

Annual Report on Intercountry Adoption

REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
UNITED STATES CENTRAL AUTHORITY UNDER
THE HAGUE CONVENTION ON PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND CO-
OPERATION
IN RESPECT OF INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION

JULY 2023

SUBMITTED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PURSUANT TO
SECTION 104 OF THE INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION ACT OF 2000



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Reader,

As this report illustrates, the Department is committed to maintaining intercountry adoption as a viable option for children when it is in their best interests. The Department engaged actively both bilaterally and multilaterally in the reporting period to promote ethical and transparent intercountry adoptions. These efforts ranged from high-level meetings to discuss adoption legislation and programs to working-level trainings that supported foreign governments' day-to-day operations. The U.S. delegation to the Special Commission meeting on the 1993 Hague Adoption Convention advocated proudly for the strength of our regulatory framework and the critical role that U.S. adoption service providers (ASPs) play in facilitating intercountry adoptions in the best interests of children.

Events continuously remind us of the challenges we face protecting vulnerable children in need of permanency through intercountry adoption. Russia's unprovoked, full-scale invasion of Ukraine jeopardized the safety of thousands of children, including orphans, in Ukrainian government care. The United States condemned Russia's forced mass deportation of Ukrainian children to Russia to be "adopted" by Russian families as a grave breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention on the protection of civilians and a war crime. The People's Republic of China (PRC) continued its suspension of intercountry adoption processing during the reporting period with hundreds of cases remaining in hiatus.

Here at home, the Department welcomed the Center for Excellence in Adoption Services (CEAS) as an accrediting entity (AE). Having more than one organization perform this critical role promotes stability and oversight of the U.S. intercountry adoption system. CEAS worked collaboratively with our other AE, the Intercountry Adoption Accreditation and Maintenance Entity (IAAME), to assign ASPs to one of the accrediting entity's jurisdictions based on geographic location. The Department also continued active

outreach to families, ASPs, Congressional offices, and adoption organizations to build and strengthen these important relationships.

As you read this annual report, I hope you will come away with a sense of the dedicated commitment of those in the Department who work on intercountry adoption issues. I am proud of the work they do, each and every day, to help children in need of loving, permanent homes.

Antony J. Blinken
Secretary of State

FY 2022 Intercountry Adoption Annual Report Narrative Annual Report on Intercountry Adoption

The U.S. Department of State (the Department) serves as the U.S. Central Authority (USCA) under the 1993 Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption (Convention). The Department submits this annual report to Congress, as required by Section 104 of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (IAA), to provide data on intercountry adoption to and from the United States and highlight our continuing efforts to establish or maintain intercountry adoption as a viable option for children in need of permanency around the world. The reporting period for this annual report is the fiscal year (FY) from October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022.

FY 2022 Overview

The Department is committed to ensuring that intercountry adoption to and from the United States is a viable option for children in need of permanency around the world when adoption is in their best interest and domestic solutions have been given due consideration. The Office of Children's Issues' (CI) adoption team and consular officers overseas work to enhance the viability of intercountry adoption and to ensure safeguards are in place to support safe, legal, ethical, and transparent intercountry adoptions. This work is conducted through a variety of means, including policymaking, outreach to the public, engagement with foreign and U.S. stakeholders, and oversight of adoption service provider (ASP) accreditation and approval.

United with Ukraine

Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 impacted one of the top countries of origin for adoptions to the United States (third globally in FY 2021).

In Advance of the Crisis

Prior to the invasion, the Department prepared for the impending crisis. In late 2021, CI and U.S. Embassy Kyiv collaborated with ASPs to identify in-process adoption cases and helped prospective adoptive parents (PAPs) depart Ukraine quickly. The Department worked with the Ukrainian government to expedite the adoption process, including waiving wait times for final adoption orders, conducting virtual court hearings, and expediting passport issuance. The Department also worked with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to share information and ensure petitions were processed as quickly as possible.

Immediate Aftermath

In the first months following the invasion, the Department hosted more than 10 town halls and calls with PAPs and ASPs, participated in multiple Congressional briefings, responded to Congressional inquiries and hundreds of emails from PAPs and the general public, and disseminated a dozen alerts and notices to ASPs and the public.

In March 2022, the Ukrainian government publicly stated intercountry adoption was not possible under current conditions. This position aligned with international best practices and similar statements by UNICEF, the UN High Commission for Refugees, the Hague Conference on Private International Law, and other international organizations. The Department's Special Advisor for Children's Issues' statement also affirmed U.S. support for Ukraine and the Department's prioritization of intercountry adoption issues during the crisis.

In some cases, Ukrainian courts had issued final approvals of adoptions by U.S. families before Russia's full-scale invasion. The Department worked closely with ASPs and the families involved in those cases to facilitate the departure of those children with final adoption decrees and the issuance of immigrant visas. CI worked closely with the Ukrainian government, which

allowed cases that had received official referrals to proceed when courts reopened.

Summer 2022

The Department continued to engage the Ukrainian government on intercountry adoption and communicate with adoption stakeholders throughout the remainder of the reporting period. CI hosted multiple calls with ASPs, PAPs, and Congressional offices to provide updates and discuss case-specific concerns. In August, the Department's Special Advisor for Children's Issues and CI's Bilateral Engagement Division Chief participated in an on-the-record call with National Public Radio (NPR) to discuss the status of intercountry adoptions from Ukraine.

Designation of a Second National-Level Accrediting Entity

Section 202(a) of the IAA authorizes the Department to designate qualified non-profit or public entities to accredit, approve, monitor, and oversee adoption service providers in the United States. In June 2022, the Department designated the Center for Excellence in Adoption Services (CEAS) to serve as an accrediting entity (AE) alongside the Intercountry Adoption Accreditation and Maintenance Entity, Inc. (IAAME), which has served as the sole AE since April 2018.

The Department assigned jurisdiction of designated AEs consistent with 22 CFR 96.4(b), based on the location of the primary office of the ASP. The Department identified geographic jurisdictions, based on existing federal regions, for each AE. We strove to provide an equitable distribution of workloads for the accreditation, approval, monitoring, and oversight of ASPs.

CEAS's designation achieves the Department's long-standing goal to have two national-level AEs to strengthen the viability of intercountry adoption in the United States. Having two AEs eliminates a significant vulnerability in our accreditation and approval system since the beginning – the risk of

disruption to intercountry adoption if one AE loses or relinquishes its designation.

From the beginning of the designation process, the Department has observed CEAS and IAAME to be highly collaborative, communicative, and fully committed to intercountry adoptions. The Department expects this cooperative relationship to continue, to the mutual benefit of ASPs, adoptive families, and children.

Multilateralism

Fifth Special Commission for the Adoption Convention

In July, the Special Advisor for Children's Issues led the U.S. delegation at the fifth Special Commission for the Adoption Convention. The Special Commission is held approximately every five years and provides an opportunity for Convention countries and the Hague Permanent Bureau to review Convention operations and identify areas of focus. The 2022 Special Commission primarily focused on illicit practices and post-adoption services. Nearly 400 people participated in the Special Commission, including 73 member states, observers from non-governmental organizations, and adult adoptees.

During the Special Commission, the Department highlighted the strength of our legal and regulatory framework and our approach to addressing illicit practices in intercountry adoption. The Special Commission concluded with member states reaching consensus on 54 conclusions and recommendations, including a Toolkit on Preventing and Addressing Illicit Practices in Intercountry Adoption. The Department's views were reflected in the [Conclusions and Recommendations](#) and set the stage for continued conversation with many countries.

Multilateral Coordination

The Department participated in a variety of multilateral meetings. This included two meetings with a group of anglophone receiving countries, and two meetings with a group of mostly European receiving countries. The meetings with fellow central authorities provided opportunities to share information about intercountry adoption processing in third countries and to seek to identify shared solutions to common challenges. CI also met several times with the Hague Permanent Bureau's Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC) to discuss outreach strategies, country-specific issues, and training opportunities.

Regional Roundup

The following updates are highlights from the Department's government-to-government engagement in the reporting period to promote intercountry adoption and fulfill our role as the U.S. Central Authority for the Hague Adoption Convention. This is not an exhaustive list; the goal is to provide examples of the type of work the Department does with foreign governments.

Africa

The Department met with the Central Authority for Adoption in **Cote d'Ivoire** (ACACI) in May to establish a relationship and clarify the authorization process for ASPs. ACACI was designated as the Ivoirian authority for the Convention in late 2021, and ACAI announced it was accepting applications from ASPs to work in country in 2022. ACACI did not finalize the ASP authorization process in the reporting period.

East Asia and Pacific

In August, the Department's Deputy Assistant Secretaries for Overseas Citizens Services and Visa Services requested the resumption of intercountry adoptions from the **People's Republic of China** (PRC) in a meeting with the

Deputy Chief of Mission at the PRC Embassy in Washington, D.C. The PRC government maintained its COVID-related suspension on intercountry adoption processing throughout the reporting period.

Europe and Eurasia

The CI Director and staff traveled to **Armenia** in November. In Yerevan, CI met with the Armenian Central Authority and confirmed their commitment to making intercountry adoption processing in Armenia fully compliant with the Convention. New intercountry adoption legislation was pending at the end of the reporting period.

In collaboration with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), CI met with the Central Authority of the **Netherlands** to respond to its inquiries regarding outgoing intercountry adoptions from the United States. The Department and HHS explained the U.S. child welfare and foster care systems, U.S. regulations, and relevant state laws.

Following an inquiry about adopting in **Portugal**, where no U.S. ASPs had been authorized for several years, CI engaged the Portuguese Central Authority to understand the ASP authorization process in Portugal. CI released an adoption notice in March outlining the procedures. Subsequently, Portugal authorized two U.S. ASPs, which may lead to the first intercountry adoption of Portuguese children by U.S. families in many years.

In June, the Department hosted a delegation of adoption authorities from **Switzerland** following their legalization of same-sex marriage and adoption by same-sex couples in 2022. CI explained the process for outgoing intercountry adoptions from the United States to other countries.

Western Hemisphere

CI hosted regular calls with the Central Authority of **Colombia** to maintain transparent communications with one of the top countries of origin for intercountry adoptions to the United States.

In August, the Special Advisor for Children's Issues met virtually with the Central Authority of **Costa Rica** to explain the U.S. child welfare system and the U.S. system in cases of disruption or dissolution.

In November, CI raised intercountry adoption with the Government of **Cuba** to establish bilateral communications between the two Central Authorities.

The Special Advisor for Children's Issues traveled to **Ecuador** in May to engage with members of Ecuador's Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion. The Special Advisor met with U.S.-based ASPs in Quito to hear their insight into intercountry adoption processing in Ecuador.

Domestic crises shut down government operations in **Haiti** during the reporting period. CI coordinated with USCIS, the Department's Visa Office, and U.S. Embassy Port-au-Prince to identify bottlenecks, advocate with Haitian authorities for resolution, and intervene when applicable and within the confines of U.S. regulations.

In August, the Department met virtually with the Central Authority of **Honduras** to clarify requirements for U.S. citizens residing in Honduras seeking to adopt Honduran children through the Convention process.

The Department hosted a meeting with **Jamaica's** adoption authority and USCIS to share information on U.S. and Jamaican intercountry adoption laws and procedures. The engagement improved coordination and communication between Jamaican and U.S. adoption authorities.

Outreach

The Department initiated targeted outreach with a wide range of stakeholders throughout the reporting period to build relationships with practitioners and gain insight into their expectations, priorities, and experiences in the intercountry adoption process.

In November, CI organized a program of events and publications in recognition of **National Adoption Month**. Events included a briefing for congressional staffers, a town hall with adult intercountry adoptees, and a question-and-answer session with prospective adoptive parents. CI also released a statement recognizing National Adoption Month and amplified intercountry adoption issues on the Department's social media platforms.

In January and June, the Department participated in briefings for Congressional staff organized by the **Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute**, providing updates and answering questions on a variety of intercountry adoption issues.

In July, the Special Advisor for Children's Issues traveled to Indianapolis to attend the **National Council for Adoption's** annual conference. The Special Advisor met with adoption stakeholders and presented on the Department's work to promote intercountry adoption. In September, the Bilateral Engagement Division Chief traveled to Nashville to speak at the mid-year conference of the **Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys (AAAA)**.

To assist ASPs, CI released more than 30 adoption notices throughout the reporting period outlining foreign authorization requirements in various countries.

The Department hosted calls with **adoption service providers and prospective adoptive parents** throughout the reporting period to build relationships, share information about foreign adoption requirements, and respond to inquiries.

- In December, CI convened a call with ASPs to discuss the Department's efforts to designate a second AE. That discussion was followed by occasional notices disseminated by email to provide continued updates until CEAS's designation on June 2, 2022, and continued work towards CEAS's readiness to become operational as an AE.

- The Department hosted **PRC**-focused calls in January and September. On the January call, CI and USCIS provided updates to PAPs and ASPs on the ongoing suspension of adoptions from the PRC. In September, CI, USCIS, and U.S. Consulate General Guangzhou spoke to nearly 300 PAPs and ASPs, answering questions, listening to concerns, and providing updates on U.S. efforts to work with the PRC to resume intercountry adoptions.
- In August, CI convened a call for ASPs working in **Mexico** to share updates regarding U.S. efforts to mitigate delays in the Mexican intercountry adoption process and hear questions and perspectives from ASPs working in Mexico. U.S. Embassy Mexico City and U.S. Consulate General Ciudad Juarez shared perspectives from the field.
- In September, CI conducted the first in a series of meetings with the National Council for Adoption and ASPs working in **Haiti** to address the impact of the crisis in Haiti. CI provided situational updates and advised on U.S. interventions, advocacy, and communication on behalf of U.S. adoptive families in Haiti.

Intercountry Adoption Information Act of 2019 (IAIA) Reporting for FY 2022

As required by the Intercountry Adoption Information Act of 2019 (IAIA), the Department provides the following information on intercountry adoption to the United States, and the Department's efforts to encourage the resumption of adoptions where prohibited. The **Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Russia, and Latvia** have established or maintained a significant law or regulation preventing or prohibiting adoptions involving immigration to the United States (see Table 8). The Department continued to engage foreign authorities in several of these countries to encourage resumed intercountry adoptions.

The Ministry of Justice of the **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)** updated Law No. °87-010 of the Family Code on July 15, 2016. These updates suspended adoptions pending the creation of a public agency to oversee the process, effectively ending adoptions in the DRC. To date, no

such body has been established. The country also maintains a 2013 ban on exit permits for adopted children.

In 2018, the Parliament of **Ethiopia** passed an amendment to the Revised Family Code that removes all references to adoption of Ethiopian children by foreigners, effectively suspending intercountry adoption. CI engaged the Ministry of Women and Social Affairs (MOWSA) and the Federal First Instance Court (FFIC) to investigate the results of a 2020 Ethiopian Federal Supreme Court decision which may allow foreign citizens of Ethiopian origin to adopt. Throughout these conversations, the Government of Ethiopia indicated there are no current plans to reopen intercountry adoptions for PAPs who are not of Ethiopian origin.

The Latvian Parliament signed new amendments to the Law on the Protection of Children's Rights in 2021. Under this law, intercountry adoptions from **Latvia** are only permitted to countries that have ratified both the Hague Adoption Convention and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and have a bilateral agreement with Latvia establishing a legal framework for adoption. President Clinton signed the CRC in 1995, but the United States has not ratified it. The Government of Latvia officially closed adoptions to the United States on July 1, 2022.

The Government of **Kenya** notified the Department of a moratorium on intercountry adoptions in 2014. The Department has since confirmed, through Kenya's Department of Children's Services, that there is no longer a designated Central Authority to issue Article 23 certificates under the Convention.

Russia's Federal Law No. 272-FZ went into effect in 2013, effectively banning intercountry adoption of Russian children by U.S. citizens. There was no significant engagement between the Department and **Russia** on adoption matters in FY 2022.

Most countries have limitations on intercountry adoption that restrict the categories of prospective adoptive parents who can seek to adopt from the

country (for example, based on age, religion, or dual nationality). Few prohibit all adoptions to the United States. Other countries do not routinely process adoptions to the United States, though such adoptions may be possible. Some countries do not recognize the legal concept of adoption as forming a permanent parent-child relationship. Information on such limitations is available on the Department's [Country Information webpages](#).

Countries prohibit or limit intercountry adoptions for various reasons, but they often involve a determination to place children with families within their country of origin, or in response to tragic cases involving adoptees to the United States. The Department encourages the resumption of intercountry adoption with these countries by explaining the safeguards within the U.S. intercountry adoption and child welfare systems. Maintaining robust oversight of adoption service providers and the accrediting entities bolsters foreign government confidence in the U.S. system.

The Department prioritizes the processing of visa cases of intercountry adoptees eligible to immigrate to the United States under U.S. immigration law. Prior to the reporting period, the Department concluded systemic fraud in some countries prevented the proper adjudication of immigrant petitions and visas based on an intercountry adoption. This suspension remains in place for **Nepal**. Additionally, in FY 2021, the Government of the **Netherlands** suspended intercountry adoptions to conduct a global investigation and review into concerns of possible illicit practices from 1967-1998.

IAA §104(b) Report Elements:

- **§104(b)(1):** Tables 1 and 2 report the number of intercountry adoptions in FY 2022 involving immigration to the United States, regardless of whether or not the adoption occurred under the Hague Adoption Convention.
- **§104(b)(2):** Table 3 reports the number of intercountry adoptions in FY 2022 involving emigration from the United States, regardless of whether or not the adoption occurred under the Hague Adoption Convention.
- **§104(b)(3):** In FY 2022 adoption service providers (ASPs) reported five disrupted placements for Convention adoptions, i.e., cases in which there was an interruption of a placement for adoption during the post-placement (but pre-adoption) period. Table 6 summarizes this information.

In addition, table 7 summarizes information the Department of Health and Human Services submitted pursuant to §422(b)(12) of the Social Security Act regarding disruptions and dissolutions involving children who were adopted through the intercountry process and subsequently entered state custody. Each state provided this information to HHS about Child and Family Services Plan goals and objectives through the Annual Progress and Services Report (APSR). Table 7 provides an overview of the information each state reported to the number of disruptions and dissolutions, the time period, and reporting capabilities.

- **§104(b)(4):** Table 4 reports the average time required for completion of a Convention adoption. The time is calculated from the day USCIS received the Form I-800A application to the day the child received an immigrant visa to travel to the United States. The average completion time includes the amount of time taken by a foreign country to approve the eligibility of a prospective adoptive parent(s).
- **§104(b)(5):** The current list of agencies accredited and persons approved is available on the Department's intercountry adoption website at http://adoption.state.gov/hague_convention/agency_accreditation/agency_search.php. This list is updated regularly to reflect changes to the

accreditation of agencies and approval of persons. Table 9 lists the accredited agencies and approved persons on September 30, 2022.

- **§104(b)(6):** The Secretary did not temporarily or permanently debar an agency or person in FY 2022.
- **§104(b)(7):** ASPs reported charging between \$13,450 and \$61,988 for adoption services from Convention countries, with half charging less than \$38,435 and half charging more. Table 5 reports the median fees for adoption services from Convention countries. This chart shows significant increases in the median fees by country. These increases are because the Department expanded the fee categories from country-specific services (foreign program expenses, contributions, care of child expenses, and travel/accommodations) to all adoption services. In addition to country-specific services, the fee categories reported in table 5 include home study expenses, adoption expenses in the United States, translation and documentation expenses, post-placement and post-adoption reports, and third-party fees for the Convention countries reflected in Table 1. ASPs reported charging between \$3,900 and \$35,300 for country-specific services.
- **§104(b)(8):** Annual fees for accreditation of agencies and approval of persons ranged from \$2,200 to \$5,200 in FY 2022. In FY 2022, the accrediting entity was the Intercountry Adoption Accreditation and Maintenance Entity's (IAAME). IAAME's fee schedule is based on tiered fees according to the average number of adoptions for which the agency served as a primary provider. The fee schedule also includes a per-case monitoring and oversight fee for each adoption case. In FY 2022, the monitoring and oversight fees for primary providers ranged from \$500 to \$96,000. IAAME's fees are found at the following link:
<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/News/Intercountry-Adoption-News/adoption-notice--iaame-fee-schedule--explanation--and-faq.html>
- **§104(b)(9-10):** Table 8 lists countries that established or maintained in FY 2022 a significant law or regulation that prevents or prohibits all adoptions involving immigration to the United States and the

implementation date of such law or regulation.

§104(b)(11):

Note: A more detailed description regarding the status of intercountry adoptions from Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Latvia, and Russia is provided in the IAIA reporting section above.

- For the Democratic Republic of the Congo, there was no significant engagement between the Department and the Democratic Republic of the Congo on adoption matters in FY 2022.

For the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the Department held bilateral conversations with counterparts in the Government of Ethiopia to inquire about the implications of a 2020 Ethiopian Federal Supreme Court decision which may allow foreign citizens of Ethiopian origin to adopt.

For the Republic of Kenya, there was no significant engagement between the Department and the Republic of Kenya on adoption matters in FY 2022.

For Latvia, the Department urged Latvia to reconsider the new requirements prior to their passage, including sending a letter to Latvia's Foreign Minister. The Department also met with Latvia's Welfare Minister during the reporting period.

For Russia, there was no significant engagement between the Department and Russia on adoption matters in FY 2022.

- **§104(b)(12):** In FY 2022, the Department did not carry out any action that prevented, prohibited, or halted any adoptions involving immigration to the United States.
- **§104(b)(13):** Not applicable because, in FY 2022, the Department did not carry out any action that prevented, prohibited, or halted any adoptions involving immigration to the United States.

§104(b)(14): The impact of IAAME's fees on a family varies depending on the extent to which the ASP directly passes the costs on to their clients

and the number of adoptions facilitated per year. The Department estimates the total impact of IAAME's fees per adoptive family is between \$568 and \$1129 for each adoption. In FY 2022, ASPs reported charging between \$13,450 and \$61,988 for adoption services from Convention countries, with half charging less than \$38,435 and half charging more. Table 5 reports the median fees for all adoption services reported by ASPs for the Convention countries reflected in Table 1. Based on this data reported by ASPs and the Department's estimated range of IAAME's fees on the cost of an adoption, IAAME's fees represent between 1.5%-2.9% of the median cost of adoption services from Convention countries. The Department does not have data related to the specific impact of IAAME's fee schedule for low-income families, families seeking to adopt sibling groups, or families seeking to adopt children with disabilities.

Table 1: Incoming Adoptions by Country of Origin			
Country or Territory of Origin	Adoptions Finalized Abroad	Adoptions to be Finalized in the U.S.	Total Adoptions
Albania	2	0	2
*Algeria	1	0	1
Armenia	4	0	4
*Bangladesh	0	10	10
Belarus	1	0	1
Belize	0	4	4
Brazil	21	0	21
Bulgaria	84	0	84
Burkina Faso	1	0	1
Burundi	26	0	26
*Cameroon	22	0	22
Canada	0	3	3
*Central African Republic	1	0	1
Colombia	235	0	235
Congo, Republic of	4	0	4
Costa Rica	13	0	13
*Djibouti	3	0	3
*Dominica	1	0	1
Dominican Republic	8	0	8
Ecuador	4	0	4
*Egypt	0	3	3
El Salvador	1	0	1
*Gambia	2	0	2
Georgia	1	0	1
Ghana	18	0	18

Country or Territory of Origin	Adoptions Finalized Abroad	Adoptions to be Finalized in the U.S.	Total Adoptions
*Grenada	1	0	1
Guinea	1	0	1
Haiti	79	0	79
Honduras	9	0	9
Hong Kong S.A.R.	0	13	13
Hungary	18	0	18
India	223	0	223
*Iran	0	3	3
*Jamaica	8	19	27
Kyrgyzstan	6	0	6
Latvia	12	0	12
Lesotho	5	0	5
*Liberia	41	0	41
Madagascar	1	0	1
*Malawi	14	0	14
*Malaysia	1	0	1
Mexico	9	0	9
*Morocco	0	20	20
Niger	1	0	1
*Nigeria	44	0	44
*Pakistan	0	23	23
Peru	3	0	3
Philippines	0	67	67
Poland	3	0	3
*ROK	141	0	141
*Samoa	1	0	1
Serbia	5	0	5
*Sierra Leone	15	0	15

Country or Territory of Origin	Adoptions Finalized Abroad	Adoptions to be Finalized in the U.S.	Total Adoptions
*Somalia	4	0	4
South Africa	16	0	16
Sri Lanka	1	0	1
*St. Vincent & the Grenadines	4	2	6
*Taiwan	68	0	68
Thailand	2	47	49
Togo	2	0	2
*Uganda	9	0	9
*Ukraine	70	12	82
United Kingdom	3	0	3
Vietnam	18	0	18
Total	1,291	226	1,517

*Country not party to the Convention

Table 2: Incoming Adoptions by State			
State	Adoptions Finalized Abroad	Adoptions to be Finalized in the United States	Total Adoptions
Alabama	39	2	41
Arizona	10	3	13
Arkansas	7	1	8
California	104	30	134
Colorado	27	4	31
Connecticut	5	3	8
Delaware	3	0	3
District of Columbia	6	0	6
Florida	53	4	57
Georgia	49	5	54
Hawaii	2	1	3
Idaho	8	2	10
Illinois	48	8	56
Indiana	54	8	62
Iowa	15	10	25
Kansas	23	1	24
Kentucky	19	1	20
Louisiana	9	2	11
Maine	8	1	9
Maryland	38	5	43
Massachusetts	27	4	31
Michigan	29	4	33
Minnesota	37	4	41
Mississippi	13	3	16
Missouri	27	2	29
Montana	4	3	7

State	Adoptions Finalized Abroad	Adoptions to be Finalized in the United States	Total Adoptions
Nebraska	16	1	17
Nevada	5	4	9
New Hampshire	14	0	14
New Jersey	31	8	39
New Mexico	8	0	8
New York	61	18	79
North Carolina	40	12	52
Ohio	53	6	59
Oklahoma	12	2	14
Oregon	15	6	21
Pennsylvania	47	12	59
Rhode Island	1	0	1
South Carolina	19	4	23
South Dakota	3	1	4
Tennessee	47	1	48
Texas	101	13	114
Utah	19	0	19
Vermont	1	0	1
Virgin Islands	1	0	1
Virginia	48	16	64
Washington	42	8	50
West Virginia	4	0	4
Wisconsin	28	3	31
Wyoming	11	0	11
Total	1,291	226	1,517

Table 3: Outgoing (Emigrating) Adoptions		
Receiving Country	U.S. State from which the Child Emigrated	Number of Outgoing Adoption Cases
Canada	California	1
	Florida	2
	Indiana	2
	Michigan	3
	North Carolina	1
	South Carolina	1
	Washington	1
Ireland	New Jersey	2
Netherlands	California	1
	Florida	1
	New Jersey	5
	New York	2
	Ohio	1
New Zealand	Oregon	1
Switzerland	Florida	1
Total		25

Table 4: Convention Adoptions and Average Number of Days to Completion by Convention Country

Convention Country	Number of Convention Cases	Average Days to Completion
Albania	2	573
Armenia	4	480
Belarus	1	582
Belize	4	916
Brazil	21	532
Bulgaria	84	521
Burkina Faso	1	1,436
Burundi	26	1,107
Canada	3	406
Colombia	235	442
Costa Rica	13	557
Dominican Republic	8	424
Ecuador	4	719
El Salvador	1	1,012
Georgia	1	584
Ghana	18	912
Guinea	1	447
Haiti	77	1,099
Honduras	3	446
Hong Kong S.A.R.	13	598
Hungary	18	323
India	223	705
Kyrgyzstan	6	346
Latvia	12	723
Lesotho	5	528

Convention Country	Number of Convention Cases	Average Days to Completion
Madagascar	1	981
Mexico	9	832
Peru	3	641
Philippines	66	775
Poland	3	298
Serbia	5	540
South Africa	16	607
Sri Lanka	1	426
Thailand	49	801
Togo	2	381
United Kingdom	3	1,192
Vietnam	18	653

Table 5: Median ASP Convention Adoption Fees

Convention Country of Origin	Median Fees
Albania	\$50,215
Armenia	\$51,641
Belarus	\$27,800
Belize	\$37,861
Brazil	\$43,925
Bulgaria	\$37,875
Burkina Faso	\$46,334
Burundi	\$47,482
Canada	\$19,064
Colombia	\$41,432
Congo, Republic of	\$35,896
Costa Rica	\$48,030
Dominican Republic	\$44,728

Convention Country of Origin	Median Fees
Ecuador	\$43,618
El Salvador	\$36,729
Georgia	\$37,921
Ghana	\$31,737
Guinea	\$37,230
Haiti	\$48,279
Honduras	\$39,271
Hong Kong S.A.R.	\$28,482
Hungary	\$43,798
India	\$36,122
Kyrgyzstan	\$47,558
Latvia	\$39,846
Lesotho	\$36,320
Madagascar	\$41,470
Mexico	\$38,435
Niger	\$13,450
Peru	\$42,465
Philippines	\$33,075
Poland	\$43,959
Serbia	\$36,771
South Africa	\$41,636
Sri Lanka	\$25,937
Thailand	\$30,383
Togo	\$29,050
United Kingdom	\$31,808
Vietnam	\$44,880

Table 6: The Number of Convention Placements for Adoption in the United States that were Disrupted

Country from which the Child Emigrated	The Age of the Child at Placement	The Date of Placement for Adoption	The Reasons for the Disruption	The Resolution of the Disruption	The Agency that Handled the Placement	Plans for the Child
Colombia	11	4/7/2022	PAP unable to meet child's needs.	The child remained in Colombia.	Children's House International	Child is in the care of Colombian adoption authorities, who will make an appropriate permanency plan based on the child's best interests.
Colombia	11	4/12/2022	One of three siblings did not consent to the adoption. Determination was made in the best interest of the three siblings to remain in Colombia.	The siblings remained in Colombia.	Lifeline Children's Services, Inc.	Children are in the care of Colombian adoption authorities, who will make an appropriate permanency plan based on the children's best interests.
Philippines	13	6/25/2019	PAP unable to meet child's needs.	The child was placed with another prospective adoptive family in the United States.	Hand In Hand, Inc.	Child placed in the United States.
Thailand	7	1/13/2022	PAP unable to meet child's needs.	The child remained in Thailand.	Holt International Children's Services, Inc.	Child is in the care of Thai adoption authorities, who will make an appropriate permanency plan based on the child's best interests.
Thailand	9	6/16/2021	PAP unable to meet child's needs.	The child returned to Thailand, in accordance with 96.50(e)(2).	Holt International Children's Services, Inc.	Child returned to physical custody of prior caregivers and is receiving appropriate services in her best interests.

Table 7: State-Reported Data for Children who Entered Foster Care after Intercountry Adoption

State data for FY 2022 is not yet available; the information presented represents the most current data available from each state or jurisdiction, based on reports submitted to HHS on June 30, 2022.

State	Number of Children Adopted through the Intercountry Process Who Entered Foster Care in FY 2022	Additional Information
Alabama	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 1 case in FY 2020.
Alaska	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
Arizona	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 1 case for FY 2021.
Arkansas	The state reports 1 case but did not specify the timeframe.	No additional information.
California	State reports data is unavailable.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2019-2020.
Colorado	State reports data is unavailable.	The statewide database requires the county department to identify whether a child/youth that was removed had previously been adopted. However, an additional field capturing intercountry adoptions is not mandatory and as a result, CDHS does not have accurate data on children/youth who had intercountry adoptions. CDHS continues to address this gap in data collection and is working to change its database to mandate this field when a previous adoption has been identified.
Connecticut	State reports data is unavailable.	The state reports at this time, they are not able to identify the number of children who were adopted from other countries and entered state custody.
Delaware	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 2 cases for FY 2021.
District of Columbia	No data was reported.	No additional information.
Florida	State reports data is unavailable.	The state reports the Department of Children and Families receives two to three reports of international

		adoptees removed due to abuse, abandonment, or neglect per year.
Georgia	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
Hawaii	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
Idaho	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 1 case for FY 2021.
Illinois	No data was reported.	The state reports its database does not track whether families receiving post-adoption services adopted domestically or through the intercountry process, but they have conducted manual tracking since July 2019. The state did not provide information on the numbers of disruptions or dissolutions.
Indiana	The state reports 1 case during April 2021-March 2022.	The state reports 0 cases during April 2020 - March 2021.
Iowa	The state reports 0 cases but did not specify a timeframe, other than "during the past year".	No additional information.
Kansas	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 12 cases as of April 2022.
Kentucky	State reports data is unavailable.	The state reports Kentucky does not have a mechanism for tracking the number of children who enter foster care following the disruption of an international adoption. Anecdotal reporting indicates that this number of children is extremely small; and in many reporting years, the anecdotal information suggests that no such children entered the state foster care system.
Louisiana	State reports data is unavailable.	No additional information.
Maine	No data was reported.	The state reports 0 cases for CY 2021.
Maryland	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
Massachusetts	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2020.
Michigan	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for CY 2021.

Minnesota	The state reports 3 cases for 2022.	State does not include a specific date range for these cases.
Mississippi	The state reports 0 cases.	No additional information.
Missouri	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for CY 2021.
Montana	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
Nebraska	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
Nevada	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for CY 2021.
New Hampshire	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
New Jersey	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
New Mexico	The state reports 0 cases.	No additional information.
New York	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 3 cases for FY 2021.
North Carolina	The state reports 0 cases.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
North Dakota	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
Ohio	Data is not yet available.	In CY 2021, the state reported out of 443 of the children in foster care who had been previously adopted, 3 have a birth country listed that is not the United States and 268 do not have their birth country listed. The state did not report information specifically related to intercountry adoption.
Oklahoma	The state reports 0 cases.	The state reports 1 case for SFY 2021.
Oregon	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 2 cases for FY 2019, 3 cases for FY 2020, and 0 cases for FY 2021.
Pennsylvania	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2019 and FY 2021.
Puerto Rico	Data is not yet available.	No data was reported.
Rhode Island	State did not report data.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2020.
South Carolina	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
South Dakota	The state reports 0 cases.	No additional information.

Tennessee	The state reports 0 cases.	No additional information.
Texas	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 4 cases for FY 2021.
Utah	State did not report data.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
Vermont	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
Virginia	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 7 cases for SFY 2021.
Virgin Islands	No data was reported.	No additional information.
Washington	The state reports 0 cases.	The state reports 5 cases for FY 2021, 1 case for FY 2020, 1 case for FY 2019, and 3 cases for FY 2018.
West Virginia	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
Wisconsin	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 6 cases for FY 2021.
Wyoming	State reports data is unavailable.	No additional information.

Table 8: Countries with a Significant Law or Regulation that Prevented or Prohibited Adoptions Involving Immigration to the United States

Country	Implementation Date
Democratic Republic of the Congo	July 15, 2016
Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia	February 14, 2018
Latvia	July 1, 2022
Republic of Kenya	November 27, 2014
Russia	January 1, 2013

Table 9: Accredited or Approved Adoption Service Providers*

(On September 30, 2022)

A Family in Bloom Adoption, LLC
A Love Beyond Borders, Inc.
Adopolis, Inc.
Adopt International
Adoption & Beyond, Inc.
Adoption Assistance, Inc.

Adoption Resource Center
Adoptions Together, Inc.
Agape Adoptions
Agape of Central Alabama, Inc.
All God's Children International
Amazing Grace Adoptions
America World Adoption Association
American Adoptions of California
Bal Jagat- Children's World Inc.
Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina, Inc.
Bellefaire Jewish Children's Bureau
Building Arizona Families
Carolina Adoption Services, Inc.
Catholic Charities North Dakota
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Baton Rouge
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Green Bay
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse, Inc.
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester
Catholic Social Services
CCAI
Child Adoption Associates, Inc.
Children of the World, Inc.
Children's Home Society of Minnesota
Children's House International
Christian Adoption Services, Inc.
Christian Family Services of the Midwest, Inc.
Counseling & Family Services
Cradle of Hope Adoption Center
Dillon International, Inc.
Families Through Adoption, Inc.
Families United Network, Inc.
Family & Children's Agency, Inc.
Family Connections, Inc.
Family Resource Center
Forever Families Adoption Services, Inc.
Forever Families Through Adoption, Inc.
Frank Adoption Center
Gateway Woods Family Services, Inc.
Global Adoption Services, Inc.
Great Wall China Adoption
Hand In Hand, Inc.
Hands Across the Water, Inc.
Heart of Adoptions Alliance, Inc.
Heartsent Adoptions, Inc.
Hillcrest Family Services
Holston United Methodist Home for Children, Inc.

Holt International Children's Services, Inc.
Hope Adoption, Inc.
Hopscotch Adoptions, Inc.
Illini Christian Ministries, Inc.
Illinois Baptist Children's Home and Family Services
International Adoption Net
International Child Foundation, Inc.
International Christian Adoptions
KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc.
Kidspire
Lifeline Children's Services, Inc.
Living Hope Adoption Agency
Lutheran Social Services of the South, Inc.
Madison Adoption Associates
Miriam's Promise
New Beginnings Family and Children's Services, Inc.
New Beginnings International Children and Family Services
New Hope Christian Services, Inc.
New Horizons Adoption Agency, Inc.
Nightlight Christian Adoptions
Open Door Adoption Agency, Inc.
Premier Adoption Agency, Inc.
Promise Kids A Future, Inc.
Saint Mary International Adoption
Shepherd Care Ministries, Inc.
Small World, Inc.
Spence-Chapin Services to Families and Children
St. Nick's Kids, Inc.
TFI Family Services, Inc.
The Alliance for Children, Inc.
The Barker Adoption Foundation
The Cradle Society
The Gladney Center for Adoption
The Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers
The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach
Wasatch International Adoptions, Inc.
Wide Horizons for Children, Inc.
World Links Association
Wyoming Children's Society

**See http://adoption.state.gov/haque_convention/agency_accreditation/agency_search.php for the current list of accredited agencies and approved persons.*