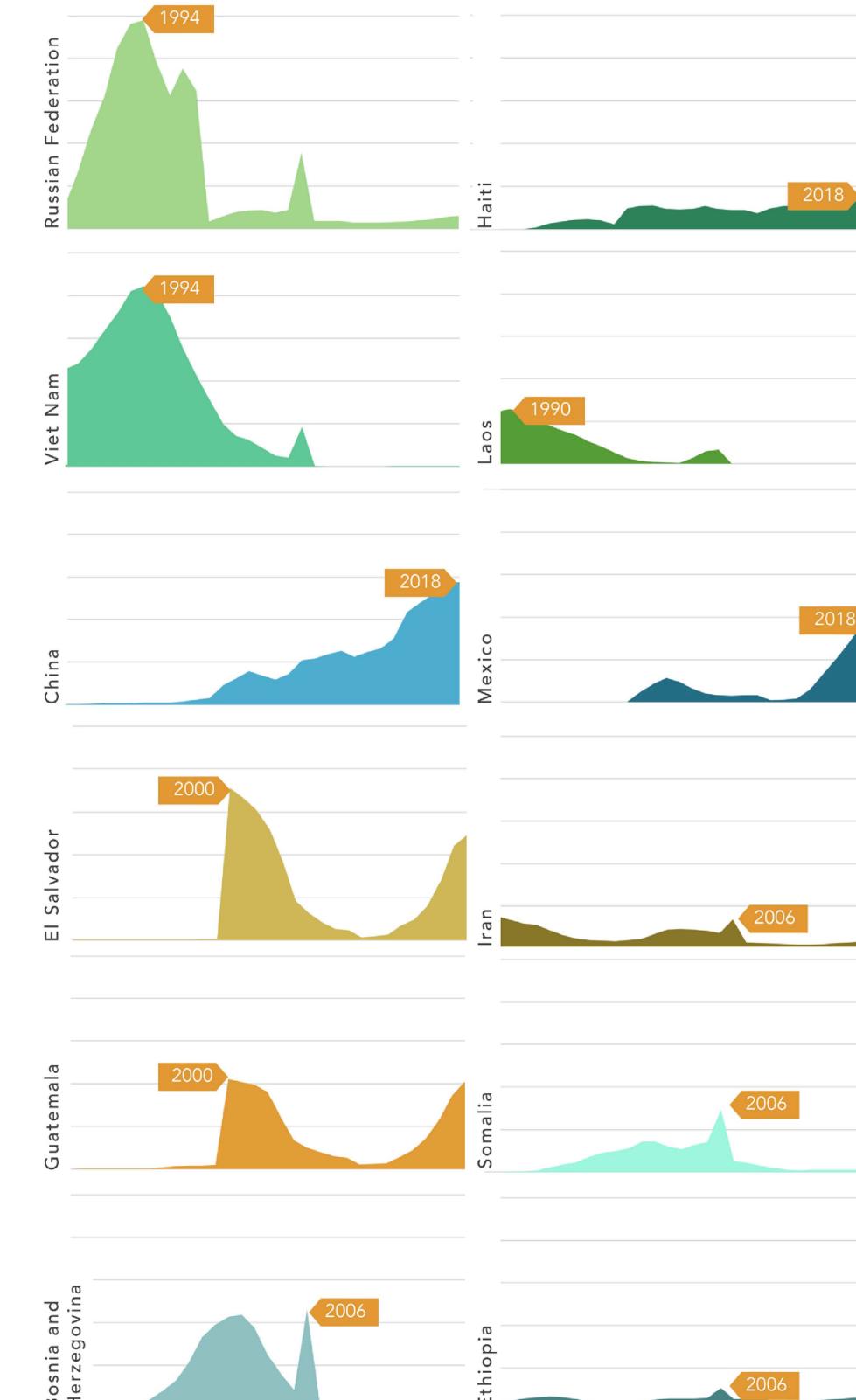
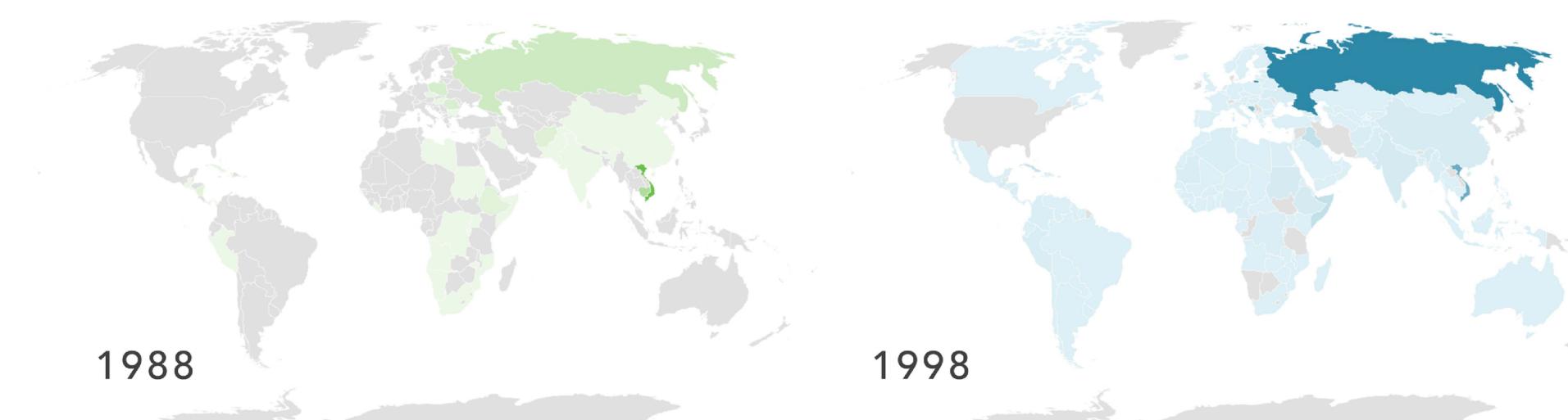


# populations of concern

## REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS IN THE UNITED STATES

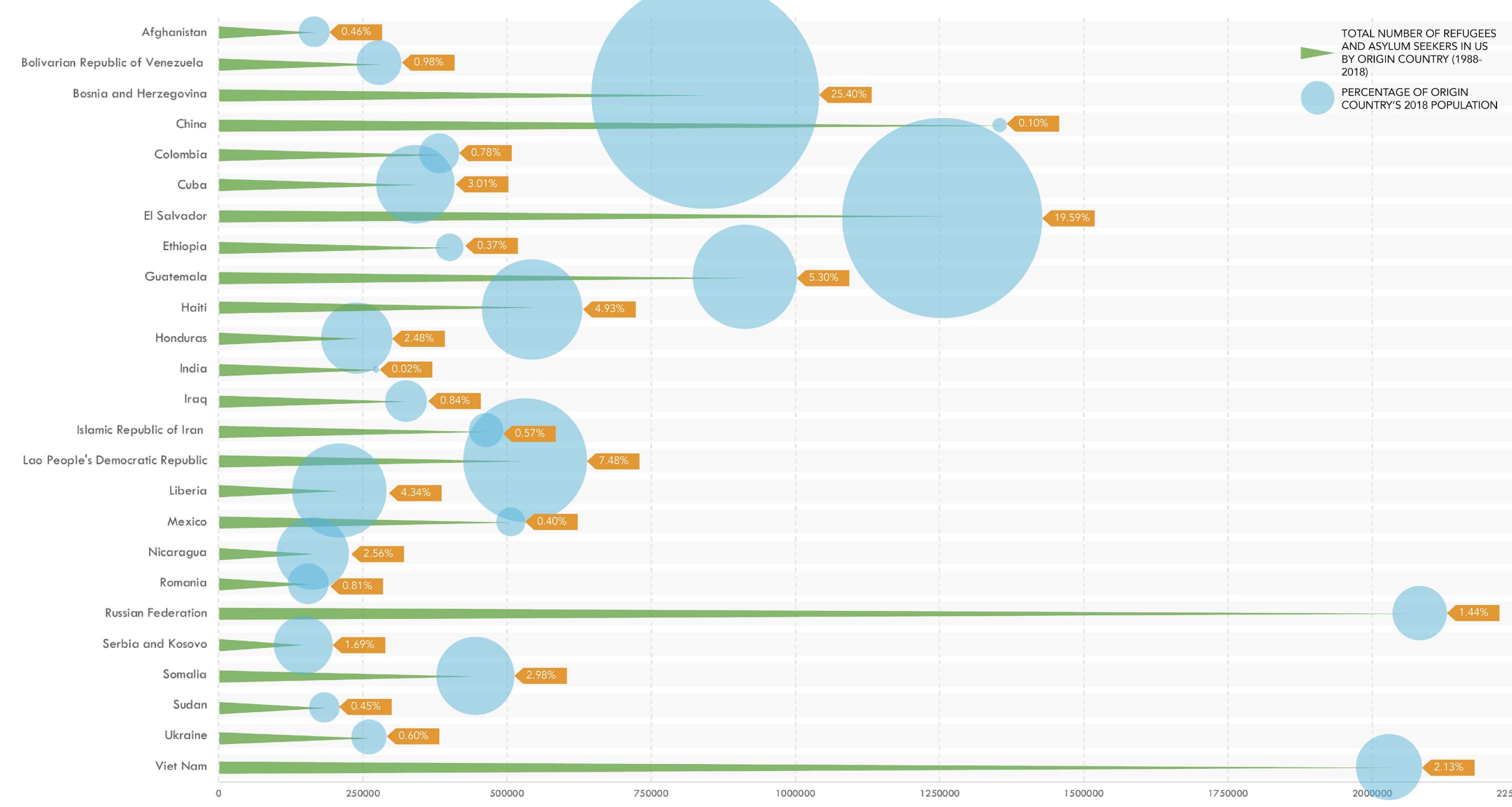
### the shifting geopolitical context

TOP COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN OF POPULATIONS OF CONCERN IN THE UNITED STATES BY YEAR (1988-2018)



### those who came and those they left behind

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS IN THE UNITED STATES BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (1988-2018)



Under a new refugee admissions ceiling announced by the United States State Department in September 2019, the Trump administration plans to admit a maximum of 18,000 refugees to the US in fiscal year 2020, a 40% reduction from the previous record low cap of 30,000 in fiscal year 2019. If this promise is fulfilled, it will be the lowest number of refugees resettled by the US in a single year since 1980, when Congress created the nation's refugee resettlement program.

Even before the administration's announcement, refugee resettlement in the U.S. had dropped to historic lows during Trump's presidency, according to a Pew Research Center analysis of State Department data. Overall, the US admitted about 76,200 refugees under the Trump administration from January 2017 through September 2019. By comparison, the US admitted nearly 85,000 refugees in fiscal 2016 alone, the last full fiscal year of the Obama administration.

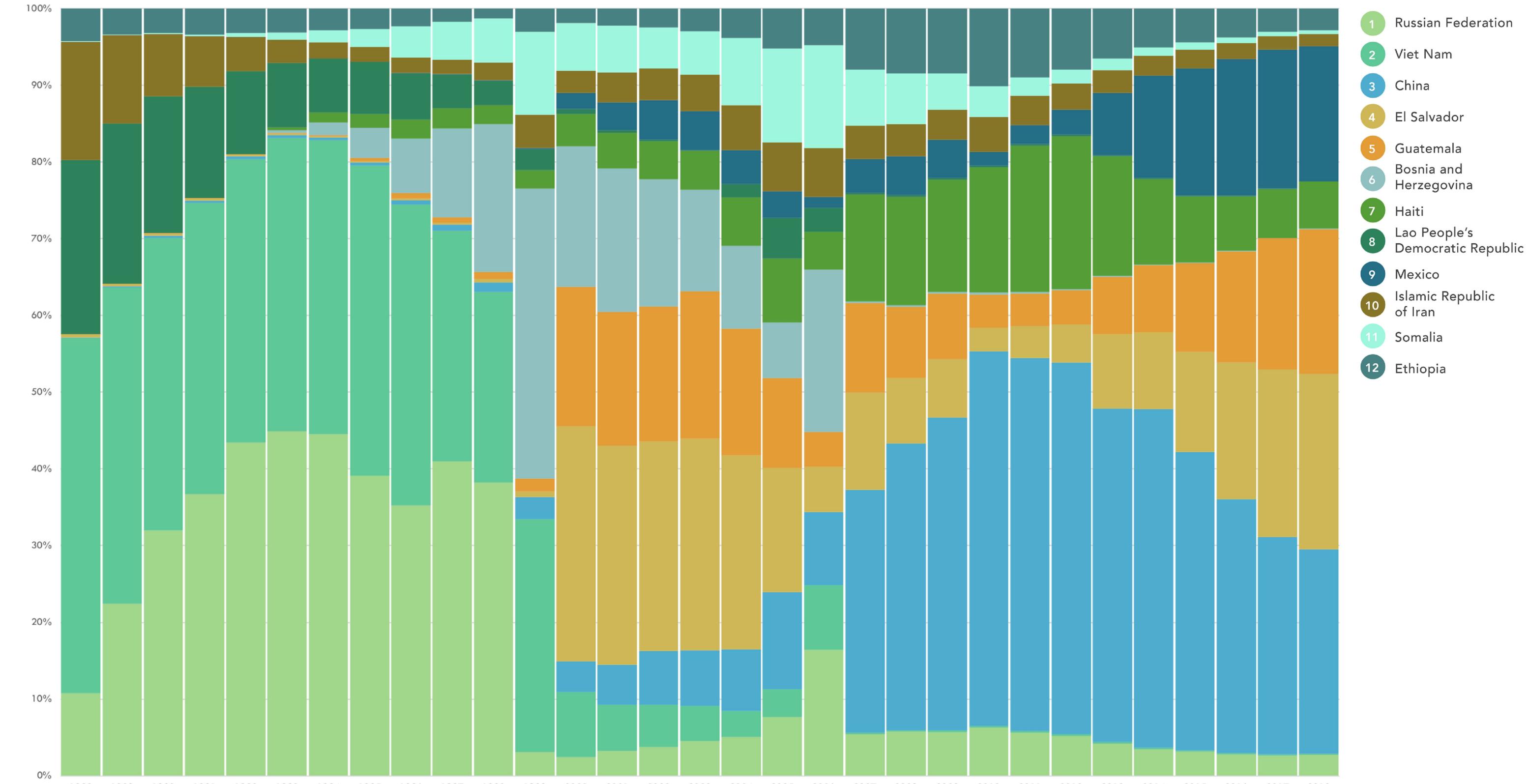
This decline in US refugee admissions comes at a time when the number of refugees worldwide has reached the highest levels since World War II. Most are hosted by other developing nations, those which can least afford to take care of them.

With the words "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free" emblazoned on our country's front door, understanding the history and origins of refugees in the US is critical to all Americans' understanding of themselves. Our generosity toward our populations of concern is essential to our patriotism. We withhold that generosity at our peril.

**CGDV**  
POWERED BY OEO  
PROJECT BY  
ANNA JACOBSON  
OCTOBER 2019  
PRIMARY DATA SOURCE  
UNHCR: Populations of Concern Residing in the United States (Updated February 7, 2019)  
ADDITIONAL DATA SOURCES  
Pew Research Center: Key Facts About Refugees to the U.S. (October 7, 2019)  
The World Bank: Population, Total  
The World Bank: GDP (Current US\$)  
Institute for Economics and Peace: Global Peace Report 2019

### the changing face of america's populations of concern

POPULATION SHARES IN THE UNITED STATES BY TOP COUNTRIES OF ORIGINS (1988-2018)



### america's populations of concern today

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS IN THE UNITED STATES (2018)

