



**Report to Congress on
The United States Central Authority Under the Hague Convention on
Protection of Children and Co-Operation in Respect of Intercountry
Adoption for Fiscal Year 2023
Sec. 104 of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000**



United States Department of State

Washington, DC 20520

Dear Reader,

This annual report provides an update on the Department's efforts to ensure that intercountry adoption remains a viable option for children in need of permanent, loving families when other paths to a family are not possible. The Office of Children's Issues (CI), working closely with colleagues around the globe and in the interagency, promoted this goal in numerous countries. From Colombia to India, from Mexico to Vietnam, dedicated Department staff ensured that U.S. families seeking to adopt a child through intercountry adoption have access to accurate information and support throughout the process. At the same time, world events and crises continued to have an impact on intercountry adoptions in many countries, and the Department sought solutions in the best interests of the children involved.

Russia continued to wage an unjustified and brutal war against Ukraine, including the removal of Ukrainian children to Russia in contravention of international law. Post-Covid bureaucratic delays continued to delay adoption processing in the People's Republic of China (PRC). Nonetheless, we worked actively to overcome these challenges in the interests of children in need of permanent families.

There were positive developments as a result of our efforts. Fiscal Year 2023 witnessed limited resumptions of intercountry adoptions in Ukraine and the PRC. There remain many children in both countries who are at various stages of the adoption process, and we continue to engage with both governments as well as the U.S. adoption community on behalf of these children. In Mexico, CI worked closely with U.S. Embassy Mexico City to reduce bureaucratic obstacles to intercountry adoptions.

With the full resumption of travel, the Special Advisor for Children's Issues and CI staff traveled the globe to meet with foreign adoption authorities, non-governmental and international organizations, members of civil society, and many others to promote transparent, ethical adoptions. We trained our colleagues at U.S. embassies and consulates and worked with other governments to help strengthen their capacity and foster closer cooperation.

In all that we do, our focus is on the best interests of children and ensuring that those in need of a family can find the love, protection, and support they deserve.

Antony J. Blinken
Secretary of State

Annual Report on Intercountry Adoption

The U.S. Department of State (the Department) serves as the U.S. Central Authority under the 1993 Convention on the Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption (Convention). The Department's Office of Children's Issues (CI) 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. This annual report covers the fiscal year (FY) from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023.

FY 2023 Overview

Intercountry adoption is a high priority for the Department of State. CI's two adoption divisions work together to support intercountry adoption as an option for children overseas in need of permanency – after domestic options have been considered – and to advocate for safe, transparent, legal, and ethical adoptions. The Department works to remove obstacles to intercountry adoption, which could impact the total number of intercountry adoptions. However, CI does not set goals on the overall number of intercountry adoptions. Decisions regarding the placement of children for intercountry adoption rest solely with authorities in the country of origin. CI encourages countries of origin to consider eligible U.S. families when they determine children would benefit from intercountry adoption.

Over the course of FY 2023, the Department worked to address impediments to intercountry adoption through proactive engagement with adoption partners. This included increased travel during FY 2023, which CI used to provide technical assistance to adoption authorities in countries of origin. This travel also strengthened our bilateral relationship with these countries. CI stands ready to provide assistance to foreign partners and will continue to engage with countries of origin through FY 2024. See below for more detailed information on country specific engagement over FY 2023, including the Department's efforts to address impediments to adoption in specific countries.

Engagement and Outreach

Travel

CI increased our direct engagement with overseas counterparts in FY 2023, including through travel to 17 countries of origin. CI staff traveled to Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, South Africa, Burundi, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Nepal, Netherlands, Bulgaria, Colombia, Guyana, Honduras, El Salvador, and Mexico. During many of these trips, staff provided technical assistance on how countries can fulfill the legal requirements to complete intercountry adoptions to the United States. CI also trained many staff of non-governmental organizations, international organizations, and U.S. embassies and consulates. Throughout this reporting period, CI also consulted and coordinated with other receiving countries through bilateral meetings and multilateral forums.

July 2023 Workshop

In July 2023, CI and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) held a weeklong workshop on intercountry adoptions at U.S. Consulate Johannesburg. Department staff from 14 U.S. embassies and consulates throughout Africa attended the training. Participants learned about and discussed many aspects of adoption processing in Africa, including Convention and orphan processing, the adjudication of adoption-based visas, and tactics for combatting adoption fraud.

National Adoption Month

In November, CI recognized National Adoption Month by working with embassies and consulates around the world to raise awareness about intercountry adoption. CI [published an article](#) in State Magazine discussing CI's adoption mission, and we posted social media messages about the adoption process for domestic and overseas audiences. CI also held a town hall meeting with adult adoptees to discuss their perspectives.

Other Outreach

CI conducted targeted outreach with a wide range of international stakeholders throughout FY 2023, including through various multilateral settings. CI represented the United States in two meetings with central authorities for other English-speaking receiving countries, and two similar meetings with central authorities from European countries. In June, CI represented the United States in the Hague Conference on Private International Law's Working Group on the Financial Aspects of Intercountry Adoption.

CI also conducted outreach to domestic adoption stakeholders in FY 2023. Every quarter, CI briefed congressional staffers on issues and trends in intercountry adoption to the United States. In November, CI met with ASPs about adoption trends in West Africa, and in March, CI conducted a similar call with ASPs about adoptions in the Western Hemisphere. In May, CI presented to the Adoptive Parent's Committee at a conference in New York City and discussed intercountry adoption with the Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproductive Attorneys. Over the course of the FY 2023, CI released 40 adoption notices and published regular updates on adoption.state.gov to provide timely information on countries of origin and adoption processes.

Country-Specific Engagement

Africa

Representatives from CI traveled to **Burundi** in February to discuss their intercountry adoption program and to meet with Burundi's Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Human Rights, and Gender. Later, CI met virtually with new leadership in this ministry to build on our relationship with adoption authorities in the country.

Eswatini recently passed legislation designed to implement the Convention. Representatives from Eswatini's Central Authority on intercountry adoption

met virtually with CI in July 2023. The Central Authority has expressed interest in receiving technical assistance regarding their implementation of the Convention and CI will work with U.S. Embassy Mbabane to provide this assistance.

In June, CI met with counterparts in the Government of **Liberia** to discuss the Liberian legal framework and adoption safeguards, which provided relevant information for adoption processing.

CI and USCIS travelled to **Nigeria** in September 2023 to meet with consular staff, Nigerian government officials, and local adoption stakeholders. Several factors, such as systemic fraud and poor record-keeping, have contributed to significantly delayed processing times and a high denial rate in Nigeria. CI issued adoption notices in [June 2023](#) and [March 2024](#) advising prospective adoptive parents to reconsider adopting from Nigeria.

Asia

India was the largest country of origin for intercountry adoptions to the United States in FY 2023. During FY 2023, CI conducted three bilateral engagements with the Indian government to address a variety of intercountry adoption policy matters.

The People's Republic of China (PRC) suspended all intercountry adoptions in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout FY 2023, the Department pressed the PRC government to promptly restore regular adoption processing. The China Center for Children's Welfare and Adoption (CCCWA) resumed case processing, but only for those children who had PRC travel authorizations dated prior to the 2020 suspension. In FY 2023, U.S. Consulate Guangzhou issued 16 visas for the intercountry adoption cases processed by the PRC; these were the first intercountry adoptions between the PRC and the United States in more than two years.

The Department engaged with the Government of the PRC on intercountry adoption in many ways, including a letter from the U.S. Ambassador to the

PRC's Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Director General for Consular Affairs. The Special Advisor for Children's Issues and the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Overseas Citizen Services met several times with PRC Embassy officials to stress the need for clear and transparent communication and to push for prompt processing of pending adoption cases. CI and the U.S. Mission to China consulted with European counterparts who conduct adoptions in the PRC to discuss their efforts in resuming adoptions. Despite the Department's efforts and engagement, the PRC Central Authority maintained its suspension of new intercountry adoptions throughout FY 2023. The PRC did not respond to repeated requests for information on pending intercountry adoption cases and on the status of the PRC's suspension.

In March, the Department's Special Advisor for Children's Issues met with representatives from the Embassy of the **Republic of Korea (ROK)** in the United States to discuss adult adoptee issues. CI and U.S Embassy Seoul engaged regularly with the ROK government to address topics related to adoptions from the country.

Europe

In November 2022, the Central Authority of the **Netherlands** said they will "phase out" their relationship with the United States on intercountry adoptions. There have been no intercountry adoptions to the United States from the Netherlands in the last five years. Deputy Assistant Secretary Angela Kerwin discussed the change with the Dutch Central Authority in December, but the Dutch government confirmed the new policy will remain in effect. Prospective adoptive parents in the Netherlands are no longer able to initiate adoptions from the United States, although the Netherlands has continued to process cases that started before November 2022. In FY 2023, Dutch families completed 11 adoptions of U.S. children.

Western Hemisphere

Colombia was the second-largest country of origin for intercountry adoptions to the United States in FY 2023. CI travelled to Colombia in November and continued to have a cooperative relationship with the Colombian Institute of Family Wellbeing (ICBF).

In April, CI and Embassy Havana met virtually with the Government of **Cuba** to explain the Hague Adoption Convention and CI's role in adoption processing. Cuba's Deputy Minister for Justice explained their national adoption laws and expressed interest in further communication.

The Department has been observing the way **Guatemala** has improved its adoption legal framework since 2007, when the Guatemalan government laid the framework and created its central authority, the Guatemalan National Council for Adoptions. Since 2021 the Department has engaged multiple times with Guatemala's central authority and adoption stakeholders as part of an ongoing effort to assess Guatemala's capacity for intercountry adoption cooperation. CI and U.S. Embassy Guatemala City met on multiple occasions during FY 2023 with the Guatemalan National Council for Adoptions and the office of the Attorney General to continue this assessment.

CI sent a delegation to **Guyana** in January to meet with the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security, the Adoption Board, and the Child Care and Protection Agency. During the trip, CI provided technical assistance in the form of training, including sessions on implementing the Convention in Guyana and specific steps for processing adoptions to the United States. These meetings clarified the issues the Guyanese government needs to resolve to make Convention adoptions possible with the United States. CI continued to provide training and information to the Guyanese government throughout FY 2023.

In May, CI traveled to **Mexico** to attend a meeting with Mexico's Secretariat of Foreign Affairs (SRE), representatives from the civil registry office and

national passport office, and staff from Mexico's National System for Family Development. SRE agreed to centralize adoptee passport adjudications to reduce wait times and adjudication variations. In June, CI gave a virtual presentation on immigration procedures and processes involving adoptions with the United States to over 200 attendees from the SRE.

Crises Affecting Adoptions

Multiple crises in FY 2023 affected intercountry adoptions. During a crisis, many U.S. citizens want to open their homes and adopt affected children. The Department shares this concern for children who are experiencing hardship in a crisis and works hard to complete adoptions for these children, when possible. During times of crisis, however, it can be exceptionally difficult to determine whether children who appear to be orphans truly are eligible for adoption. It can also be difficult to fulfill the legal requirements for intercountry adoption of both the United States and countries of origin. This may be due to difficulty gathering the necessary documents, verifying a child's eligibility, or a breakdown in civil authority. The Department works to overcome these impediments to complete adoptions.

In FY 2023, political crises in **Haiti** significantly impacted security and stability in the country, leading to major delays in processing intercountry adoptions. CI worked closely with the Haitian government to resolve adoption processing issues in accordance with U.S. and Haitian law. The Department engaged with Haitian authorities to help adopted children obtain passports through a special process that reduced the lengthy delays and avoided the dangerous crowds at the passport offices.

Russia's brutal war against **Ukraine** continues to significantly impact intercountry adoptions from the country. The Ukrainian government has maintained a firm position that intercountry adoptions are not possible during martial law. Since the beginning of the war, the Department has only processed cases that had adoption orders issued before the invasion. In June 2023, the Ukrainian government announced they would begin processing intercountry adoptions in limited circumstances, including for the

biological siblings of already adopted children and for individuals adopting a relative or stepchild. The Department continued to engage the Ukrainian government on intercountry adoption and communicate with adoption stakeholders throughout FY 2023.

Second National-Level Accrediting Entity

After CI designated Center for Excellence in Adoption Services (CEAS) as an accrediting entity (AE) in June 2022, CEAS assumed the AE role on December 1, 2022. CEAS joined Intercountry Adoption Accreditation and Maintenance Entity, Inc. (IAAME) as the second national-level AE with responsibilities to accredit, approve, monitor, and oversee U.S. adoption service providers (ASP) handling intercountry adoption cases in the United States. The transition from one to two AEs has been marked by excellent coordination, communication, and collaboration between CEAS and IAAME.

A new fee schedule went into effect for CEAS and IAAME on December 1, 2022. Prior to approving the AEs' fee schedules, CI reviewed each AE's budget, projected revenue, and anticipated expenses to confirm they met regulatory requirements. CI also ensured that the fees cover, but do not exceed, the cost of accreditation and that approval services and fees are charged only for those costs.

Intercountry Adoption Information Act of 2019 (IAIA) Reporting for FY 2023

As required by the Intercountry Adoption Information Act of 2019 (IAIA), the Department provides the following information on countries that established or maintained a significant law or regulation that prevented or prohibited adoptions involving immigration to the United States, and the Department's efforts to encourage the resumption of adoptions. The **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Kenya, Russia, and Latvia** established or maintained a law or regulation prohibiting adoptions to the United States (Table 8). The Department has continued to engage

foreign authorities in some of these countries to encourage the resumption of intercountry adoptions.

- The Ministry of the **DRC** maintained its Law No. 87-010 of the Family Code in July of 2016, which effectively suspended all intercountry adoptions. The country also maintains a 2013 ban on exit permits for adopted children. There was no significant engagement between the Department and the Government of the DRC in FY 2023.
- The Government of **Ethiopia** maintained its law 1070/2018, which effectively suspended intercountry adoptions by foreigners. In 2020, the Ethiopian Federal Supreme Court Cassation Branch ruled that adoptions to foreign citizens “of Ethiopian origin” would be allowed. CI traveled to Ethiopia in February to ascertain how these adoptions may be processed. Adoptions from Ethiopia to foreign citizens who are not of Ethiopian origin remain suspended, however, and the Ethiopian government has indicated there are no plans to lift this suspension.
- **Kenya** maintained its 2014 moratorium on intercountry and foreign resident adoptions. In 2022, the Government of Kenya enacted a revised Children’s Act, which designated the Kenyan National Council on Children’s Services as the Central Authority for intercountry adoption. This law also indicates that intercountry adoptions could be possible for Kenyan citizens living overseas – including dual citizens – or individuals who have previously held Kenyan citizenship. Adoptions for U.S. citizens who have never held Kenyan citizenship remain suspended.
- In 2021, the parliament of **Latvia** signed new amendments into the law on the Protection of Children’s Rights, which suspended adoptions to all countries which have not ratified the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Since the United States has signed but not ratified the CRC, these amendments effectively suspended intercountry adoptions to the United States. There was no significant

engagement between the Department and Latvian government during FY 2023.

- **Russia** maintained federal law 272-FZ in FY 2023, effectively banning intercountry adoption of Russian children by U.S. citizens. There was no significant engagement between the Department and the Russian government on intercountry adoption during FY 2023.

In addition to these suspensions by countries of origin, in 2010 the Department determined that conditions in **Nepal** make it impossible to properly adjudicate immigrant petitions and visas for abandoned children. Representatives from CI traveled to Nepal in FY 2023 and determined that the suspension should remain in place.

IAA § 104(b) Report Elements:

- **§ 104(b)(1):** Tables 1 and 2 report the number of intercountry adoptions in FY 2023 involving immigration to the United States, regardless of whether the adoption occurred under the Hague Adoption Convention.
- **§ 104(b)(2):** Table 3 reports the number of intercountry adoptions in FY 2023 involving emigration from the United States, regardless of whether the adoption occurred under the Hague Adoption Convention.
- **§ 104(b)(3):** In FY 2023 adoption service providers (ASPs) reported ten 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 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.
- **§ 104(b)(5):** The current list of accredited agencies and approved persons is available on the Department's intercountry adoption website at [Adoption Provider Search](#). 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, 2023.

- **§ 104(b)(6):** The Secretary did not temporarily or permanently debar an agency or person in FY 2023.
- **§ 104(b)(7):** ASPs reported charging between \$16,380 and \$67,850 for adoption services from Convention countries, with half charging less than \$40,045 and half charging more. The fee categories reported in Table 5 include country-specific services (foreign program expenses, contributions, care of child expenses, and travel/accommodations), 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 \$890 and \$35,300 for country-specific services.
- **§ 104(b)(8):** In FY 2023, there were two accrediting entities: Intercountry Adoption Accreditation and Maintenance Entity, Inc. (IAAME) and Center for Excellence in Adoption Services (CEAS). Annual fees for accreditation of agencies and approval of persons ranged from \$2,200 to \$7,700 in FY 2023. This reflects the fee schedule in effect on October 1, 2022, and the revised fee schedules effective December 1, 2022. IAAME's and CEAS's fee schedules are each based on tiered fees according to the average number of adoptions for which the agency served as a primary provider. The fee schedules also include monitoring and oversight fees. In FY 2023, monitoring and oversight fees for the accrediting entities ranged from \$500 to \$107,600. Accrediting entity fee schedules are available at [Travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov).
- **§104(b)(9-10):** Table 8 lists countries that, in FY 2023, established or maintained a significant law or regulation that prevented or prohibited 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 the 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 2023.

For the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, CI visited U.S. Embassy Addis Ababa and continued bilateral conversations with counterparts in the Government of Ethiopia 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, U.S. Embassy Nairobi held bilateral discussions on recent Kenyan laws which may allow adoptions for Kenyan citizens living overseas, or people who previously held Kenyan citizenship.

For Latvia, there was no significant engagement between the Department and the Government of Latvia on adoptions during FY 2023.

For Russia, there was no significant engagement between the Department and Russia on adoption matters in FY 2023.

- **§104(b)(12):** In FY 2023, 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 2023, 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 accrediting entity 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 accrediting entity fees per adoptive family is between \$568 and \$2,650 for each adoption. In FY 2023, ASPs reported charging between \$16,380 and \$67,850 for adoption services from Convention countries, with half charging less than \$40,045 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 estimations, accrediting entity fees represent between 1.4 percent to 6.6 percent of the median cost of adoption services from Convention countries. The Department does not have data related to the specific impact of accrediting entity fee schedule for low-income families, families seeking to adopt sibling groups, or families seeking to adopt children with disabilities.

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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	4	0	4
*Algeria	0	2	2
*Bangladesh	0	25	25
Belize	0	2	2
Brazil	21	0	21
Bulgaria	83	0	83
Burkina Faso	3	0	3
Burundi	16	0	16
*Cameroon	15	2	17
Canada	0	1	1
China, People's Republic of	16	0	16
Colombia	200	0	200
Congo, Republic of	2	0	2
*Congo, Democratic Republic of	3	2	5
Dominican Republic	8	0	8

Ecuador	10	0	10
El Salvador	2	0	2
*Gambia	1	0	1
Ghana	12	0	12
Guinea	1	0	1
Haiti	80	0	80
Honduras	6	0	6
Hong Kong S.A.R.	0	14	14
Hungary	21	0	21
India	221	0	221
*Iran	0	3	3
*Jamaica	3	17	20
Kyrgyzstan	14	1	15
*Laos	1	0	1
Latvia	1	0	1
*Liberia	17	0	17
Lithuania	3	0	3
*Malawi	10	0	10
Mexico	13	0	13
Moldova	1	0	1
*Morocco	0	26	26
*Nigeria	62	0	62
*Pakistan	0	23	23
Peru	1	0	1
Philippines	0	58	58
Poland	4	0	4

Romania	1	0	1
*ROK	47	0	47
*Samoa	1	0	1
Serbia	4	0	4
*Sierra Leone	12	0	12
South Africa	15	0	15
Sri Lanka	1	0	1
*St. Lucia	1	2	3
*St. Vincent & the Grenadines	1	0	1
*Taiwan	59	0	59
*Tanzania	4	0	4
Thailand	5	38	43
*Trinidad and Tobago	3	0	3
*Uganda	11	0	11
*Ukraine	10	0	10
United Kingdom	5	0	5
Vietnam	20	0	20
Zambia	3	0	3
*Zimbabwe	1	0	1
Total	1059	216	1275

*Country not party to the Convention

Table 2: Incoming Adoptions by State

State	Adoptions Finalized Abroad	Adoptions to be Finalized in the U.S.	Total
Alabama	26	0	26
Americans Overseas	1	0	1
Arizona	8	3	11
Arkansas	1	1	2
California	93	22	115
Colorado	49	6	55
Connecticut	11	3	14
Delaware	4	2	6
District of Columbia	4	2	6
Florida	64	11	75
Georgia	48	7	55
Hawaii	5	0	5
Idaho	9	1	10
Illinois	58	8	66
Indiana	20	6	26
Iowa	9	4	13
Kansas	7	1	8
Kentucky	20	1	21
Louisiana	2	0	2
Maine	4	0	4
Maryland	40	5	45
Massachusetts	8	3	11
Michigan	28	8	36

Minnesota	28	1	29
Mississippi	5	3	8
Missouri	22	8	30
Montana	7	2	9
Nebraska	6	1	7
Nevada	1	1	2
New Hampshire	1	0	1
New Jersey	21	8	29
New Mexico	10	1	11
New York	56	18	74
North Carolina	42	7	49
Ohio	26	7	33
Oklahoma	13	1	14
Oregon	14	4	18
Pennsylvania	39	5	44
Rhode Island	2	0	2
South Carolina	19	0	19
South Dakota	4	0	4
Tennessee	29	11	40
Texas	97	26	123
Utah	20	1	21
Vermont	4	0	4
Virginia	27	8	35
Washington	28	3	31
West Virginia	1	2	3
Wisconsin	18	4	22
Total	1059	216	1275

Table 3: Outgoing (Emigrating) Adoptions

Receiving Country	U.S. State from which the Child Emigrated	Number of Outgoing Adoption Cases
Canada	California	1
	Florida	1
	Arizona	1
	Michigan	2
Ireland	New Jersey	5
Netherlands	California	1
	Florida	2
	New Jersey	5
	New York	1
	Tennessee	2
Austria	Louisiana	1
Switzerland	Nevada	1
Norway	California	1
Total		24

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

Country of Origin	Number of Convention Cases	Average Days to Completion
Albania	4	372
Belize	2	421
Brazil	21	438
Bulgaria	83	490
Burkina Faso	3	832
Burundi	16	865
Canada	1	615
China	16	1,509
Colombia	200	461
Dominican Republic	8	309
Ecuador	10	345
El Salvador	2	298
Ghana	12	918
Guinea	1	918
Haiti	79	989
Honduras	6	597
Hong Kong S.A.R.	14	685
Hungary	21	296
India	221	618
Kyrgyzstan	15	356
Latvia	1	688

Lithuania	3	313
Mexico	13	882
Moldova	1	420
Peru	1	287
Philippines	58	869
Poland	4	527
Romania	1	532
Serbia	4	300
South Africa	15	602
Sri Lanka	1	656
Thailand	43	892
United Kingdom	5	856
Vietnam	20	476
Zambia	3	660

Table 5: Median ASP Convention Adoption Fees

Convention Country of Origin	Fees
Albania	\$51,665
Belgium	\$22,125
Belize	\$25,450
Brazil	\$53,075
Bulgaria	\$39,165
Burkina Faso	\$47,059
Burundi	\$47,344
Canada	\$30,767
China, People's Republic of	\$33,606

Colombia	\$45,090
Congo, Republic of	\$54,165
Dominican Republic	\$44,728
Ecuador	\$43,831
El Salvador	\$40,454
Ghana	\$40,873
Guinea	\$34,750
Haiti	\$48,175
Honduras	\$43,589
Hong Kong S.A.R.	\$28,918
Hungary	\$44,880
India	\$37,315
Kyrgyzstan	\$51,553
Latvia	\$39,503
Lithuania	\$40,399
Mexico	\$44,700
Moldova	\$52,130
Peru	\$42,425
Philippines	\$34,750
Poland	\$44,278
Romania	\$37,830
Serbia	\$46,639
South Africa	\$48,195
Sri Lanka	\$39,258
Thailand	\$34,822
United Kingdom	\$37,476
Vietnam	\$45,195
Zambia	\$39,207

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
Brazil	14	3/13/2023	PAP was unable to meet child's needs.	The child remains in Brazil.	Lifeline Children's Services, Inc.	The child is in the care of the Brazilian authorities, which are overseeing provision of medical care and will make an appropriate permanency plan based on the child's best interests.
Canada	12	2/2/2023	The child did not wish to remain in the United States or be adopted.	The child returned to Canada.	Family Resource Center	The child has been placed with former foster family in Canada. Canadian authorities expect he will remain in this placement.
Costa Rica	6, 9, 10	8/9/2023	PAP was unable to meet the children's needs.	The children remain in Costa Rica.	Lifeline Children's Services, Inc.	The children are in the care of Costa Rican adoption authorities, who will make an appropriate permanency plan based on the children's best interests.

Philippines	12	5/2/2022	PAP was unable to meet child's needs.	The child remains in the PAPs' home while ASP seeks an alternate placement in the United States.	The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach	The child is in the care of the PAPs. The ASP that handled the placement is seeking an appropriate permanency plan in the United States based on the child's best interests.
Philippines	13	7/11/2019	PAP was unable to meet child's needs.	The child remains in the U.S. after new adoption placement was finalized.	Hand in Hand, Inc.	The child was placed with a new family in 2021 and adopted in 2022.
Philippines	11	7/4/2022	Child did not wish to be adopted. PAP was unable to meet child's needs.	Child remains in the Philippines.	Madison Adoption Associates	The child has been placed in overseas post adoption.
Philippines	15	9/1/2022	PAP was unable to meet child's needs.	The child remains in the United States in a licensed group home.	Christian Adoption Services, Inc.	The ASP has legal custody of the child and is seeking placement with a family that can meet his needs.
Thailand	10	7/24/2022	PAP was unable to meet child's needs.	Child has been placed in the United States.	Holt International Children's Services, Inc.	The child has been placed in the United States after disruption and continues to receive treatment.

Thailand	6	3/24/2023	PAP was unable to meet child's needs.	Child has been placed in the United States.	Holt International Children's Services, Inc.	The child remains in the PAPs home and ASP is working with CPS to determine plans for continued monitoring in the home while final determination for move is made.
Thailand	8	4/24/3023	PAP was unable to bond with child.	Child has been placed in the United States.	Holt International Children's Services, Inc.	The ASP has determined that it is in the adoptee's best interest to move to a new adoptive family.

Table 7: State-Reported Data for Children who Entered Foster Care after Intercounty Adoption		
State	Number of Children Adopted through the Intercounty Process Who Entered Foster Care in FY 2023	Additional Information
Alabama	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2022.
Alaska	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
Arizona	The state reports 0 cases.	No additional information.
Arkansas	The state reports 0 cases.	No additional information.
California	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases in 2022.
Colorado	State reports data is unavailable.	The state reports that 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, Colorado does not have accurate data on children/youth who were adopted through the intercountry adoption process.

Connecticut	State reports data is not available.	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 0 cases for FY 2022.
District of Columbia	Data is not yet available.	The city reports 0 cases in FY 2022.
Florida	State reports data is unavailable.	The state reports the Department of Children and Families does not monitor the number of inter-country adoptions completed nor dissolved.
Georgia	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases in CY 2022.
Hawaii	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases in FY 2022.
Idaho	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 1 case for FY 2022.
Illinois	State reports data is not available.	No additional information.
Indiana	Data is not yet available.	The state reports of the two cases from FY 2022.
Iowa	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases in FY 2022.
Kansas	The state reports 10 total cases as of April 2023.	No additional information.
Kentucky	State reports data is not available.	The state reports there is no mechanism for tracking the number of children who enter foster care following the disruption of an international adoption, but there are plans for modification in the future.
Louisiana	The state did not report data.	No additional information.
Maine	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for CY 2022.
Maryland	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2022.
Massachusetts	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 5 cases for FY 2022.
Michigan	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases in CY 2022.
Minnesota	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 3 cases in CY 2022.
Mississippi	The state reports 0 cases.	No additional information.
Missouri	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for CY 2022.
Montana	The state reports 0 cases.	No additional information.
Nebraska	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for CY 2022.
Nevada	State reports data is not available.	Over the next year, the state will evaluate the data collected, and assess the need to further refine statewide processes.
New Hampshire	The state reports 0 cases.	No additional information.
New Jersey	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
New Mexico	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2022.
New York	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 2 cases for FY 2022.
North Carolina	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2022.
North Dakota	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 1 case for FY 2022.
Ohio	Data is not yet available.	No additional information.

Oklahoma	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases from April 2022 through March 2023.
Oregon	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2022.
Pennsylvania	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2019 and FY 2020.
Puerto Rico	The territory reports 0 cases.	No additional information.
Rhode Island	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2020.
South Carolina	Data is not yet available.	The state reports involvement in 4 cases but no children entered care for CY 2022.
South Dakota	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 1 case for FY 2022.
Tennessee	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2022.
Texas	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 3 cases for FY 2022.
Utah	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2022.
Vermont	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 0 cases for FY 2021.
Virgin Islands	No data was reported.	No additional information.
Virginia	Data is not yet available.	No additional information.
Washington	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 1 case for CY 2022.
West Virginia	Data is not yet available.	No additional information.
Wisconsin	Data is not yet available.	The state reports 6 cases for FY 2022.
Wyoming	The state reports 0 cases.	No additional information.

State data for FY 2023 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, 2023.

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, 2023)

A Family in Bloom Adoption, LLC
A Love Beyond Borders, Inc.
Adopolis, Inc.
Adopt International
Adoption & Beyond, 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 dba Family Connections Christian Adoptions
Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina, Inc. dba Christian Adoption Services
Bellefaire Jewish Children's Bureau
Building Arizona Families
Carolina Adoption Services, Inc.
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.
CCAI
Child Adoption Associates, Inc.
Children of All Nations
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.
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.
Hand In Hand, Inc. dba Hand In Hand International Adoptions, 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. dba Hope International
Hopscotch Adoptions, Inc.
Illini Christian Ministries, Inc.
International Adoption Net
International Christian Adoptions dba Institute for Children's Aid
KidsFirst International Adoption, Inc.
Kidspire
Lifeline Children's Services, Inc.
Living Hope Adoption Agency
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. dba An Open Door Adoption Agency, Inc. and The Open Doo
Premier Adoption Agency, Inc.
Promise Kids A Future, Inc.
Saint Mary International Adoption
Shepherd Care Ministries, Inc. dba Adoption by Shepherd Care
Small World, Inc. dba Small World Ministries, Small World Adoption Programs
Spence-Chapin Services to Families and Children
St. Nick's Kids, 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 dba Hopeful Connections Adoption Services
Wasatch International Adoptions, Inc.
Wide Horizons For Children, Inc.
World Links Association
Wyoming Children's Society

See [the adoption provider search page of our website](#) for the current list of accredited agencies and approved persons.