



REYKJAVÍK
— fyrir okkur öll

The International Team

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Refugee Resettlement Program

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International Department of Reykjavik City

- The International department of the Reykjavik city was established in January 2022
- Two teams within it:
 1. Team to service applicants for international protection
 2. Team to service refugees with status – Refugee Reception Program

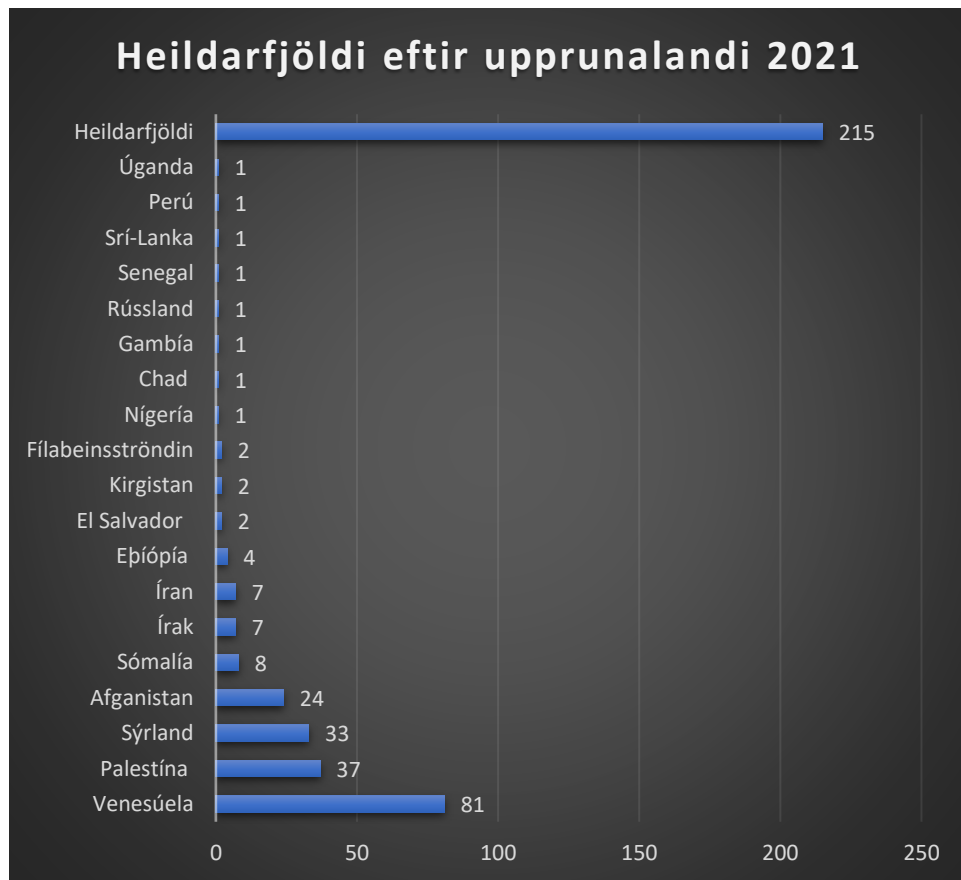
Categories

- Refugees invited by the Government - selected by the Icelandic Refugee Council in collaboration with the UNHCR
- Family Reunifications
- Applicants of international protection granted status
- Refugees granted Temporary Protected Status.
- Refugees from Ukraine: right to temporary protection for one year, which can be extended for up to three years, without the need to go through prolonged asylum procedures. In line with the EU Temporary Protection Directive activated 4 March 2022 by the European Commission.

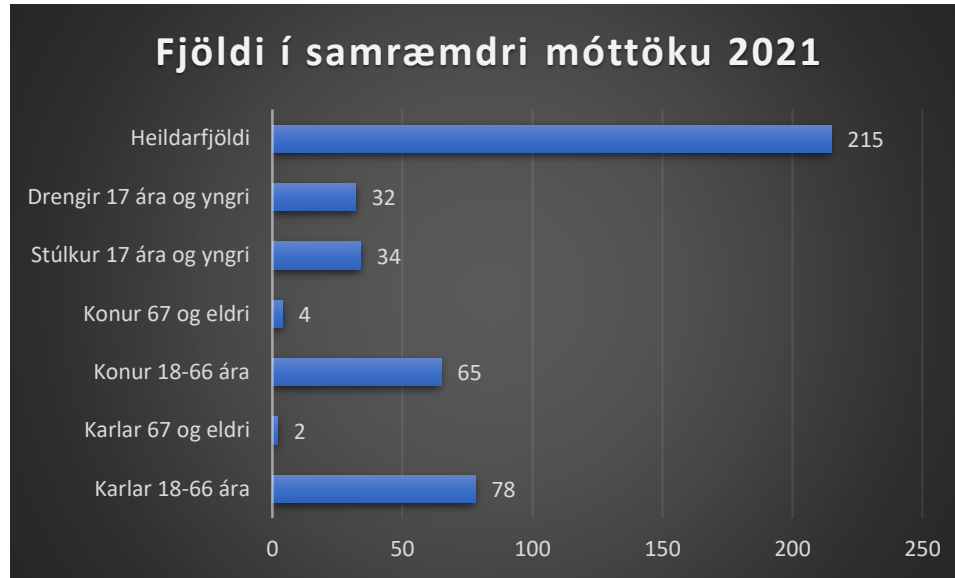
Number arriving in Iceland in 2022

- **4.508 individuals applied for international protection**
- **Ukraine:** 2.350 persons
- **Venezuela:** 1.181 persons
- **Palestine:** 229 persons
- The number from 1 January 2022 until end of February 2023: higher than the total in the period from 2016 to 2021 (2021 included).
- [Stjórnarráðið | Móttaka flóttafólks \(stjornarradid.is\)](https://stjornarradid.is)

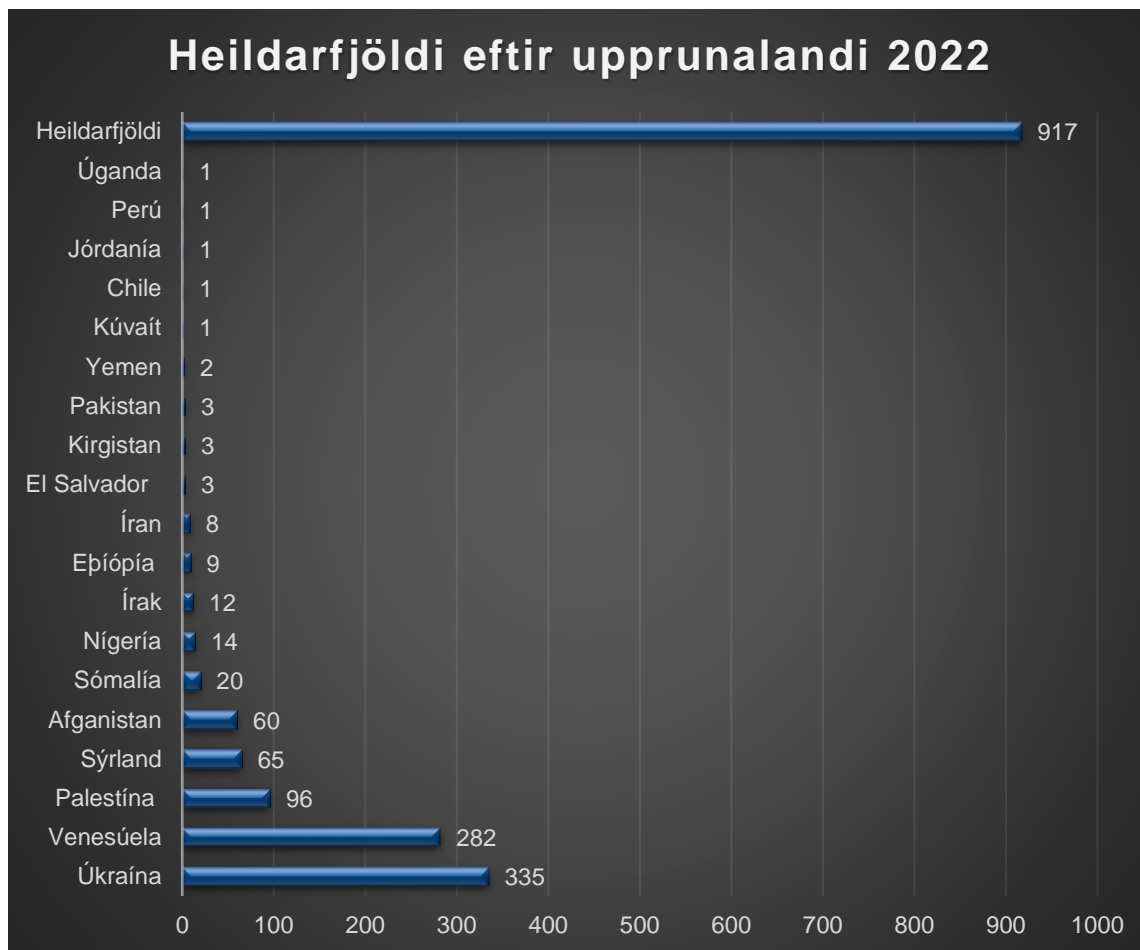
The number in the Refugee Resettlement Program 2021 per country



The number in the Refugee Resettlement Program 2021 breakdown by gender and age

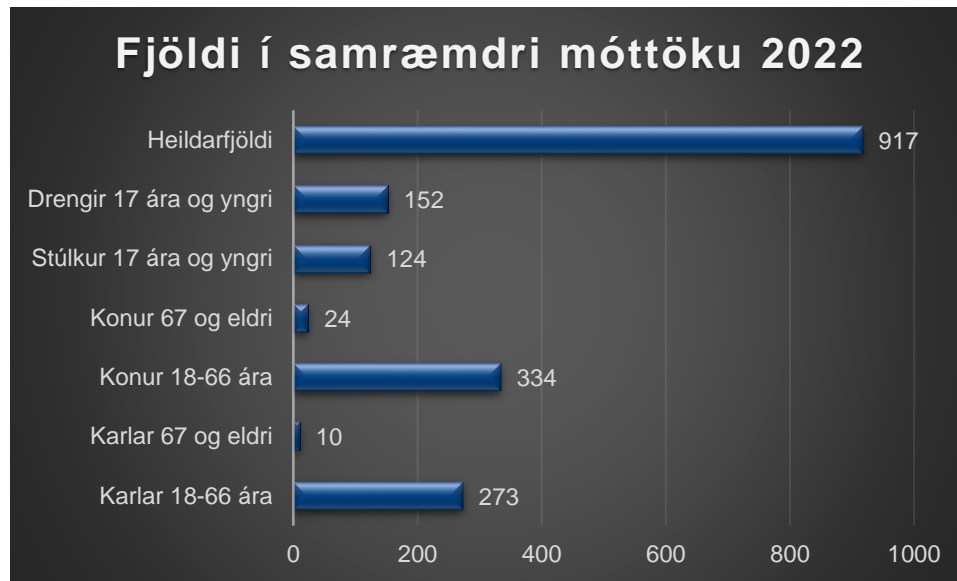


The number in the Refugee Resettlement Program 2022 per country



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The number in the Refugee Resettlement Program 2022 breakdown by gender and age





The Goal with the Refugee Resettlement Program

- To provide refugees necessary assistance to overcome complex trauma and have an opportunity to become an active member of society through labour market participation, education or other means.



Agreement between the State and the Municipality

- Lists the minimum requirements of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour to be fulfilled by municipalities hosting a refugee resettlement program.

Service according to the agreement



- Assistance:
 - ❖ establishing a bank account, getting electronic IDs, applying for financial assistance
 - ❖ finding apartment
 - ❖ furnishing the apartment
 - ❖ (Bus card)
- Case manager – support, counselling and guidance
- Individual support plan – requirement for reimbursement from the State
- Considering family type and size and special requirements because of children
- Family reunification
- Unaccompanied minors
- Interpreting services
- Covering the cost of case managers, cultural mediators, housing officers, support staff

Collaboration

- Multicultural Centre – pairs refugees with the municipalities,
- provides guidance and training to staff of the refugee resettlement programs
- Refugee Program refers to the Directorate of Labour
- Red Cross offers psychosocial support – Accompanying Friend Program
- Collaboration between the International Team and the Red Cross: Árskógar og Vitatorg
- Collaboration with Flottafolk: Aflagrandi
- Collaboration with different actors e.g. the Visual Art School of Reykjavik and the Rotary Organisation





New Programs

- **Welcome to Reykjavík**
- A pilot project connecting different agents: refugees, cultural mediators, social workers and community spaces.
- Presenting the services of the city and introducing Icelandic culture.
- **Target group:**
 - Refugees who speak the same language and have recently received status and get services from the city with or without a social worker
- **Expected results:**
 - The group of refugees feel more welcome.
 - The group understands better the Icelandic system.
 - The group obtains valuable information.
 - A sense of trust is created between them and the city.
 - They create their own support network and become more empowered
 - A sense of belonging is cultivated



New Programs

- **MindSpring: A psychosocial group program for and with refugees**
- A MindSpring group consists of 8-10 participants with refugee background.
- The content of MindSpring is based on a manual with themes related to the life of refugees such as identity and change in identity, cultural encounters and new norms, social control, gender and rights, loneliness and community, stress and trauma and so forth.
- The participants in a MindSpring group meet 9-10 times over a period of 2 months. Each meeting has a specific theme.
- The meetings are facilitated by a volunteer MindSpring-trainer who has similar background and speaks the same original language as the group participants.
- The meetings are conducted in the participants original language and is based on the peer-to-peer approach which means likeminded individuals sharing experiences.
- The MindSpring-trainer is supported by a co-trainer who is a professional and employee at the local authority where the MindSpring group takes place for example a municipality, a school or a social housing project.

The cultural mediators and case workers of the Refugee Reception Program of three municipalities!



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