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# Few Syrian refugees have made it to New England

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EPA/SEDAT SUNA

**Refugees waited on the Syrian side of the border crossing near Akcakale, Turkey in June.**

**By Matt Rocheleau**

GLOBE STAFF OCTOBER 22, 2015

Since the conflict in Syria began four years ago, more than 4 million people have fled the country. But

only a handful have made it to the United States and even fewer have made it to New England.

While many of the refugees have flocked to Europe, nearly 2,000 have come to the United States, including 114 who have been placed in 13 different towns and cities across New England, according to records kept by the US Department of State's Refugee Processing Center.

Eleven of the Syrian refugees arrived last year; the remainder arrived this year.

The largest local host community of Syrian refugees is Worcester, where 25 have settled, followed by Springfield where 21 have been placed, the data shows. Next are: New Haven, Conn., with 19; and West Springfield, Mass., and Hartford, Conn., which each have 13 Syrian refugee placements.

Only four Syrian refugees have been brought to Boston, according to the data. Another 19 are scattered across other New England cities: Beverly, Lowell, Tewksbury, Portland, Maine, Concord, N.H., and Bristol and West Haven, Conn.

None have been placed in Rhode Island or Vermont.

Syrians represent a small fraction — less than 1 percent — of the more than 16,500 refugees of all nationalities that have been placed in New England since 2011, the year the Syrian conflict began. But the pace has picked up: Syrians account for 7.5 percent of the 1,369 refugees placed in the region so far this year, the data shows.

The picture is similar nationally, with 1,996 Syrian refugees placed in the United States since 2011, compared with more than 312,500 refugees overall who have come here.

## Nationality of refugees placed in New England

A look at the 15 most popular countries of origin for refugees



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# Few Syrian refugees have made it to New

placed since 2011.

# England

Country	Refugees
Iraq	4270
Bhutan	4261
Somalia	2619
Burma	1517
Dem. Rep. Congo	1513
Eritrea	552
Sudan	306
Burundi	144
Afghanistan	131
Moldova	128
Ethiopia	118
Iran	118
<b>Syria</b>	<b>114</b>
Central African Republic	101
Colombia	92

**SOURCE: U.S. Department of State**

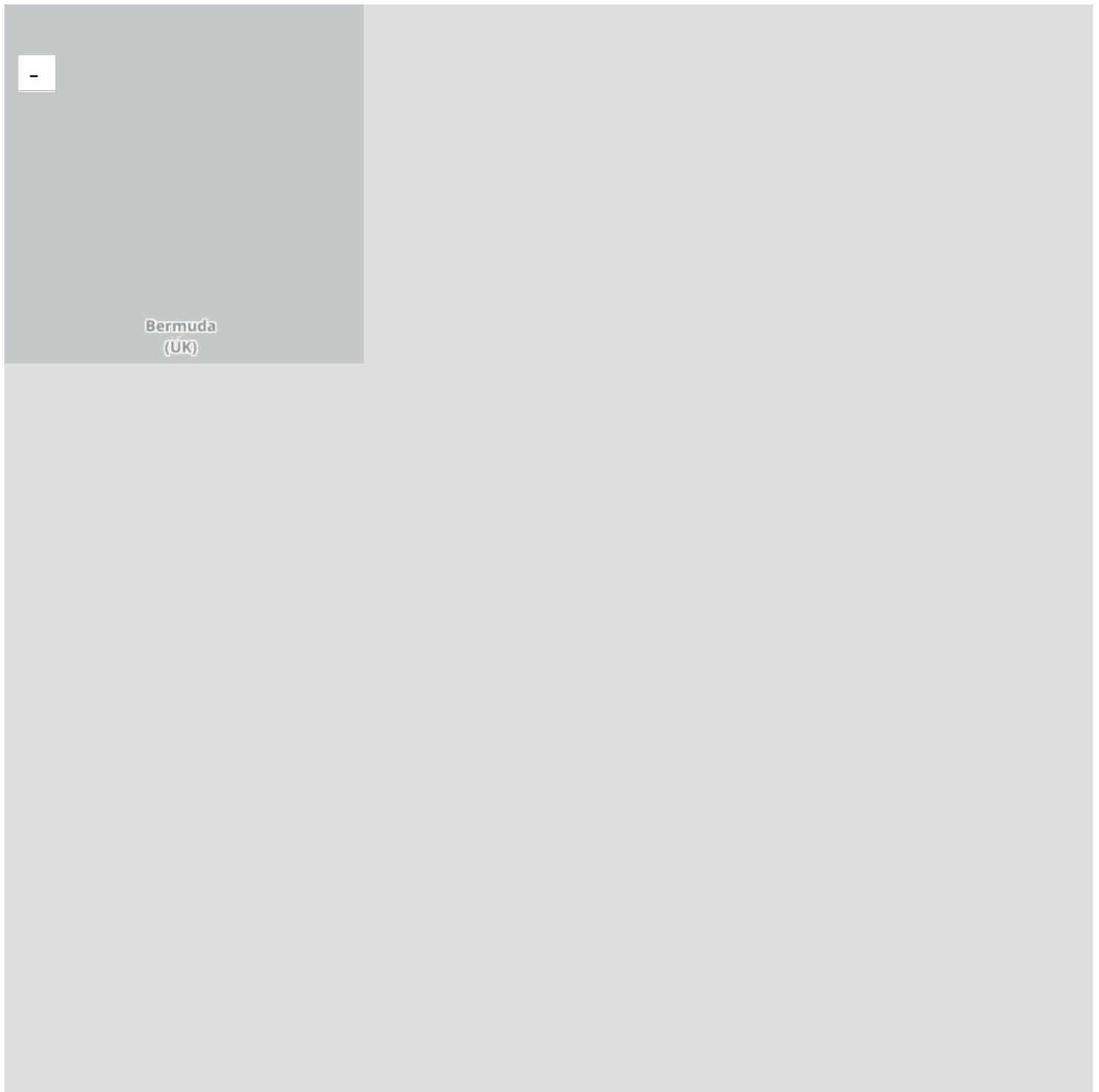
With worldwide concern over the refugees flooding out of the Middle East — and some European countries taking in huge numbers — the number of Syrian refugees settling here is expected to increase soon. The White House [said last month](#) that the United States will take in at least 10,000 during the next 12 months.

See the map below of locations where Syrian refugees have been placed over the past four and a half years:

## Where Syrian refugees have been placed in New England

Thirteen different towns and cities in the region have taken in Syrian refugees since 2011.





**DATA: U.S. Department of State**

MATT ROCHELEAU/GLOBE STAFF

**The New York Times previously reported on the State Department data, and took a look at where Syrian refugees have been placed across the United States.**

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