



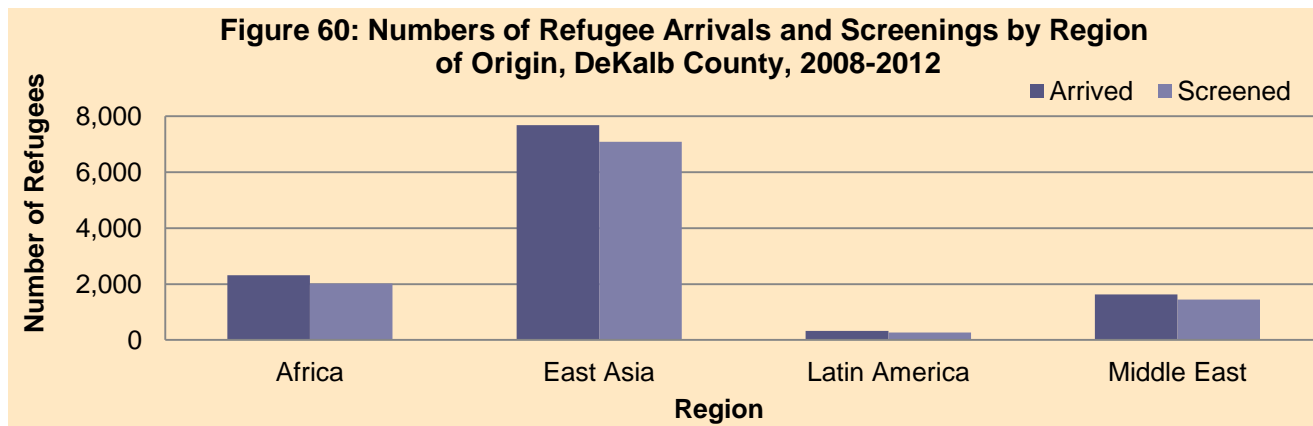
Refugee Health

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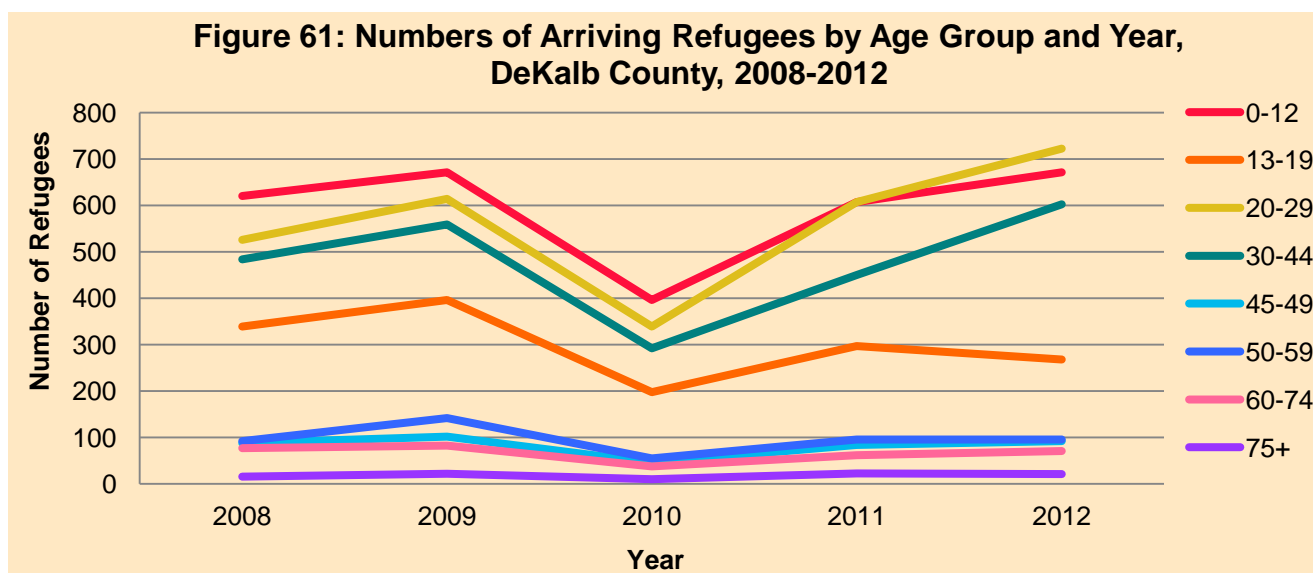
A refugee, as defined by the Refugee Act of 1980, is a person who is outside of and unable or unwilling to avail himself/herself of the protection of their home country because of persecution or fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion. From 2008 through 2012, the United States admitted between 56,000 and 74,000 refugees per year (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2012).

DeKalb County has the largest resettlement of refugees in Georgia. From 2008 through 2012, 12,164 refugees arrived in DeKalb County, in comparison to 441 refugees in Fulton County and 568 refugees in Gwinnett County.

From 2008 through 2012, the DeKalb County Board of Health's Refugee Services screened people from four regions and at least 75 countries of origin. Most arriving refugees were in the 0 to 12 age group, with the exception of 2012. Fifty-three percent of arriving refugees were males while 47 percent were females (see Figures 60 and 61).



Source: Refugee Health Program, Georgia Department of Public Health, 2014.



Source: Refugee Health Program, Georgia Department of Public Health, 2014.

HEALTH SERVICES

Of the new arrivals from 2008 through 2012, 10,974 refugees (90 percent) received health screenings at the Board of Health. Screening is strongly encouraged but not required by law. For those refugees who are seen, Georgia law mandates that they are screened for the following:

- Anemia
- Blood lead level
- Dental issues
- Diabetes
- Disability
- Hearing issues
- Hepatitis B
- Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)
- Hypertension
- Immunization status
- Malnutrition
- Mental health issues
- Parasite ova (eggs)
- Parasites
- Pregnancy
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Tuberculosis
- Visual acuity

In addition to screening new arrivals, the Board of Health, Southeast Permanente Medical Group and Kaiser Permanente cosponsor a pediatric refugee primary care clinic. The clinic provides a full range of primary care services, including x-rays, laboratory testing and referrals to specialists. The pediatric clinic treats patients 19 and younger. Walk-ins and appointments are both welcomed. Transportation is available for those covered by Medicaid.

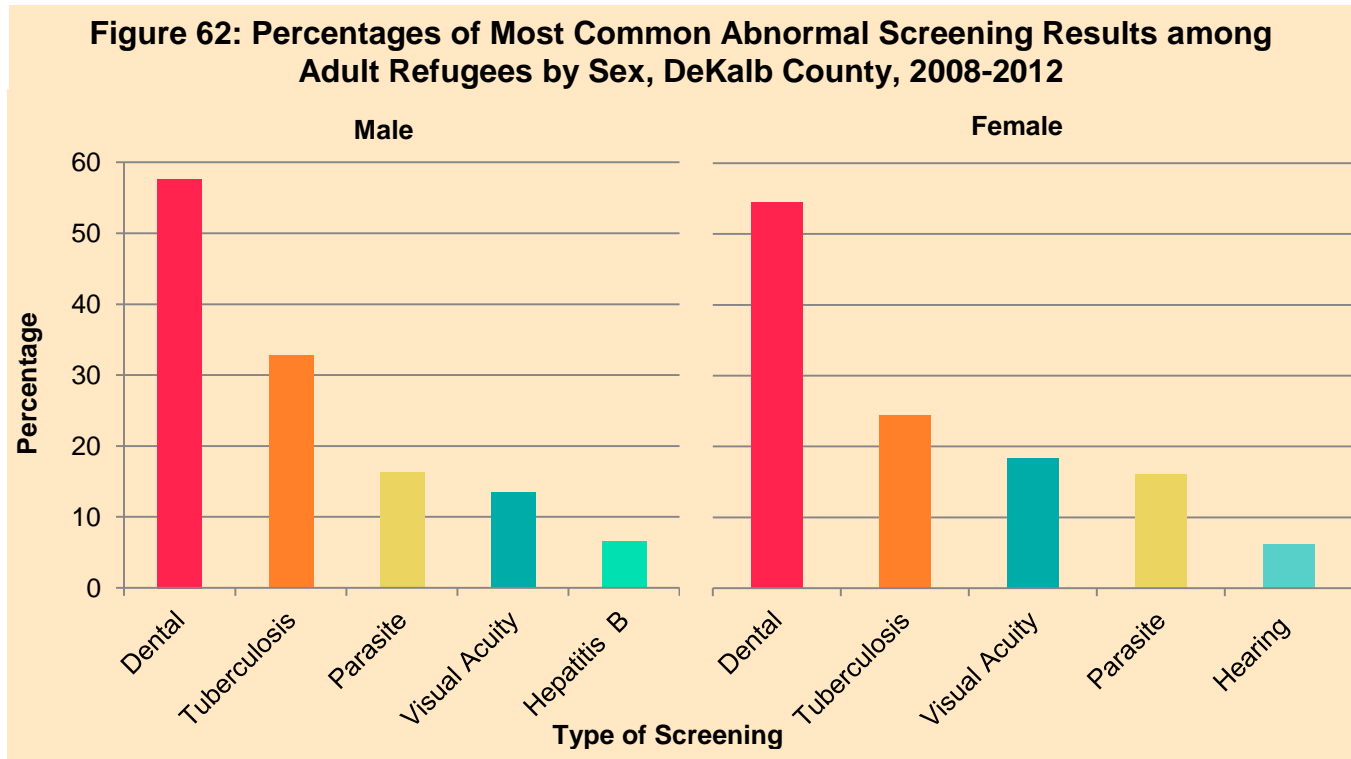
HEALTH ISSUES

Table 28 shows the screening results among DeKalb County refugees from 2008 through 2012.

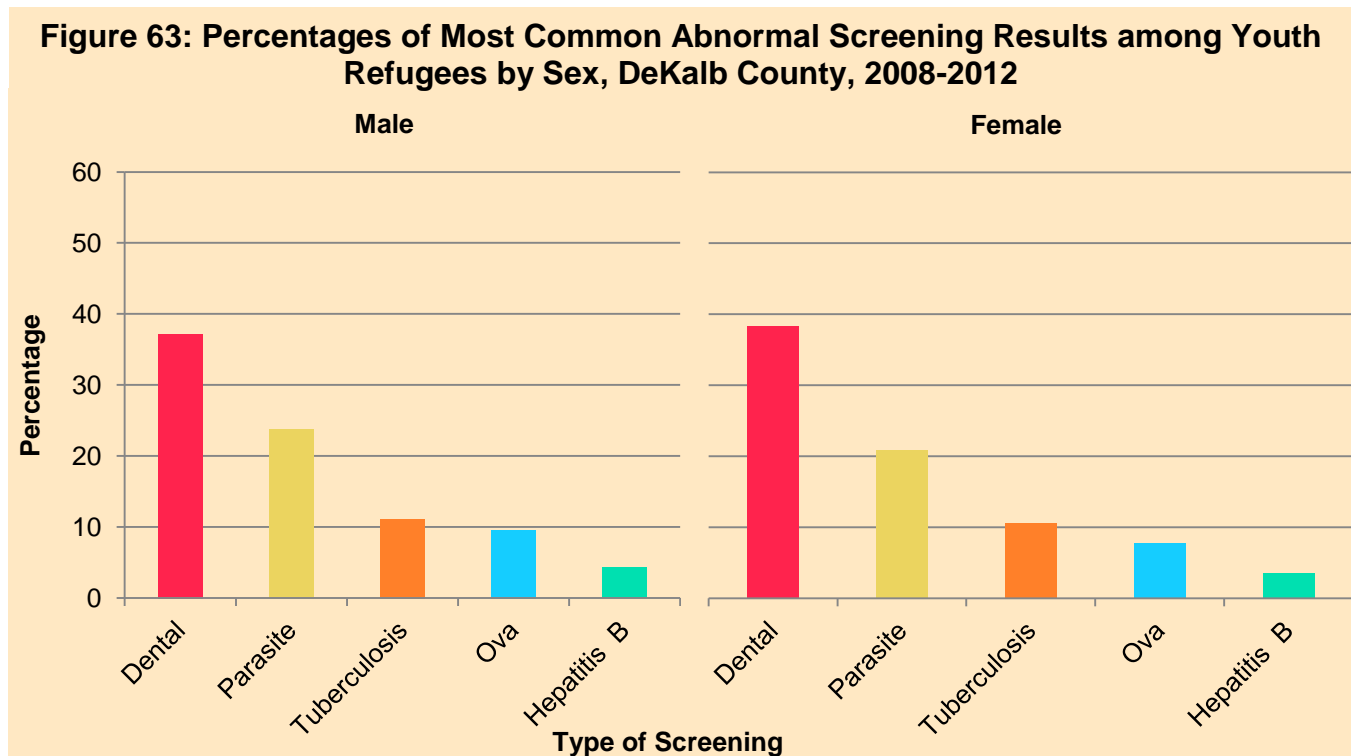
Type of Test	Percentage of abnormal results	Percentage of normal results	Percentage not tested
Anemia	0.6	97.8	1.5
Dental issues	48.7	46.5	4.8
Diabetes	1.4	97.0	1.6
Hearing	3.9	90.0	6.1
Hepatitis B	5.0	83.2	11.8
Hypertension	3.2	91.8	5.0
Malnutrition	0.1	98.3	1.6
Parasite ova	5.6	87.0	7.5
Parasites	18.7	75.1	6.2
Sexually transmitted disease (syphilis)	0.7	74.7	24.6
Tuberculosis	21.6	70.5	7.9
Visual acuity	10.3	83.6	6.1

Source: Refugee Health Program, Georgia Department of Public Health, 2014.

Figures 62 and 63 analyze the top five screening results among DeKalb County refugees for adults and youth by sex. The figures indicate the most common abnormal screening results.



Source: Refugee Health Program, Georgia Department of Public Health, 2014.



Source: Refugee Health Program, Georgia Department of Public Health, 2014.



What can you do?

- Increase your knowledge of those from other countries.
- Accept cross-cultural differences.
- Develop cross-cultural skills.
- Be empathetic and sensitive to the losses experienced by refugees:
 - Friends and relatives.
 - Professional and/or social status.
 - Language, music, foods and dress.
 - Weather, vegetation and landscape.
 - Personal support.
 - Economic security.
 - Possessions and housing.
 - Health, including emotional health.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT REFUGEE HEALTH

DeKalb County	Metropolitan Atlanta	Georgia and Beyond
<p>Center for Pan Asian Community Services 770.936.0969 http://www.cpacs.org</p>	<p>International Rescue Committee 404.292.7731 http://www.rescue.org/us-program/us-atlanta-ga</p>	<p>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 1.800.232.4636 http://www.cdc.gov/immigrantrefugeehealth</p>
<p>Culture Connect 404.292.8457 http://www.cultureconnectinc.org</p>	<p>New American Pathways 404.299.6099 http://newamericanpathways.org</p>	<p>Coalition of Refugee Service Agencies 404.622.2235 https://www.facebook.com/CoalitionOfRefugeeServiceAgencies</p>
<p>DeKalb Community Service Board 404.892.4646 or 404.377.9224 (hearing impaired) http://dekcsb.org</p>	<p>World Relief Atlanta 404.294.4352 http://worldreliefatlanta.org</p>	<p>Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Family and Children Services, Refugee Resettlement Program 404.657.5118 https://dfcs.dhs.georgia.gov/refugee-resettlement-program-overview</p>
<p>DeKalb County Board of Health, Refugee Services 404.294.3818 http://www.dekalbhealth.net/hs/refugee-health</p>		<p>Georgia Department of Public Health, Refugee Health Program 404.657.2700 http://dph.georgia.gov/refugee-health-program</p>
<p>DeKalb County Department of Family and Children Services 404.370.5000 http://www.co.dekalb.ga.us/dfcs/refugees.htm</p>		<p>Georgia Refugee Coalition http://garefugees.wordpress.com</p>
<p>Refugee Organizing in Action Collaborative 404.299.6214 http://www.roanetwork.org</p>		<p>Health Reach 1.888.FINDNLM (toll free) or 301.496.1131 http://healthreach.nlm.nih.gov</p>