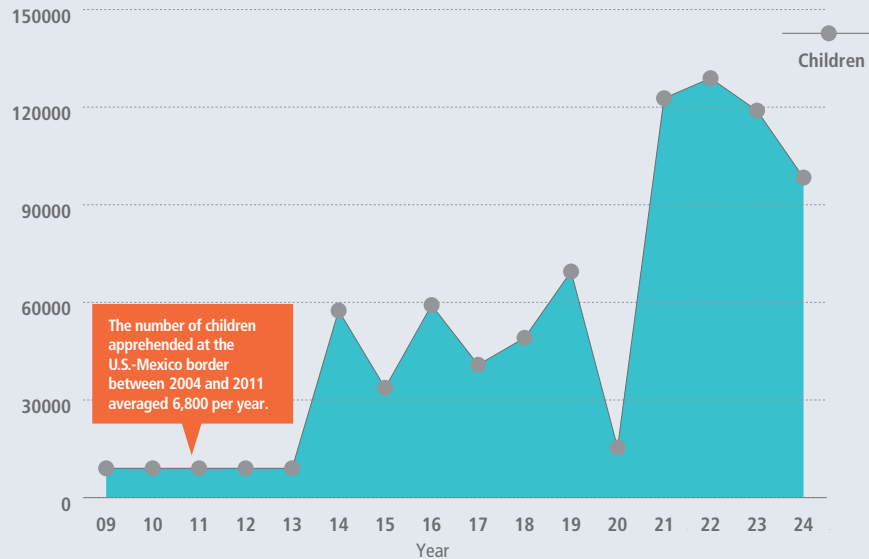


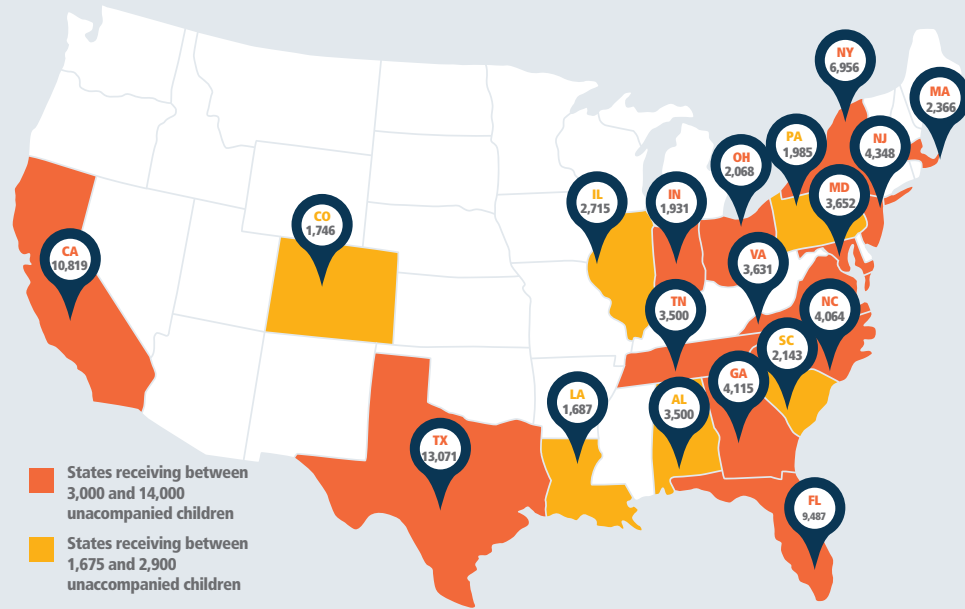
Children Seeking Refuge in the United States

Unaccompanied children* have been entering the United States for decades. From FY2014 to FY2024, more than 794,000 unaccompanied children were referred to ORR's care. Many unaccompanied children are eligible for one or more forms of legal protection under U.S. and international law.



*An unaccompanied child is a child who has no lawful immigration status in the United States; is under the age of 18; and who has no parent or legal guardian in the United States, or has no parent or legal guardian in the United States available to provide care and physical custody. See 6 U.S.C § 279(g)(2)

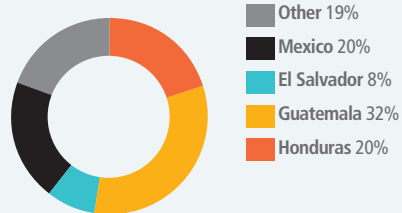
Top receiving states of unaccompanied children. (FY 2024)



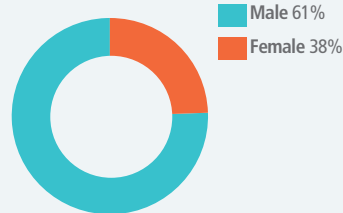
*To review a complete list of state-by-state data of unaccompanied children released to sponsors visit, <https://acf.gov/orr/grant-funding/unaccompanied-children-released-sponsors-state>

Unaccompanied children's profile (FY2024 Data)

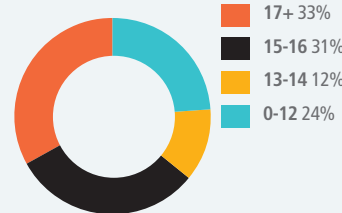
NATIONALITY



GENDER



AGE



Reasons why these children are seeking refuge in the United States include, but are not limited to, the following:

- To escape violence, abuse, war, persecution, and communities overrun by crime, corruption, endemic poverty, climate crisis and human trafficking.
- To find family members already residing in the United States.
- To seek better educational or economic opportunities.

Resources

AFT: www.aft.org/immigration

Colorín Colorado: www.colorincolorado.org/principals/unaccompanied

For more information, contact Cesar Moreno Perez, AFT Human Rights Department, at cmoreno@aft.org.