



Helping Immigrants Build a Future in Canada

Government-Assisted Refugee (GAR) Bulletin – 2011 Calendar Year

Statistical highlights (4th quarter) - October 1, 2011 - December 31, 2011:

- 158 individuals – 84 family units
- Top 5 source countries – Bhutan 46 (29%), Iran 29 (18%), Iraq 27 (17%), Afghanistan 17 (11%) and Myanmar 13 (8%);
- 49 individuals or 31% were children and youth under 18 years old; 11% or 17 youth were between 13 and 18 years old; 7% or 11 children were between 6 and 12 years old; 13% or 21 children were under 6 years;
- 3 individuals / 2% were 65 and above;
- Top 5 destinations by municipality – Surrey 63 (27%), Burnaby 46 (19%), Tri-Cities 39 (16%), Vancouver 20 (8%), and New Westminster 15 (6%).

Statistical highlights (Year 2011 roll-up) January 1, 2011 - December 31, 2011:

- 711 individuals – 47% female / 53% male - 317 family units (not including self-transfers);
- 49 individuals (27 units) self-transferred from other provinces to BC, primarily from Alberta and Saskatchewan;
- 44 individuals (6%) who originally were sent to BC, resettled out of the province, primarily to Alberta and Ontario;
- 20 different source countries - top 5 source countries – Iraq 175 (25%), Iran 158 (22%), Bhutan 107 (15%), Myanmar 51 (7%), and Somalia 42 (6%);
- 293 individuals or 41% were children and youth under 18 years old; 14% or 100 youth were between 13 and 18 years old; 17% or 119 children were between 6 and 12 years old; 10% or 74 children were under 6 years.
- 19 individuals / 3% were 65 and above;
- Top 5 destinations by municipality – Tri-Cities (primarily Coquitlam) 203 (29%), Surrey 163 (23%), Burnaby 125 (18%), Vancouver 91 (13%), and Richmond 36 (5%).



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(Breakdown of statistics by municipality is available upon request)

- 535 individuals (75%) settled in the Fraser Region.
- GAR Source regions: Middle East –386 individuals (54%), Africa – 135 individuals (19%), Asia – 180 individuals (25%), and South America – 10 individuals (1%).

Looking ahead to 2012

- Iraqi Arabic speaking refugees are anticipated to be the main source country until 2013;
- Bhutanese refugee resettlement movement will continue until the end of 2012 but there are no fixed target numbers for BC;
- GAR BC target (although not met in 2011) will be increased by 75 individuals over the next two years to 875 individuals annually.

**Chris Friesen,
Director, Settlement Services
January 26, 2012**