

Government-Assisted Refugee (GAR) Bulletin – 2013 Calendar Year

Statistical highlights (4th quarter) - October 1, 2013 - December 31, 2013:

- 217 individuals – 115 family units – 34% of the arrivals in 2013 came during this quarter;
- 11 individuals or 4 units were self transfers from other provinces to BC;
- Top 5 source countries – Iran 127 (62%); Somalia 35 (17%), Iraq 13 (6%), Myanmar 12 (6%), Sierra Leone 5 (2%) and Syria 5 (2%);
- 60 individuals or 29% were children and youth under 18 years old; 7% or 15 youth were between 13 and 18 years old; 12% or 25 children were between 6 and 12 years old; 10% or 20 children were under 6 years;
- 5 individuals / 2% were 65 and above;
- Top 5 destinations by municipality – Tri-Cities 66 (32%), Surrey 44 (21%), Burnaby 26 (13%), Vancouver 21 (10%) and North Vancouver 15 (7%).

Statistical highlights (Year 2013 roll-up) January 1, 2013 - December 31, 2013:

- 614 individuals – 333 family units, not including self-transfers from other provinces to BC; a decrease of 41 individuals in comparison to 2012.
- 27 individuals (16 units) self-transferred from six other provinces to BC;
- 80% of BC's GAR target arrived in 2013 (641 out of 800 individuals including self transfers);
- 13 individuals who were originally destined to BC, resettled primarily to Alberta and Ontario;
- 19 different source countries - top 5 source countries – Iran 250 (41%), Somalia 124 (20%), Iraq 74 (12%), DRC Congo 27 (4%) and Myanmar 21 (3%);
- 199 individuals or 33% were children and youth under 18 years old; 11% or 68 youth were between 13 and 18 years old; 13% or 78 children were between 6 and 12 years old; 9% or 53 children were under 6 years. In comparison to 2012 the largest difference was the decrease number of children under six – a drop of 53 children from 2012;

- 11 individuals / 2% were 65 and above – four-fold increase from 2012;
- Top 5 destinations by municipality – Surrey 194 (32%), Tri-Cities (primarily Coquitlam) 143 (23%), Burnaby 81 (13%), Vancouver 62 (10%), and New Westminster 20 (3%).

(Breakdown of statistics by municipality are available upon request)

- 459 individuals (72%) settled in the Fraser Region.
- 2012 - GAR Source regions: Middle East –454 individuals (69%), Africa – 165 individuals (25%), and Asia – 36 individuals (6%).
- 2013 - GAR Source regions: Middle East –358 individuals (56%), Africa – 224 individuals (35%), Asia – 21 individuals (3%) and, South America – 11 individuals (2%).

Looking ahead to 2014

- The GAR BC target remains at 800 individuals;
- First arrivals for 2014 landed Jan 16 – 7 individuals from Iran and Somalia
- 63 individuals projected to arrive in February primarily from Iran and Iraq.

**Chris Friesen,
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