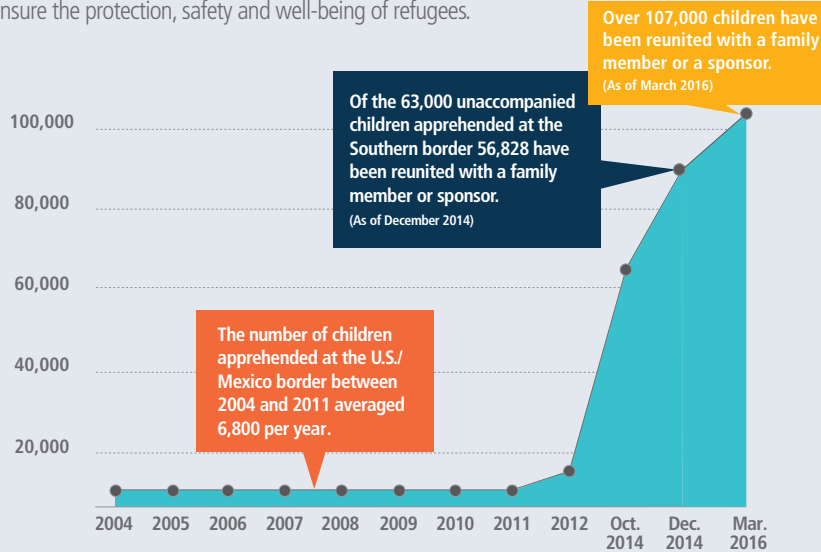


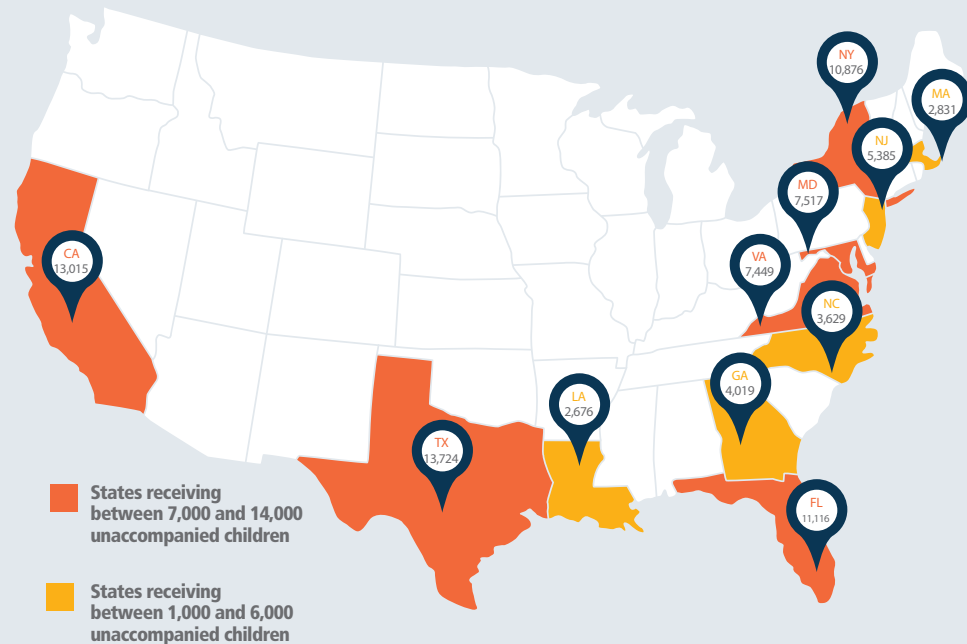
Children Seeking Refuge in the United States

Unaccompanied children* have been entering the United States for decades. In fact, the United States has entered into numerous treaties with other countries to ensure the protection, safety and well-being of refugees.



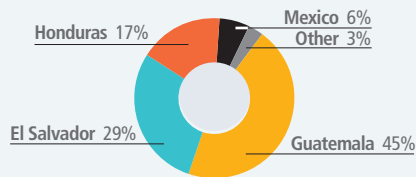
*An unaccompanied child is a child who has no lawful immigration status in the United States; is under the age of 18; and, who has no parent or legal guardian in the United States, or has no parent or legal guardian in the United States available to provide care and physical custody. See 6 U.S.C § 279(g)(2)

Top receiving states of unaccompanied children. (2013-2016 data)

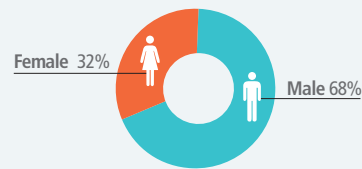


Who are the unaccompanied children entering the U.S. Southern border? (2015 data)

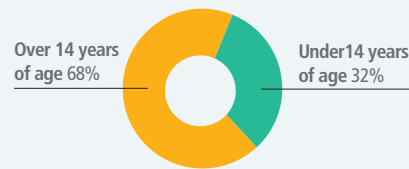
NATIONALITY



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, persecution and communities overrun by crime, corruption, endemic poverty and human trafficking.
- To find family members already residing in the United States.
- To seek better educational or economic opportunities.
- Were brought to the United States by human smugglers.

Resources

AFT Website: go.aft.org/BorderCrisis

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

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



A Union of Professionals