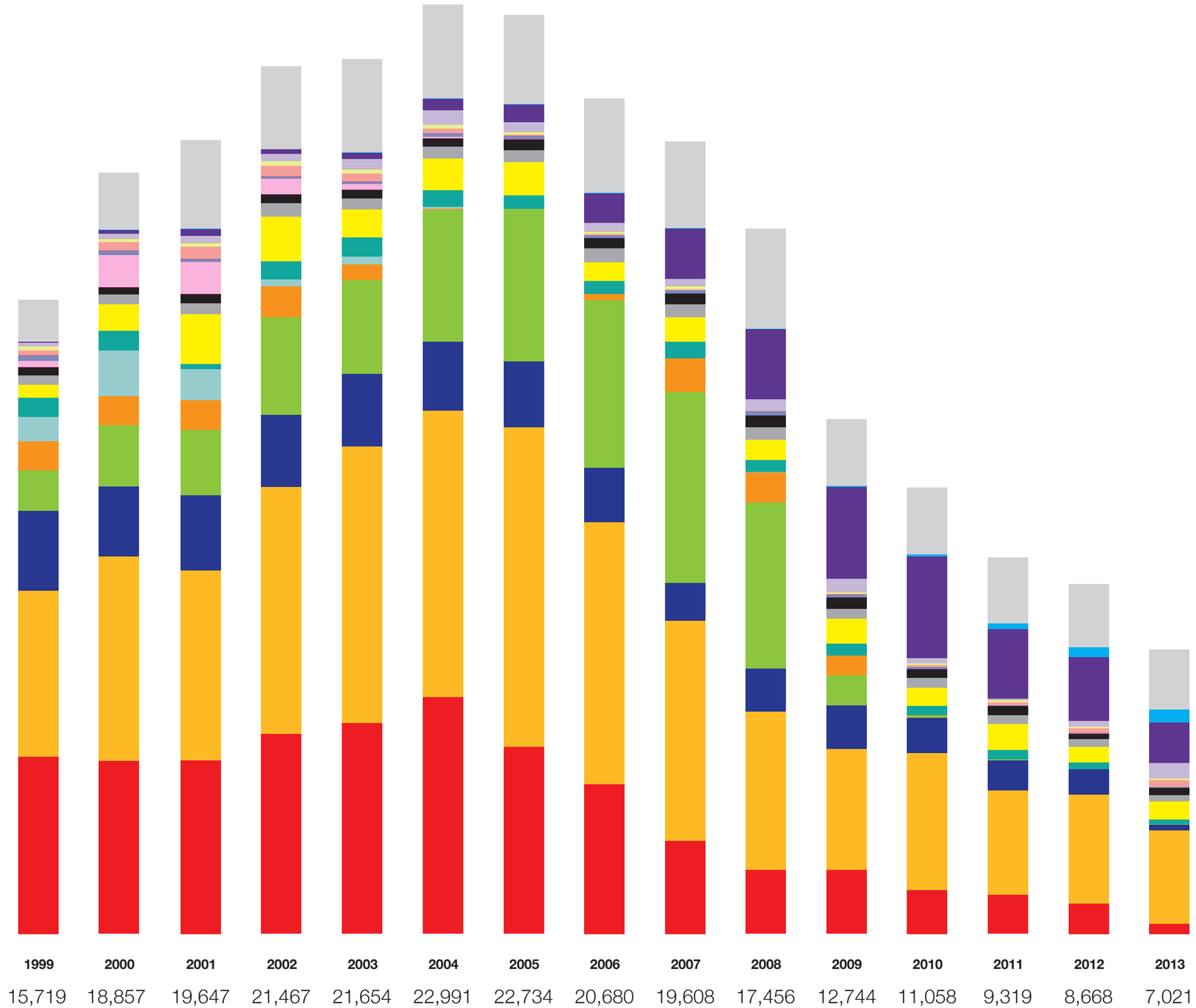
Where do babies come from?

More U.S. parents are adopting from Ethiopia and Uganda, although shifting laws mean that could change soon.



Source: U.S .Department of State

Created in 1993—but not fully implemented until 2008—the Hague Adoption Convention sets guidelines for safe adoptions between nations. Nevertheless, the U.S. State Department doesn't accept adoptions from some participating countries because of concerns about unscrupulous practices.

Adoptions into the U.S. have dropped 55% in the past 15 years, partially because provider nations like China and South Korea have tightened rules. Russia banned adoption by American citizens in 2012 (reportedly as political retribution), while Guatemala halted international adoptions in 2008 after allegations of baby buying, resulting in overflowing orphanages.