



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

# Refugee Processing



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## National Stakeholder Engagement

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Sept. 12, 2024

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- Electronic Reading Room  
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- Submit questions through the Q&A box.



Just a  
friendly  
reminder

# USCIS USRAP Processing Growth



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We've grown in 4 key areas:

- Staffing
- Refugee processing trips
- Refugee applicant interviews
- Decisions issued

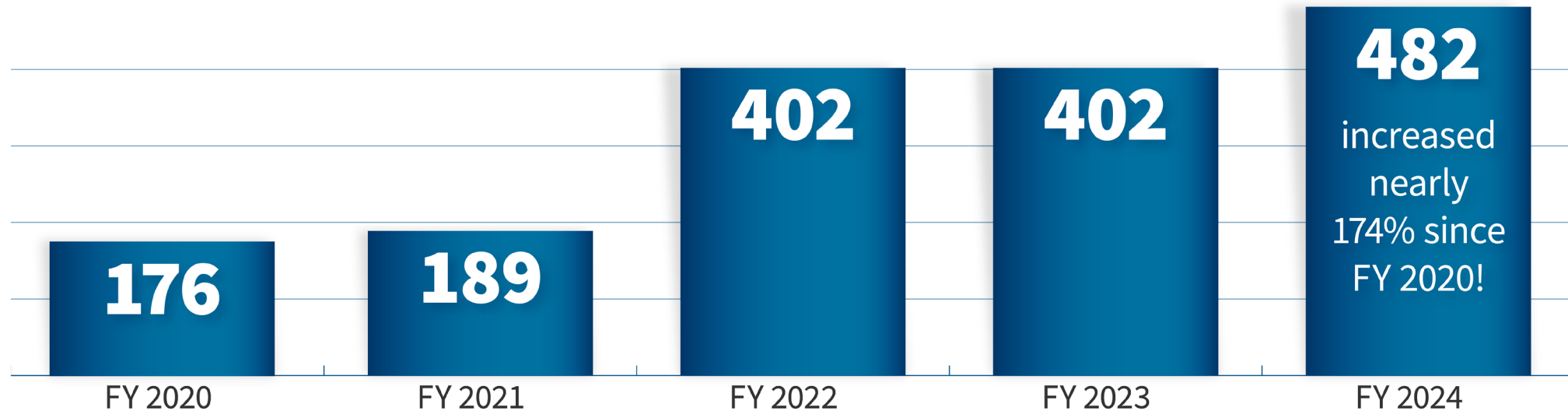


# Staffing



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Increased authorized staffing by nearly 174% since FY 2020

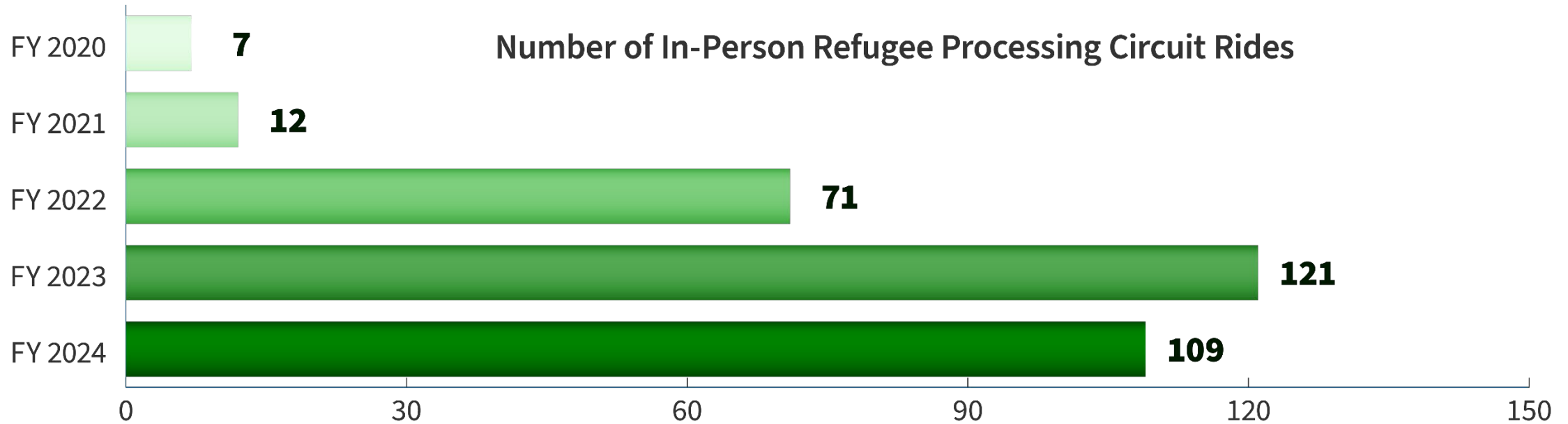


# Refugee Processing Trips



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Taken trips to more than 65 countries and 80 circuit rides.

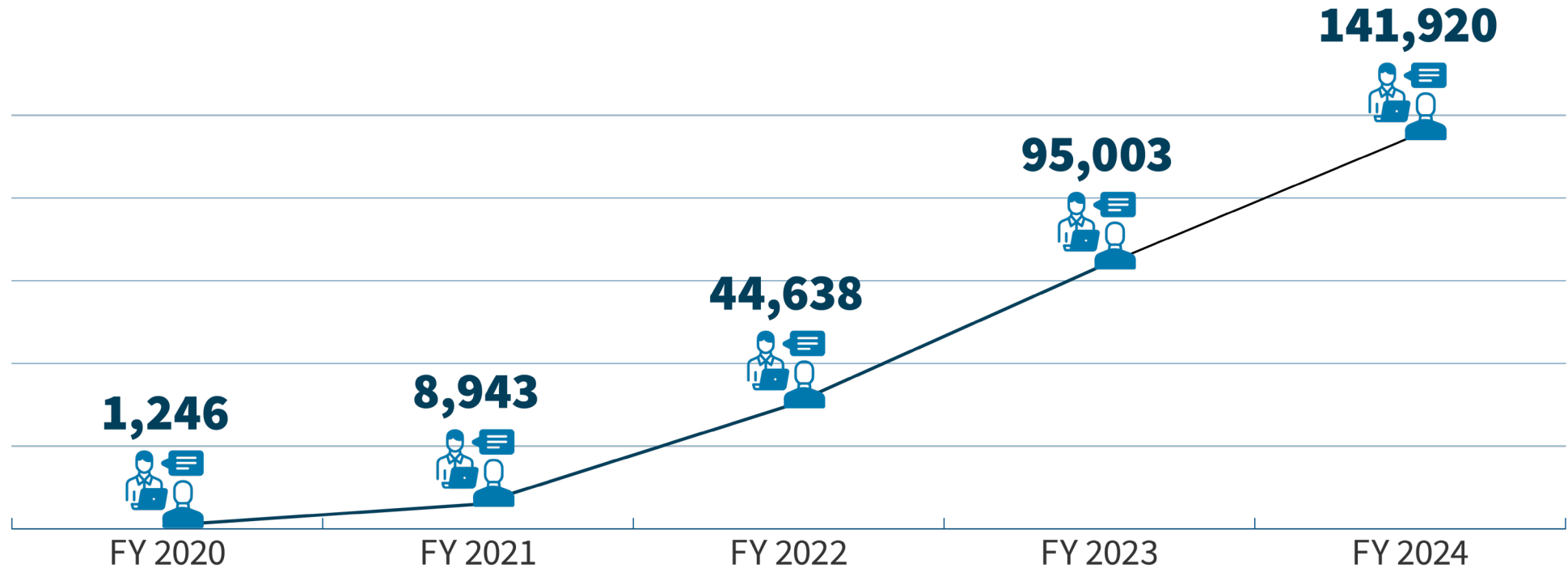


# I-590 Refugee Interviews



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As of Sept. 5, 2024, completed approximately  
141,920 interviews.

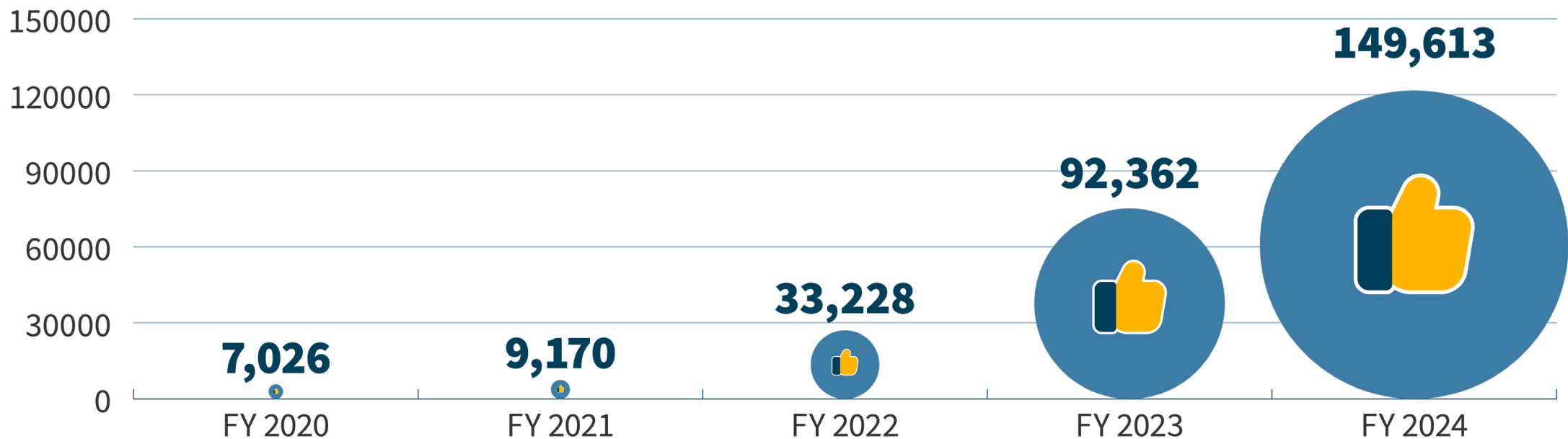


# I-590 Refugee Approvals



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As of Sept. 5, 2024, issued 149,613 decisions.





# Accomplishments and Backlog Reduction



- As of September 11, 2024, interviewed approximately 11,800 Afghan refugee applicants in FY 2024 at Camp Al Sayliyah in Qatar.
  - Interviewed over 26,100 Afghan applicants in FY 2024 compared to approximately 10,000 in FY 2023.
- Opened or reopened International Offices: Tegucigalpa, Honduras; Doha, Qatar; Ankara, Turkey; and Quito, Ecuador.
  - Offer refugee processing support and interviews for Form I-730 Following-to-Join-Refugees (FTJ-R).
- Since the beginning of FY 2024, USRAP has resolved cases for over 33,000 applicants from backlog of cases referred before FY 2018.

# Welcome Corps



- Sponsors provide support for the first 90 days after arrival.
- After 90 days, they can name a new individual or family.
- Since the launch of the program in January 2023, approximately 100,000 Americans across all 50 states have offered to sponsor refugees.
  - **Welcome Corps Matching** – 5 or more U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents apply to sponsor a refugee or refugee family they do not know.
  - **Welcome Corps Naming** – 5 or more U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents name one individual or family for access to the USRAP P-4 program.
  - **Welcome Corps on Campus** – Matches refugee students with universities that sponsor the applicant to study at that university. Universities can submit referrals for refugees they identified and agreed to offer admission.
  - **Welcome Corps at Work** – Matches qualified refugees with U.S. employers.

# Safe Mobility Offices



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- Processing at Safe Mobility Offices (SMOs) began in Ecuador, Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Colombia.
- In FY 2024, USCIS maintained a nearly continuous presence at these locations.
- To date, over 245,000 individuals have applied for lawful pathways through the SMOs. Over 40,400 have been approved for refugee status.



# USCIS FY 2025 Plans



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- The Refugee Admissions Ceiling, determined annually by the President after consultation with Congress, is currently in development.
- Continue to work with the Refugee Coordination Center and the Department of State to implement our backlog reduction plan to resolve cases as expediently as possible.
- Continue Afghan processing, and processing in the Western Hemisphere, and continue to expand our international footprint in support of refugee processing and Form I-730 FTJ-R adjudication.

# Resources



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- Information on the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program: [state.gov/refugee-admissions](https://state.gov/refugee-admissions)
- General information on the Refugee Process: [uscis.gov/humanitarian/refugees-and-asylum/refugees](https://uscis.gov/humanitarian/refugees-and-asylum/refugees)
- U.S. Refugee Admissions Program Flow Chart: [uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/charts/USRAP\\_FlowChart.pdf](https://uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/charts/USRAP_FlowChart.pdf)

# Concluding Remarks



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# About this Presentation



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Author: International and Refugee Affairs Division

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