

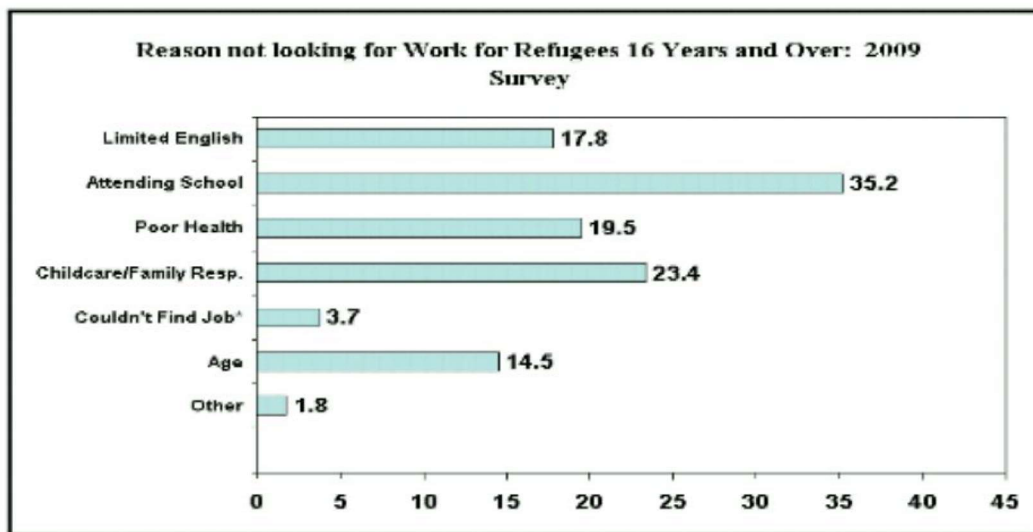
### Appendix F: Economic and Work Data

From 2009 ORR Report on Economic Data—results associated with economic downturn and changes in refugee populations (decreased literacy/education)

**Employment:** 47% of refugees >16year's old who have been in the US less than five years are employed (compared to 59% of US population)

- 16% difference in labor participation between women and men (73 vs. 56%) which is similar to US population (13%)
- Highest employment rate by population: Latin America (66%), former Soviet Union (54%), East Asia (48%), Africa (38%), and the Middle East (29%)
- Unemployment rate was 27% for refugees, 9% for US population
- 57% of all sampled refugee households were self-sufficient (subsisting on earnings alone)
- Average hourly wage = \$12.30

#### A) Why not looking for work?



#### B) Reasons for Not Finding Work

- English Proficiency is most common reason for inability to find work (strongly associated with average hourly wage)
- Medical—9% received benefits from employer vs. 58% received Medicaid
  - 8% had no medical coverage in previous 12 months
- Cash assistance—38% of respondents received cash in 12 months prior to survey (SSI being most common, in 13% of households)
  - 70% received food stamps
  - 32% received housing assistance
- Education—average refugee education level ~9years total prior to arrival
  - at Arrival: 15% fluent vs. 52% no English at all
  - at Survey: 22% spoke no English, 40% spoke English well/fluently

#### C) Time til First Employment

Within 1 month=14% have held at least one job  
Within 3 months=35%  
Within 6 months=57%  
Within 12 months=79%