefer not to say</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>GP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: UK Humanitarian Response Insight Follow-up Survey, 20 July – 4 August 2022
Refugee Integration Outcomes (RIO) Cohort Study

- Understand integration outcomes for resettled refugees (VPRS/VCRS) and those granted asylum (ARR)
- Cohorts arriving (or granted Asylum) in England and Wales between 2015 and 2020
- Approximately 121,000 individuals in the Study
- Linked Home Office data and health data in first iteration
- Understand internal migration moves since arrival or grant of asylum, access to health services (GPs)
# Linkage rates to health data (GPs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RIO entry route</th>
<th>Linked</th>
<th>Unlinked</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Match rate (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VPRS/VCRS</td>
<td>15,663</td>
<td>601</td>
<td>16,264</td>
<td>96.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARR</td>
<td>81,606</td>
<td>23,187</td>
<td>104,793</td>
<td>77.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: ONS analysis of linked PDS data to VPRS/VCRS and ARR data, 2015-2020

Lower linkage rate for asylum partially due to only using automatch in this first iteration.
Comparison of linked and unlinked records by sex

Source: ONS analysis of linked PDS data to VPRS/VCRS and ARR data, 2015-2020
Comparison of linked and unlinked records: age

Source: ONS analysis of linked PDS data to VPRS/VCRS and ARR data, 2015-2020
Comparison of linked and unlinked records: nationality

Source: ONS analysis of linked PDS data to VPRS/VCRS and ARR data, 2015-2020 - Top 5 nationality group
The future

- UKHRIS: Wave 2 follow-up survey October 2022, results will be published November 2022.
- Addition of further data to RIO: Census 2021, employment and benefits, education and health
- Addition of new cohorts to RIO (Ukraine, Afghanistan, more recent asylum/protection grants subject to funding and data quality)
- Availability of RIO data to the wider research community
- Integrate UKHRIS and RIO
References


Office for National Statistics, *Refugee Integration Outcomes (RIO) data linkage pilot*, June 2022

Office for National Statistics, *Visa holders entering the UK under the Ukraine Humanitarian Schemes: 20 to 27 April 2022*, May 2022

Office for National Statistics, *Visa holders entering the UK under the Ukraine Humanitarian Schemes: 16 to 24 June 2022*, July 2022

Office for National Statistics, *Visa holders entering the UK under the Ukraine Humanitarian Schemes – Follow-up survey: 20 July to 4 August 2022*, August 2022

**Collaboration**

We wish to acknowledge our colleagues at the Home Office for making the data available to us to create RIO. We greatly value their experience and knowledge of the data and their linguist expertise, which supported the development of our methodology.

The UK Humanitarian Response Insight Survey was compiled rapidly to help inform the UK’s response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the subsequent evacuation of individuals fleeing Ukraine, and to aid local and national emergency response planning.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) conducted this survey in collaboration with the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and the Home Office.