



Displacement

The New 21st Century Challenge

UNHCR

Global Trends 2012



7.6 MILLION

NEWLY DISPLACED

An estimated 7.6 million people were newly displaced due to conflict or persecution, including 1.1 million new refugees - the highest number of new arrivals in one year since 1999. Another 6.5 million people were newly displaced within the borders of their countries - the second highest figure of the past ten years.⁽²⁾

23,000 PERSONS PER DAY

FORCED TO FLEE

During the year, conflict and persecution forced an average of 23,000 persons per day to leave their homes and seek protection elsewhere, either within the borders of their countries or in other countries.

35.8 MILLION

PROTECTED BY UNHCR

Some 35.8 million persons were of concern to UNHCR by end 2012, the second highest number on record.⁽³⁾ Of this figure, 17.7 million were IDPs and 10.5 million were refugees - 2.3 million people more than in 2011. The refugee figure was close to that of 2011 (10.4 million) and the number of IDPs had increased by 2.2 million since end 2011.

10 MILLION

STATELESS

Statelessness is estimated to have affected at least 10 million people in 2012; however, data captured by governments and communicated to UNHCR were limited to 3.3 million stateless individuals in 72 countries.

4/5TH

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Developing countries hosted over 80 per cent of the world's refugees, compared to 70 per cent ten years ago. The 49 Least Developed Countries were providing asylum to 2.4 million refugees by year-end.

TOP

HOST

Pakistan was host to the largest number of refugees worldwide (1.6 million), followed by the Islamic Republic of Iran (868,200), Germany (589,700) and Kenya (565,000).

50%

BELOW 5,000 USD

More than half of the refugees under UNHCR's mandate resided in countries where the GDP per capita was below USD 5,000.

2012 IN REVIEW

Trends at a glance

35.8
MILLION

PERSONS
OF CONCERN
TO UNHCR



**GLOBAL
LEADER_{ON}
STATISTICS
ON REFUGEES**

45.2
MILLION

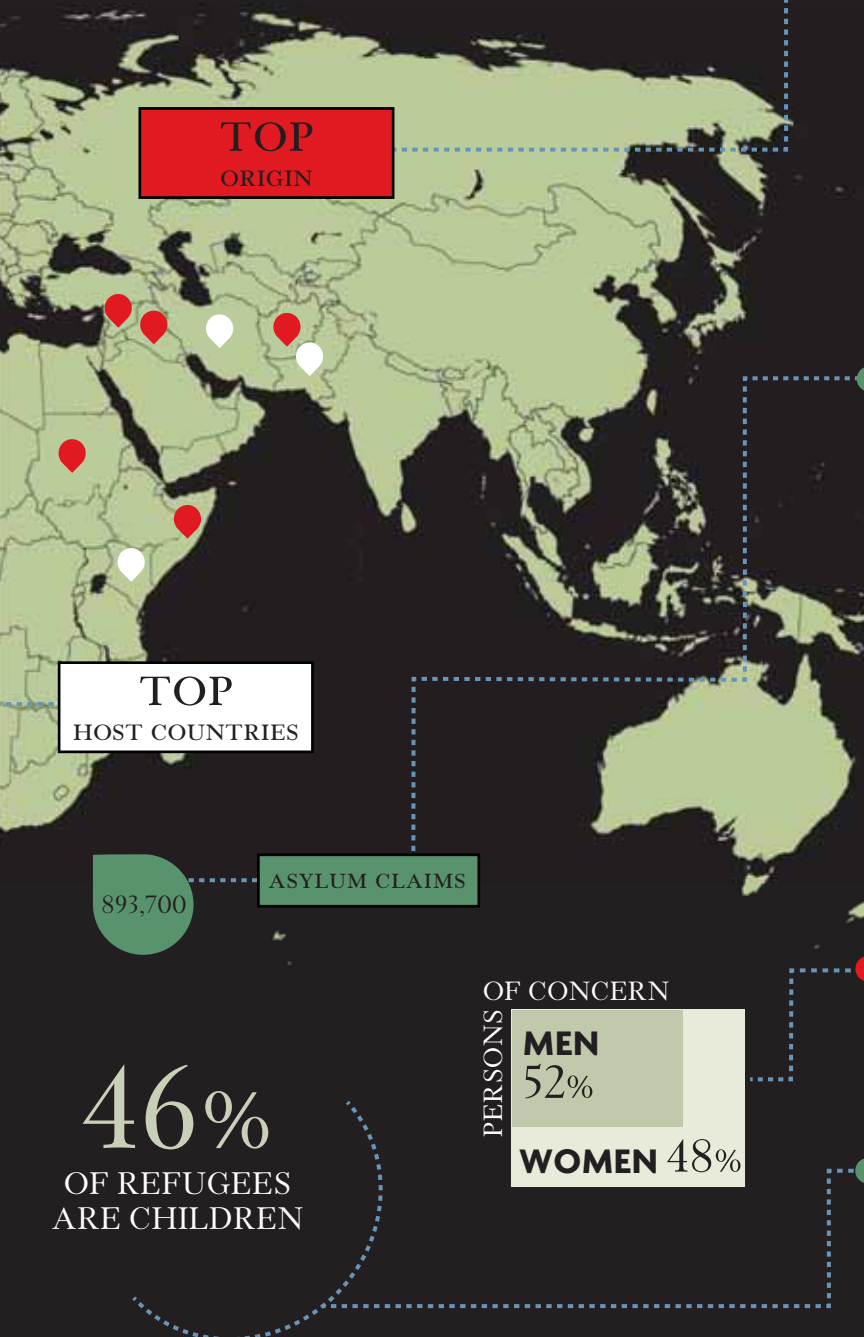
**FORCIBLY
DISPLACED
PEOPLE
WORLDWIDE**

¹ Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC).

² Idem.

³ The highest figure since 1993 when recording keeping began was in 2009 with 36.5 million persons of concern.

By end 2012, 45.2 million people were forcibly displaced worldwide as a result of persecution, conflict, generalized violence and human rights violations. Some 15.4 million people were refugees: 10.5 million under UNHCR's mandate and 4.9 million Palestinian refugees registered by UNRWA. The global figure included 28.8 million internally displaced persons⁽¹⁾ (IDPs) and nearly one million (937,000) asylum-seekers. The 2012 level was the highest since 1994, when an estimated 47 million people were forcibly displaced worldwide.



TOP THREE

HOST PER GDP

Pakistan hosted the largest number of refugees in relation to its economic capacity with 552 refugees per 1 USD GDP (PPP) per capita. Ethiopia (303) and Kenya (301) ranked second and third, respectively.

TOP

ORIGIN

More than half (55%) of all refugees worldwide came from five countries: Afghanistan, Somalia, Iraq, the Syrian Arab Republic, and Sudan.

526,000

RETURN

Over the course of 2012, 526,000 refugees repatriated voluntarily, half of them either to Afghanistan, Iraq or Côte d'Ivoire. This figure was similar to that of 2011 (532,000), and while an improvement on the figures of 2009 and 2010, it was still lower than those of all other years in the past decade.

22 COUNTRIES

RESETTLEMENT

During the year UNHCR submitted over 74,800 refugees to States for resettlement, and more than 71,000 departed with UNHCR's assistance. According to governmental statistics, 22 countries admitted 88,600 refugees for resettlement during 2012 (with or without UNHCR's assistance). The United States of America received the highest number (66,300).

893,700

ASYLUM CLAIMS

More than 893,700 people submitted individual applications for asylum or refugee status in 2012. UNHCR offices registered 13 per cent of these claims. With an estimated 70,400 asylum claims, the United States of America was the world's largest recipient of new individual applications, followed by Germany (64,500), South Africa (61,500), and France (55,100).

21,300

UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN

Some 21,300 asylum applications were lodged by unaccompanied or separated children in 72 countries in 2012, mostly by Afghan and Somali children. It was the highest number on record since UNHCR started collecting such data in 2006.

48%

WOMEN AND GIRLS

Refugee women and girls accounted for 48 per cent of the refugee population in 2012, a proportion that has remained constant over the past decade.

46%

CHILDREN

Children below 18 years constituted 46 per cent of the refugee population in 2012. This was in line with 2011 but higher than a few years ago.



The Domiz Refugee Camp, located near Dohuk in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, is home to thousands of Syrian refugees.

Introduction

In 2012, forced population displacement continued to affect large numbers of people worldwide. UNHCR's 2012 Global Trends report analyses statistical trends and changes from January to December 2012, for the populations for whom UNHCR has been entrusted with a responsibility by the international community. These people include refugees, asylum-seekers, returnees, stateless persons and certain groups of internally displaced persons (IDPs), and are collectively referred to as "persons of concern".⁴

THE YEAR 2012 was marked by refugee crises reaching levels unseen in the previous decade. Conflicts such as those in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, the Syrian Arab Republic, and the border area between South Sudan and Sudan forced more than 1.1 million refugees into neighbouring countries. An average of 3,000 people per day became refugees in 2012, five times more than in 2010. These new refugees joined the more than 800,000 people who had become refugees in 2011. Throughout the year, neighbouring States kept their borders open and provided a safe haven for these hundreds of thousands of refugees, despite the significant

social and economic implications for their own nationals.

In addition, an estimated 6.5 million people were displaced within the borders of their countries, almost twice as many as in 2011 and the second highest of the past decade.⁵ As a result of conflict and persecution, on average during 2012, 23,000 people per day were forced to abandon their homes and seek protection, either within or outside the borders of their countries [see **Figure 1** on page 6].

By the end of 2012, some 45.2 million people worldwide were considered as forcibly displaced due to persecution, conflict, generalized violence and human rights violations. They included 15.4 million refugees,⁶ 28.8 million IDPs⁷ and close to one

million individuals whose asylum applications had not yet been adjudicated by the end of the reporting period. The 2012 level was the highest since 1994, when an estimated 47 million people were considered forcibly displaced worldwide.

Largely due to escalating crises in the Syrian Arab Republic and Mali, the total number of refugees and IDPs under UNHCR's care in 2012 increased by 2.3 million people, reaching 28.2 million persons by year-end [see **Figure 2** on page 7]. The number of refugees increased slightly to 10.5 million from 10.4 in 2011, and the number of IDPs protected or assisted by UNHCR increased to 17.7 million from 15.5 in 2011. In addition, UNHCR estimates that at least 10 million per-

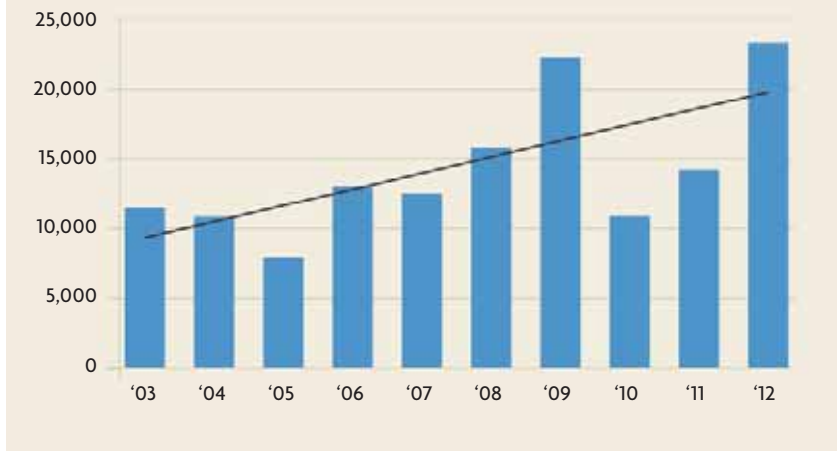
⁴ See page 37 for a definition of each population group.

⁵ Source: IDMC.

⁶ This figure includes 4.9 million Palestinian refugees registered with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

⁷ Source: IDMC.

Fig. 1 Average number of newly displaced persons per day* | 2003-2012



* Displaced internally and across international borders.

“ These truly are alarming numbers. They reflect individual suffering on a huge scale and they reflect the difficulties of the international community in preventing conflicts and promoting timely solutions for them. ”

—ANTÓNIO GUTERRES, UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

sons were stateless globally, with official statistics covering only some 3.3 million.

The number of individual asylum applications registered with Governments or UNHCR in 2012 reflects a continued increasing demand for international protection throughout the year. The total of 893,700 claims submitted was a three per cent increase over 2011 and the second highest level of the past 10 years. More than 21,300 unaccompanied or separated children, mainly from Afghanistan and Somalia, filed an asylum application during the year, the highest number since UNHCR started collecting such information in a systematic way in 2006. According to UNHCR data, at least 113,000 unaccompanied or separated children lodged asylum claims since 2006.

Fortunately, some 526,000 refugees were able to return home voluntarily during the year, similar to 2011.

⁸ Defined as a situation in which 25,000 or more refugees of the same nationality have been in exile for five years or longer in a given asylum country.

UNHCR submitted over 74,800 refugees for resettlement in 2012, one-fifth less than in 2011, largely due to security constraints and processing backlogs. Where UNHCR was engaged with IDPs, an estimated 1.6 million people were able to return home in 2012. Unfortunately, the situation in many countries prevented the return of millions of forcibly displaced people. For example, the number of refugees considered to be in protracted situations⁽⁸⁾ was 6.4 million at year-end.

The figures in *2012 Global Trends* are based on data reported by governments, non-governmental organizations and UNHCR. The numbers are rounded to the closest hundred or thousand. As some adjustments may appear in the 2012 Statistical Yearbook, to be released later this year, the figures contained in this report should be considered as provisional, and may be subject to change. Unless otherwise specified, the report does not refer to events occurring after 31 December 2012. ■

By end 2012, the population under UNHCR's responsibility was 35.8 million persons, taking account of new displacements, durable solutions, legal and demographic changes, improved availability of data, and revised estimates.

Global Trends

THE 10.5 MILLION REFUGEES under UNHCR’s responsibility included some 619,000 people in refugee-like situations.⁹ The number of people whose asylum applications had not yet been adjudicated by the end of the reporting period was estimated at 937,000. A total of 17.7 million IDPs, including more than 401,000 people in IDP-like situations, received humanitarian assistance under arrangements in which UNHCR was either a lead agency or a key partner. This was the highest figure on record.

In countries where UNHCR was engaged with IDPs, an estimated

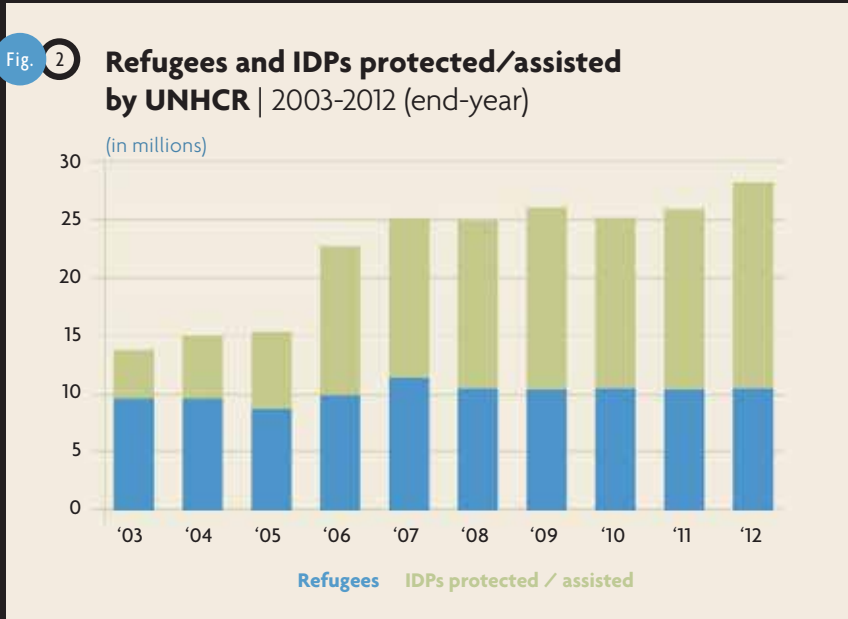
1.6 million IDPs were able to return home during the year.¹⁰ During the same period, some 526,000 refugees repatriated voluntarily.

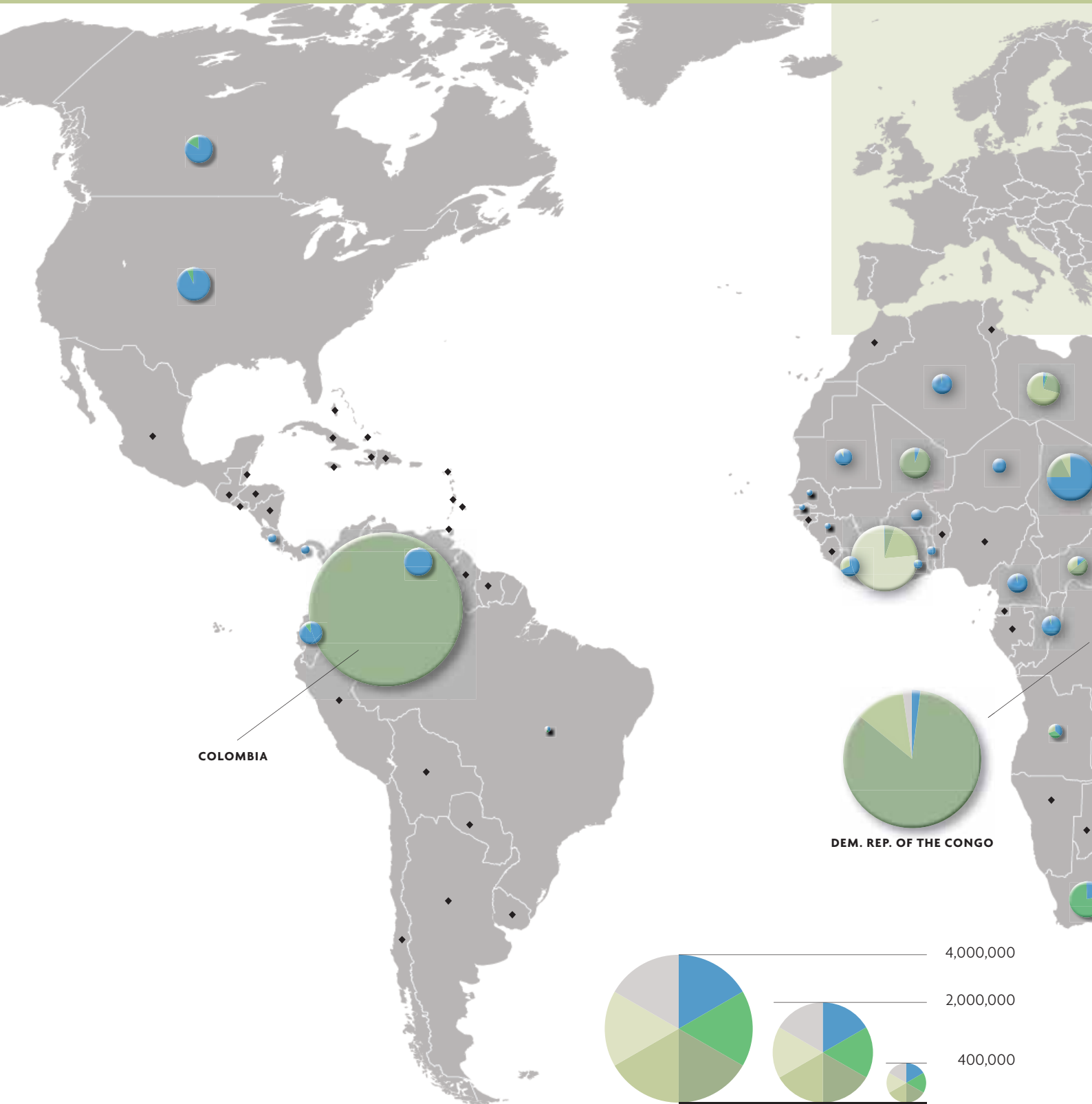
During 2012, UNHCR identified more than 3.34 million stateless persons in 72 countries, and estimated the total number of stateless persons worldwide at more than 10 million people.¹¹ In addition, 1.3 million individuals outside any of the above categories received protection and/or assistance from UNHCR based on humanitarian or other special grounds. These individuals are referred to as “other groups or persons of concern”. ■

⁹ Three-quarters of the 619,000 people in a refugee-like situation were located in Bangladesh, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and Ecuador.

¹⁰ According to the IDMC, 2.1 million IDPs were reported to have returned to their place of residence in 2012 globally, the lowest figure since 2003.

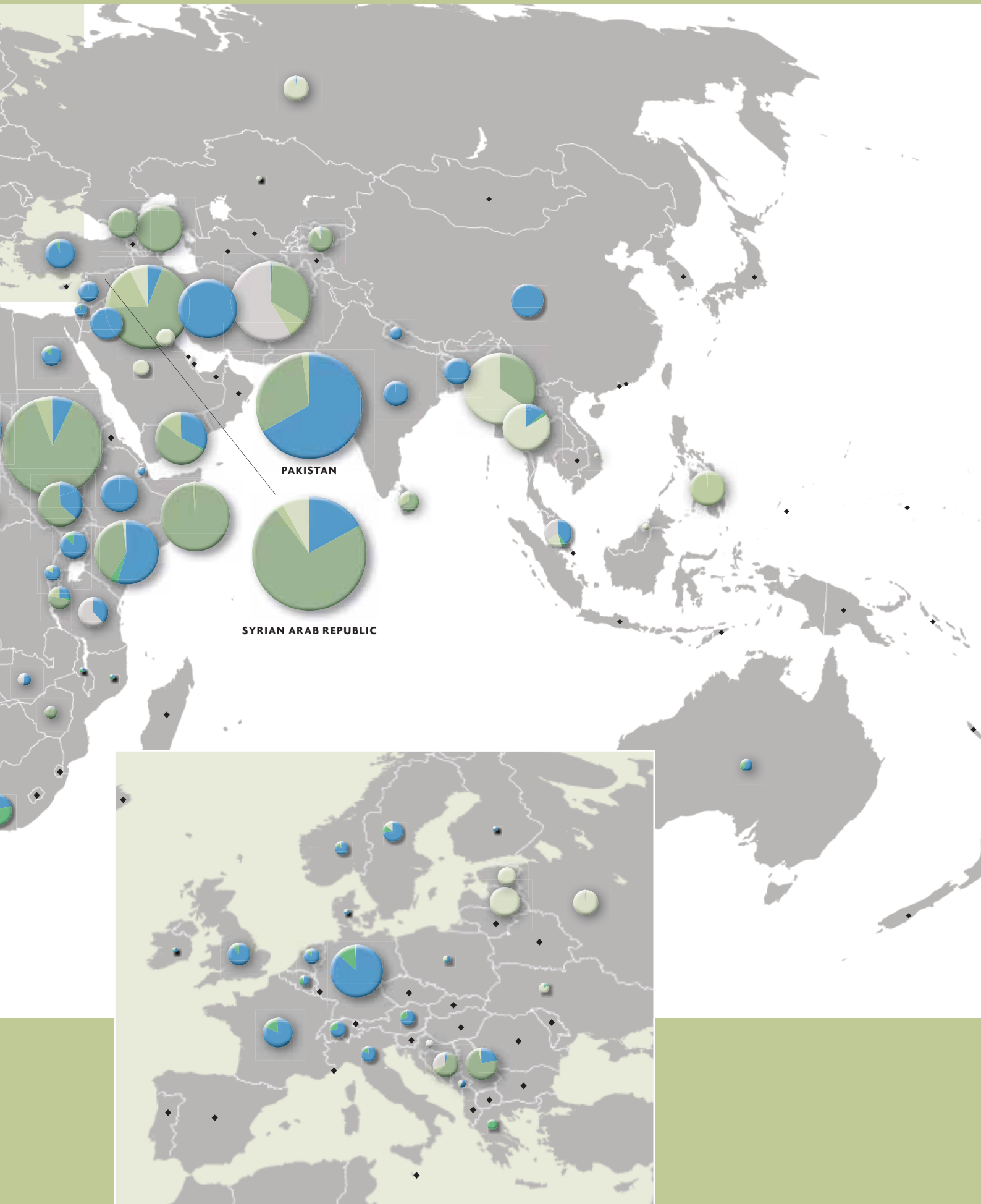
¹¹ Refugees and asylum-seekers who are also stateless persons are not included in this figure, but are reflected in the figures relating to the relevant refugee and asylum-seeker groups.





- Refugees^(a)
- Asylum-seekers (pending cases)
- IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR^(b)
- Returned refugees, returned IDPs
- Stateless persons
- Others of concern

- ◆ Total population below 10,000
- ^a Including people in refugee-like situation
- ^b Including people in IDP-like situation





Teenager Aminata with her two-month-old daughter, Aichatou, and other young relatives in Burkina Faso's Damba Refugee Camp for Malian refugees. The girl and her family walked from northern Mali to reach safety in the camp.

Refugee population

The global number of refugees under UNHCR's mandate was estimated at 10.5 million at the end of 2012. Outflows of more than 1.1 million refugees, mainly from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Somalia, Sudan, and the Syrian Arab Republic stretched emergency response systems globally for the third year in a row.

THE 2012 INCREASE, not seen since the early 1990's, was partly offset by the voluntary return of some half a million refugees, primarily to Afghanistan, Côte d'Ivoire and Iraq. Further reductions in global refugee figures resulted from the application of the cessation clause to Angolan and Liberian refugees across sub-Saharan Africa¹² and from the revision of Government estimates for Iraqi refugees in Jordan and in the Syrian Arab Republic. Despite the significant number of new arrivals, the global refugee population thus grew by only 97,700 people compared to 2011.

Table 1 shows that 3.5 million or one-third (34%) of all refugees were residing in countries covered by UNHCR's Asia and Pacific region. Of these, 2.5 million were Afghans (70%). Sub-Saharan Africa was host to almost 2.8 million or one-quarter of all refugees, primarily from Somalia (799,300), Sudan (527,800), and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (476,500). The Middle East and North Africa region hosted some 1.6 million or 15 per cent of the

world's refugees, mainly from Iraq (554,500) and the Syrian Arab Republic (442,300), while Europe hosted some 1.8 million (17%). In Europe, refugees from the Syrian Arab Republic (283,900) and Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)) (155,600) were the largest groups. With 806,600 refugees, the Americas region hosted the smallest share of refugees (8%) globally. Here, Colombians (391,100) constituted the largest number.¹³

Two major developments impacted refugee figures in the Middle East and North Africa region. First, conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic forced some 647,000 people to seek refuge in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and other countries in the region. Second, Government estimates of Iraqi refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic and Jordan were revised downward to 534,400 at the end of 2012. This revision reflects that a number of Iraqis have returned to Iraq or moved onward to other countries since their arrival. In addition, some 54,000 Malian refugees fled to Mauritania in early 2012, while more than 22,000 Somali refugees arrived in Yemen.

In sub-Saharan Africa, the number of refugees increased for the third consecutive year. By the end of 2012, there were close to 2.8 million refugees in sub-Saharan Africa, 81,000 more than at the beginning of the year and more than half a million more than two years earlier. Nevertheless, the numbers remained below those in 2000 when more than 3.4 million people were refugees in sub-Saharan Africa.

Major refugee outflows in sub-Saharan Africa were reported from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Somalia, and Sudan. The outbreak of violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo led to new internal displacement of more than one

Resettled refugees in UNHCR's refugee statistics

Over the past 10 years, more than 836,000 refugees have arrived in industrialized countries through resettlement programmes. They are not included in UNHCR's refugee statistics owing to the fact that they have found a durable solution. They remain however of concern to UNHCR. ●

¹² Some of these groups are now included in the population category Others of concern while UNHCR assists them to integrate locally.

¹³ This figure includes 282,300 Colombians in Ecuador, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Panama considered to be in a refugee-like situation.

TABLE 1 Refugee populations by UNHCR regions | 2012

UNHCR regions	Start-2012			End-2012			Change (total)	
	Refugees	People in refugee-like situations	Total refugees	Refugees	People in refugee-like situations	Total refugees	Absolute	%
- Central Africa and Great Lakes	635,100	-	635,100	479,300	-	479,300	-155,800	-24.5%
- East and Horn of Africa	1,606,900	26,000	1,632,900	1,866,700	26,000	1,892,700	259,800	15.9%
- Southern Africa	144,600	-	144,600	134,700	-	134,700	-9,900	-6.8%
- West Africa	280,600	-	280,600	267,800	-	267,800	-12,800	-4.6%
Total Africa*	2,667,200	26,000	2,693,200	2,748,500	26,000	2,774,500	81,300	3.0%
Americas	516,800	290,800	807,600	515,400	291,200	806,600	-1,000	-0.1%
Asia and Pacific	3,391,000	216,300	3,607,300	3,299,300	226,200	3,525,500	-81,800	-2.3%
Europe	1,553,300	900	1,554,200	1,799,300	500	1,799,800	245,600	15.8%
Middle East and North Africa	1,669,300	70,900	1,740,200	1,519,000	74,800	1,593,800	-146,400	-8.4%
Total	9,797,600	604,900	10,402,500	9,881,500	618,700	10,500,200	97,700	0.9%

* Excluding North Africa.

million people, as well as outflows of tens of thousands of Congolese into Uganda (40,200), Rwanda (17,000), and Burundi (8,200).⁽¹⁴⁾ As observed in earlier years, on-going violence and drought in southern and central Somalia continued to force large numbers to flee; in 2012 75,000 Somalis sought refuge abroad, mainly in Ethiopia (35,800), Yemen (22,300), and Kenya (13,800).

Overall, some 763,000 Somalis or an estimated 8 per cent of the population have left the country during the past six years. The outbreak of war in Mali resulted in a large-scale refugee movement in 2012, when an estimated 143,000 people fled to Mauritania (54,000), Niger (50,200), and Burkina Faso (38,400). Conflict in Sudan led to the outflow of 112,500 refugees to South Sudan (100,000) and Ethiopia (12,500) while more than 35,000 refugees from South Sudan arrived in Ethiopia.

A total of 272,800 refugees across sub-Saharan Africa were able to return home in safety and dignity, including to Côte d'Ivoire (72,800), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (71,900), Burundi (35,700)⁽¹⁵⁾, Liberia (29,400), and Angola (19,700).

In the Americas, the refugee population remained virtually unchanged, at roughly 806,600. The United States of America accounted for one third of refugees in this region according to UNHCR estimates (262,000).⁽¹⁶⁾ Some 1,500 Colombians were granted refugee status in Ecuador bringing the total number of Colombian refugees (54,600) and people in a refugee-like situation (68,300) to almost 123,000 at the end of 2012. In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the estimated number of Colombian refugees and persons in a refugee-like situation remained unchanged at 203,600.

In the Asia and Pacific region, the total number of refugees, including people in a refugee-like situation, was estimated at 3.5 million at the end of 2012, a decrease of 2 per cent during the year. This was largely due to the voluntary repatriation of almost 100,000 Afghan refugees from Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and departures for resettlement of more than 34,000 refugees out of Malaysia, Nepal, and Thailand, facilitated by UNHCR.

In Europe, the refugee population increased by 245,600 people to 1.8 million at the end of 2012 (+16%) largely as a result of the arrival of 308,000 Syrian refugees in Turkey. Some 68,600 of them returned spontaneously to their

country in the course of the year. An additional 17,700 Syrian asylum-seekers were granted international protection on an individual basis across Europe. The increase in Syrian refugees across Europe was partly offset by a revision of UNHCR's refugee estimate for the United Kingdom, from 193,600 to 149,800.⁽¹⁷⁾

COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM

With one exception, the 10 major refugee-hosting countries in 2012 were the same as in 2011. The United States of America dropped out of the list of the top 10, and Turkey moved in into 10th place [see **Figure 5**]. Together, these 10 countries hosted 5.8 million or 55 per cent of all refugees worldwide.

Pakistan continued to host the largest number of refugees in the world (1.64 million), nearly all from Afghanistan. The overall figure decreased by 64,000 people compared to the start of the year, mainly due to voluntary repatriation of Afghan refugees. The Islamic Republic of Iran hosted 868,200 refugees by year-end, almost all Afghans. An overall drop of 18,200 refugees was observed, mainly because of repatriating Afghans.

¹⁴ Congolese arriving in Uganda were granted refugee status on a prima facie basis whereas those arriving in Burundi and Rwanda went through individual refugee status determination.

¹⁵ Some 33,800 returnees included former refugees living in Mtabila camp, United Republic of Tanzania. The cessation clause of refugee status of this group fell on 1 August, 2012, and the orderly return operation to Burundi took place on 31 October, 2012.

¹⁶ In the absence of official refugee statistics, UNHCR is required to estimate refugee populations in 25 industrialized countries.

¹⁷ Idem.

Protracted refugee situations

UNHCR defines a protracted refugee situation as one in which 25,000 or more refugees of the same nationality have been in exile for five years or longer in a given asylum country. Based on this definition, it is estimated that some 6.4 million refugees were in a protracted situation by the end of 2012. These refugees were living in 25 host countries accounting for an overall total of 30 protracted situations. ●

Most refugees live in developing countries

The percentage of refugees residing in developing countries has increased over the past decade. Ten years ago, developing countries hosted on average 70 per cent of the world's refugees; this figure now stands at 81 per cent.

By the end of 2012, developing countries hosted 8.5 million refugees. The 49 Least Developed Countries provided asylum to 2.5 million refugees or 24 per cent of the global total. ●

Germany reported 589,700 refugees at the end of 2012, an increase of 3 per cent (+18,000 people), making it the third-largest refugee hosting country in the world.¹⁸ Kenya ranked fourth with 564,900 refugees, virtually unchanged compared to the start of the year (566,500). In light of the deteriorating humanitarian situation and escalating violence in the Syrian Arab Republic, the Government estimate for Iraqi refugees in the country was revised from 750,000 to 471,400 assuming that a number of Iraqis had left the country. UNHCR continued to provide assistance to a registered 62,700 Iraqi refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic by end 2012. Including other groups, the total number of refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic was 476,500 at year-end, making it the fifth largest refugee-hosting country.

Ethiopia continued to receive new arrivals in 2012 with 94,000 people seeking refuge, mostly from Somalia (35,800) and South Sudan (35,200), but also Sudan (12,500) and Eritrea (10,700). Since 2008, when Ethiopia was host to 83,600 refugees, figures have more than quadrupled. By the end of 2012, the refugee population had grown to 376,400 and Ethiopia was hosting the sixth largest refugee population in the world.

The refugee population in Chad remained relatively stable at 373,700 compared to 366,500 at the end of 2011. In Jordan, the Government's estimate of Iraqi refugees was revised down from 450,000 to 63,000. This reduction was partly offset by the arrival of more than 131,000 Syrian refugees. The total number of refugees in Jordan stood at 302,700 by year-end, making it the eighth largest refugee-hosting country in the world.

Reported numbers of refugees in China remained largely unchanged since the early 1980's, and the country featured as 9th largest refugee-hosting country accordingly. Meanwhile, in Turkey, there were significant numbers of new arrivals in 2012. More than 307,700 Syrian refugees arrived over the course of the year and were granted temporary protection by the Government of Turkey. With the return of 68,600 people to the Syrian Arab Republic, the number was 248,500

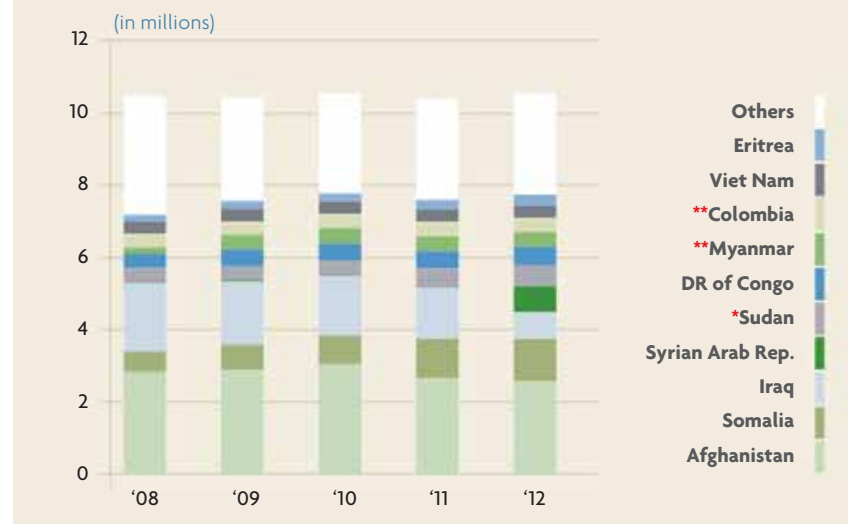
at the end of 2012. Combined with other refugee populations, the total number of refugees in Turkey was 267,100, moving it from the 59th to the 10th most important refugee-hosting country in the space of only one year. In no other country had the change been so dramatic.

COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

Afghanistan, Somalia, Iraq, the Syrian Arab Republic, and Sudan were the top five source countries of refugees at the end of 2012. With the exception of the Syrian Arab Republic, this was comparable to the end of 2011, when Af-

Fig. 3 Source countries of refugees | 2008-2012

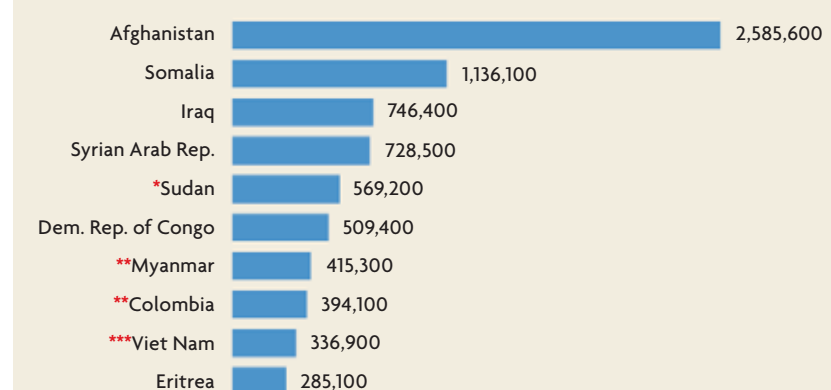
Ranking based on 2012 data



* May include citizens of South Sudan (in the absence of separate statistics for both countries).

** Includes people in refugee-like situation.

Fig. 4 Major source countries of refugees | end-2012



* May include citizens of South Sudan (in absence of separate statistics for both countries).

** Includes people in a refugee-like situation.

*** The 300,000 Vietnamese refugees are well integrated and in practice receive protection from the Government of China.

¹⁸ The refugee estimate for Germany is currently under review which may lead to an adjustment in future reports.

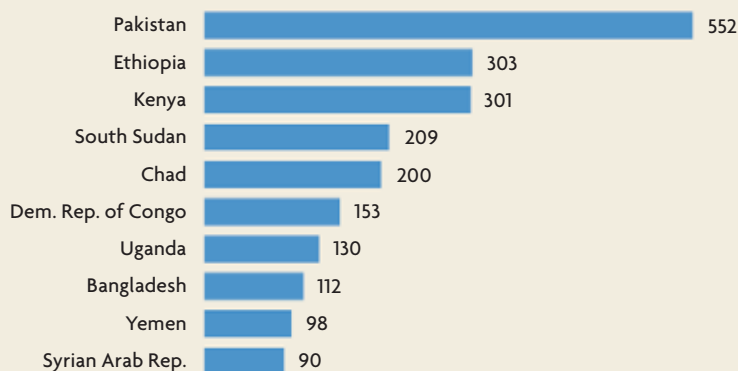
Fig. 5 Major refugee-hosting countries | end-2012



* Government estimate.

** The 300,000 Vietnamese refugees are well integrated and in practice receive protection from the Government of China.

Fig. 6 Number of refugees per 1 USD GDP (PPP) per capita | 2012



ghanistan, Iraq, Somalia, Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo were the top-ranking source countries. The top five countries of 2012 accounted for more than half (55%) of all refugees under UNHCR's responsibility worldwide [see Figure 3].

With close to 2.6 million refugees in 82 countries, Afghanistan remained the leading country of origin of refugees in 2012. The country has remained on top of the list for 32 consecutive years with numbers varying from 500,000 refugees at the onset of the crisis in 1979, to more than 6.3 million at its peak in 1990. On average, one out of four refugees in the world are from Afghani-

stan, with 95 per cent of them located in Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran. Outside the immediate region, Germany hosted the largest number of Afghans - an estimated 31,700 people.

Somalis were the second largest refugee group under UNHCR's responsibility, with more than 1.1 million people at the end of 2012 - 61,000 more than at the start of the year. Between 2007 and 2011, more than half a million Somalis arrived in Ethiopia and Kenya as a result of conflict and violence combined with drought and famine. One positive sign was that the refugee outflow slowed down in 2012, with 35,800 arriving in Ethiopia and 13,800 in Kenya. In addition, 3,200 Somalis fled to Djibouti while some 22,300 embarked on a perilous journey across the Gulf of Aden or the Red Sea to Yemen.

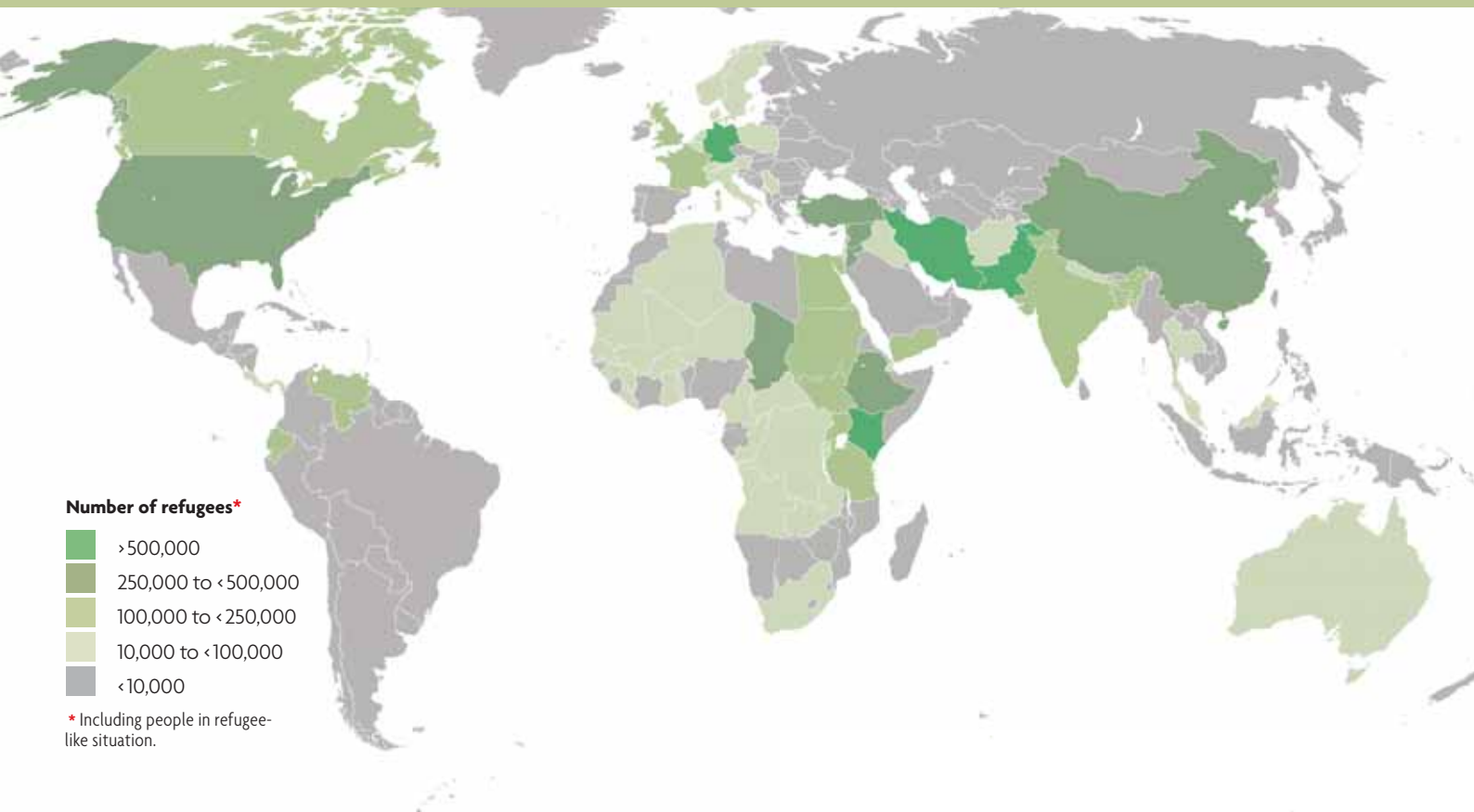
Despite significant revisions of figures, Iraqis were the third largest refugee group in 2012, with an estimated 746,400 persons mainly in the Syrian Arab Republic (471,400) and Jordan (63,000). This is nearly less than half of the figure reported in 2011 (1.4 million), as Governments reduced their estimates in both countries, on the assumption that many people returned to Iraq or moved elsewhere. Other important host countries of Iraqi refugees were Germany (49,800) and the Islamic Republic of Iran (44,100).

Conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic forced 647,000 people to flee mainly to neighbouring countries. This was the largest annual exodus by a single refugee group since 1999, when more than 867,000 people fled Kosovo (S/RES/1244 (1999)), primarily to Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The total number of Syrian refugees at end 2012 was 728,500, making them the fourth largest refugee group in the world - a jump from 36th place a year earlier.

Sudan was the fifth largest country of origin, with 569,200 refugees under UNHCR's mandate at the end of 2012, up from 387,100¹⁹ two years earlier. Fighting in southern areas of Sudan drove 100,000 persons to seek refuge in South Sudan and 12,500 in Ethiopia during the year. An estimated 218,000 Sudanese have fled the country since the outbreak of conflict in 2011.

Other main source countries of refugees were the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Myanmar, and Colombia. The number of Congolese refugees increased for the fifth consecutive year, reaching an all-time high by year-end (509,400). Some 40,000 Congolese were granted prima facie refugee status in Uganda, while an additional 25,300 Congolese were recognized on an individual basis, mainly in Rwanda (15,100), and in Burundi (6,400). The numbers of refugees from Myanmar (415,300) and Colombia (394,100) remained relatively stable compared to 2011. The figure for Myanmar included an estimated 200,000 unregistered people in Bangladesh. The figure for Colombians included refugees as well people in a refugee-like situation in Ecuador, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Panama.

19 This figure includes citizens of South Sudan in the absence of separate statistics available for both countries until 2011.



CONTRIBUTIONS OF HOST COUNTRIES

Countries' contribution to international refugee protection can take many forms. These include providing asylum, offering refugees a durable solution and providing funds for protection and assistance activities including in other, usually less prosperous, countries. Developing countries often host large groups of refugees, placing an extra burden on their communities. To assist these countries, the international community often provides resources through UNHCR, other international agencies, non-governmental organizations or bilaterally.

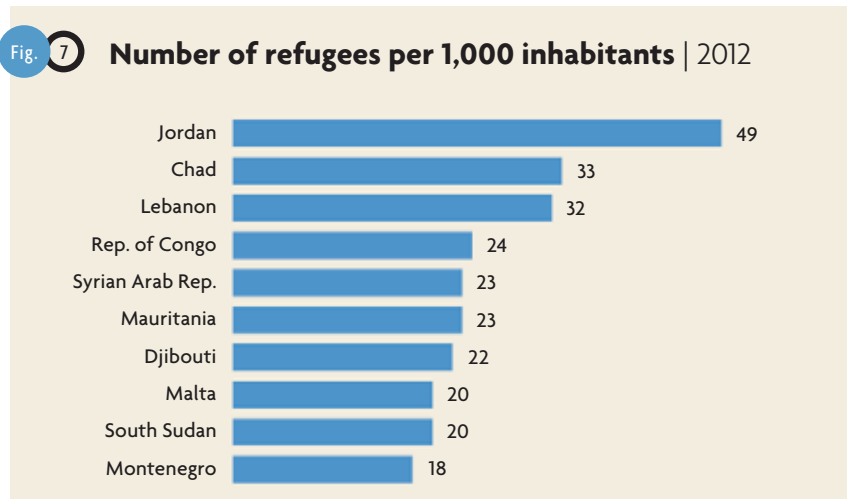
The ratio of the size of its hosted refugee population to the average income level of a country according to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (Purchasing Power Parity)⁽²⁰⁾ per capita⁽²¹⁾ provides a proxy measure of the burden of hosting refugees that permits a better comparison between countries. When the number of refugees per 1 USD GDP (PPP) per capita is high, the relative contribution

and effort made by countries, in relation to their national economy, can be considered as high. This indicator shows that in 2012, the 25 countries with the largest number of refugees per 1 USD GDP per capita were all developing countries, and included 16 Least Developed Countries. More than 5.2 million refugees, representing 50 per cent of the world's refugees, resided in countries whose GDP (PPP) per capita was below USD 5,000.

Pakistan had the highest number of refugees in relation to its national economy [see Figure 6], hosting 552 refugees per 1 USD GDP (PPP) per capita. Ethiopia was second with 303 refugees per 1 USD GDP

(PPP) per capita, followed by Kenya (301), South Sudan (209), Chad (200), and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (153). The first developed country was Germany, in 31st place, with 15 refugees per 1 USD GDP (PPP) per capita.

Rankings change when the number of refugees is compared to the national population of the host country. Here, Jordan tops the list with 49 refugees per 1,000 inhabitants, followed by Chad with 33 refugees per 1,000 inhabitants, Lebanon (32), Congo (24) and the Syrian Arab Republic (23) [see Figure 7]. Chad and South Sudan are the only countries among the top 10 for both indicators. ■



²⁰ Source for Gross Domestic Product (Purchasing Power Parity): International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook Database, April 2013 (accessed 25 April 2013).

²¹ Source for national populations: United Nations, Population Division, World Population Prospects: The 2010 Revision, New York, 2011.



Naima Abdullahi, 36, outside her home in Atlanta, Georgia. An ethnic Oromo from Ethiopia, her parents fled to Kenya. She was only 10 when the family was resettled in the United States.

Durable Solutions for Refugees

While UNHCR works to ensure that the rights and well-being of refugees are protected, the organization is also mandated to seek durable solutions that allow refugees to rebuild their lives in dignity and safety. There are three solutions for refugees: voluntary repatriation, local integration, or resettlement to a third country.

VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION is the durable solution for the largest number of refugees. It requires the commitment of the country of origin to protect and to reintegrate its own citizens back into their home communities. For some refugees, resettlement to a third country is a way to find permanent safety and the enjoyment of fundamental human rights. For others, finding a long-term home in the country of

asylum and integrating into the local community offers a solution to their plight and the opportunity to start a new life.

Resettlement benefits a comparatively small number of refugees: in 2012, less than one per cent of the world's refugees benefited from this durable solution. Over the past ten years, some 836,500 refugees were resettled compared to 7.2 million refugees who repatriated. In recent years, UNHCR and States have worked to

increase the use of resettlement as a strategic durable solution.

Local integration is a complex and gradual process which comprises distinct but related legal, economic, social and cultural dimensions. For many, acquiring the nationality of the country of asylum is the culmination of this process. The analysis of local integration data appearing in this report is limited to the availability of statistics on the naturalization of refugees in host countries.

COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTIONS STRATEGIES

When positive changes of a fundamental and durable nature have taken place in a refugee's country of origin, and it is recognized that the causes of flight no longer exist, both the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1969 Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa provide for the formal cessation of refugee status. At the end of 2011, UNHCR recommended to cease refugee status of Angolan refugees

who fled their country as a result of conflicts between 1961 and 2002, and of Liberian refugees who fled as a result of civil wars between 1989 and 2003, as of 30 June 2012. Refugee status for Rwandan refugees who fled their country between 1959 and 31 December 1998 as a result of the different episodes of inter-ethnic violence between 1959 and 1994, the genocide of 1994 and its aftermath, and the renewed armed conflict that erupted

in north-western Rwanda from 1997 to 1998, will cease as of 30 June 2013.

Leading up to the cessation, comprehensive strategies have been designed and implemented to find solutions for as many Angolan, Liberian and Rwandan refugees as possible, be it in their countries of origin or of asylum.

For Angolan refugees, significant progress was made in 2012, as some 20,000 refugees returned, with another

26,000 persons registered for repatriation. Some 70,000 opted for local integration, primarily in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zambia. At the Intergovernmental Ministerial meeting, the Government of Zambia pledged to support the local integration of about 10,000 Angolan refugees who have been living in Zambia for over four decades, some of whom have been born and brought up in the country as second- or third-generation refugees.

Some 29,500 Liberian refugees returned home in 2012, while local integration was underway for 12,400 persons. Local integration has been greatly facilitated by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Protocol relating to Free Movement of Persons, Residence and Establishment, which allowed former Liberian refugees to reside and work in any ECOWAS Member State.

For Rwandan refugees, some 11,200 returned home in 2012, with local integration underway in some host countries. Some Governments in the region have agreed to pursue feasible local integration opportunities for Rwandan refugees, including citizenship through naturalization.

A regional comprehensive solutions strategy to enhance the search for comprehensive solutions for Congolese refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo was also developed in 2012. While

repatriation and local integration opportunities were being pursued in some asylum countries, some 7,000 Congolese refugees were submitted for resettlement in 2012 as part of a multi-year resettlement plan, targeting over 50,000 submissions from 2012 to 2015/2016.

VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION

The number of refugees repatriating dropped steadily from 2004 to 2010, when only 197,600 people were able to return home. This trend reversed in 2011 with the reported repatriation of 532,000 refugees, and has remained constant in 2012.^[22] Globally, more than 7.2 million refugees have returned home over the past 10 years, 4.9 million of them with UNHCR's assistance.

In 2012, the main countries of return were Afghanistan (98,600), Iraq (82,300), Côte d'Ivoire (72,900), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (71,900), and the Syrian Arab Republic (68,600). Most of the Afghans and Iraqis had been in exile for many years before finally being able to return. Of the repatriating Syrian and Ivorian refugees, most returned after only one or two years in exile.

The largest numbers of refugee departures were reported by Pakistan (83,400), followed by Liberia (72,000), Turkey (68,800), the Syrian Arab Republic (56,900), and the Republic of Congo (46,600). With the perspective of continued violence in both the

Syrian Arab Republic and Congo, returns to these countries may not be sustainable.

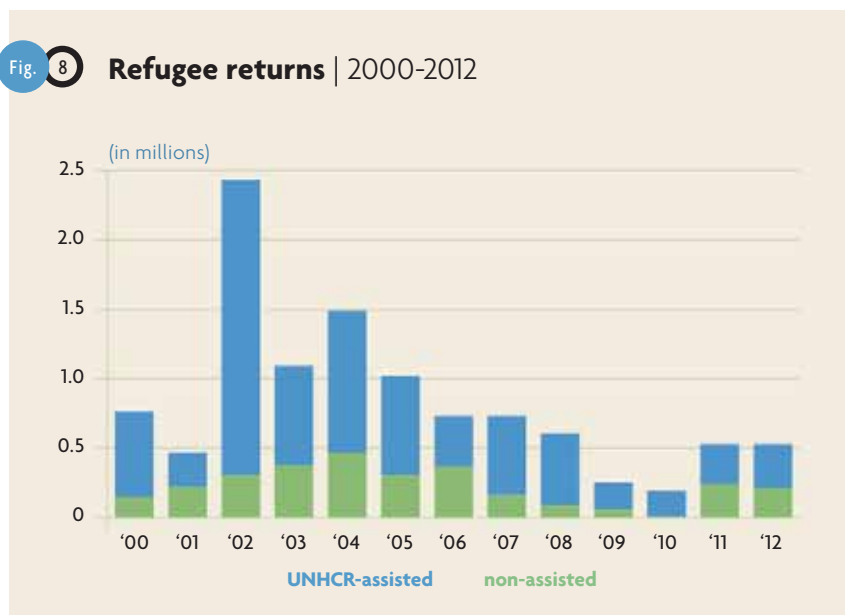
As of June 2012, UNHCR ceased awarding refugee status to people who had fled Angola as a result of the country's 1965-75 war of independence or subsequent civil war, which ended in 2002. Many of the roughly 600,000 people who fled Angola to neighbouring countries had already returned. To facilitate returns ahead of the cessation deadline, UNHCR launched a new assisted return programme in late 2011, to help Angolan refugees return home from nearby countries. Overall some 20,000 Angolans returned in 2012, almost all of them with UNHCR's assistance.

In West Africa, UNHCR concluded the voluntary repatriation operation for tens of thousands of Liberians forced into exile during the 14 years of civil war in the country. In total, UNHCR helped more than 155,000 Liberian refugees to go home, mainly by road convoys and chartered flights.

RESETTLEMENT

Resettlement continued its vital role as an essential component of comprehensive frameworks for solutions, while offering an important protection tool and an international responsibility-sharing mechanism. Although the resettlement base expanded to include 27 countries in 2012, the number of annual resettlement places offered by States did not significantly increase, remaining at around 80,000 places allocated globally. Resettlement needs continued to exceed the number of places available by a ratio of 1:10.

In 2012, UNHCR submitted over 74,800 refugees for resettlement, 18 per cent less than in 2011. Some 11 per cent of all resettlement submissions were for women and girls at risk. This was the highest percentage of recent years, up from less than 8 per cent in 2008. Overall submission levels have declined from a peak in 2009, when more than 128,000 refugees were put forward. This reflected increased time for the processing of complex cases and UNHCR's decision to restrict submission levels in order



²² Based on consolidated reports from countries of asylum (departure) and origin (return).

to avoid an excessive backlog of people unable to depart.

During the year, a total of 88,600 refugees were admitted by 22 resettlement countries, including the United States of America (66,300), Canada (9,600), Australia (5,900), Sweden (1,900), and Norway (1,200). This was 8,800 people more than in 2011 (79,800). The United States of America and Canada together admitted nearly nine out of ten resettled refugees in 2012.

In 2012, almost 71,300 individuals departed with UNHCR's assistance, 15 per cent more than in 2011. By nationality, the main beneficiaries of the UNHCR-facilitated resettlement programmes were refugees from Myanmar (17,400), Bhutan (16,700), Iraq (13,700), and Somalia (7,000).

UNHCR's offices in 85 countries of asylum were involved in facilitating resettlement processing during 2012. The largest number of refugees resettled with UNHCR's assistance departed from Nepal (16,700), Malaysia (10,500), Thailand (7,300), Turkey (5,900), and the Syrian Arab Republic (3,500). These five UNHCR offices combined accounted for 6 out of every 10 resettlement departures assisted by the organization in 2012.

LOCAL INTEGRATION

Local integration is a complex and gradual process by which refugees legally, economically, socially and culturally integrate as members of the host society. As a legal process, refugees are granted a range of entitlements and rights which are broadly commensurate with those enjoyed by citizens. Over time the process should lead to permanent residence

Fig. 9 Resettlement of refugees | 2000-2012



rights and in some cases the acquisition of citizenship in the country of asylum. As an economic, social and cultural process, refugees are able to live amongst or alongside the host population, without discrimination or exploitation and contribute actively to the social, economic and cultural life of their country of asylum. Local integration requires efforts by all concerned, including on the part of refugees to adapt to the host society, and on the part of host communities to welcome refugees and to meet their diverse needs.

Measuring the number of refugees who have naturalized remained challenging. Where refugees can acquire citizenship through naturalization, many countries do not distinguish the naturalization of refugees from that of other categories of persons. Hence, the

naturalization of refugees tends to be restricted and under-reported.

Nevertheless, information available to UNHCR shows that during the past decade at least 801,000 refugees have been granted citizenship by their asylum countries. The United States of America alone accounted for two-thirds of this figure.⁽²³⁾ For 2012, UNHCR was informed of refugees being granted citizenship in 27 countries, including Belgium (2,100), Ireland (1,100), Viet Nam (990), Montenegro (230), and Armenia (215). ■

²³ The United States of America ceased issuing statistics on the number of naturalized refugees. The latest available information is for 2009, when 55,300 refugees were naturalized between January and September of that year.

Brazilian residency for Angolan and Liberian refugees

On 26 October 2012, a decree was issued by the Brazilian Government to grant permanent residency to nearly 2,000 former Angolan and Liberian refugees. This measure was adopted by the Brazilian migration authorities following a global UNHCR recommendation in January that year, asking States to apply the cessation clauses in the two refugee

situations. Brazil is the first country in Latin America and outside the African region to adopt UNHCR's recommendations. Most Angolan and Liberian refugees living in Brazil arrived in the country during the 1990's, fleeing internal civil conflicts that displaced millions of people. ●



A tense-looking woman in the remote river village of Apawe in Myanmar's Rakhine State. More than half the people in the village were forcibly displaced during inter-communal violence in October 2012. The villagers needed food and clothing.



Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre estimated the global number of persons displaced by armed conflict, generalized violence and human rights violations at the end of 2012 at some 28.8 million, the highest number in more than two decades.^[24]

THE NUMBER OF IDPs, including people in IDP-like situations,^[25] who benefited from UNHCR’s protection and assistance activities stood at almost 17.7 million at the end of 2012. This was the highest figure on record, and 2.2 million more than at the start of the year (15.5 million). Where UNHCR was engaged with IDP populations, offices reported at least five million newly-displaced people in 2012, particularly in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Syrian Arab Republic. Among those countries where UNHCR was operational, close to 1.6 million IDPs returned home during the reporting period, many with UNHCR’s assistance. UNHCR figures for end of 2012 included IDP populations in a total of 26 countries.

With some 4 million internally displaced people registered by the Government since 1997, Colombia continued to face a large displace-

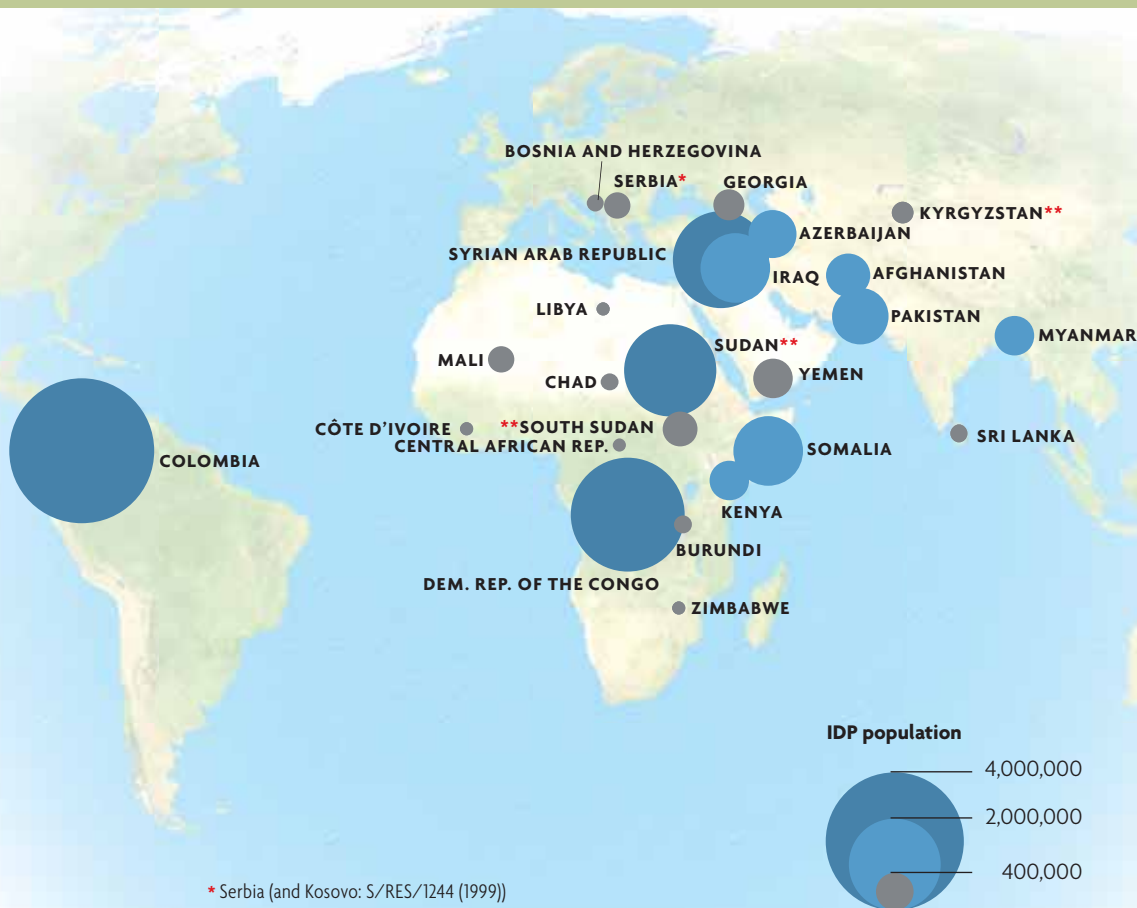
ment situation. Escalating conflict and violence in the Syrian Arab Republic displaced an estimated two million within the country, and affected an estimated four million more by the end of the year. Despite access and security constraints, UNHCR was able to assist an estimated 700,000 individuals in 2012.

Renewed fighting in the Democratic Republic of the Congo displaced more than a million people during the year, bringing the total number of IDPs in the country to almost 2.7 million by the end of 2012. At the same time, 305,000 IDPs were able to return home, some soon after their displacement. War in Mali in 2012



²⁴ For detailed statistics on global internal displacement, see the IDMC website at www.internal-displacement.org.

²⁵ As in Kyrgyzstan (168,600), South Sudan (155,200), and Sudan (77,300).



* Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999))
 ** Includes people in an IDP-like situation.

The Kampala Convention

On 6 December 2012, the African Union Convention on the Protection of and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (known as the Kampala Convention) entered into force. This was a major breakthrough for the protection of IDPs in Africa.

The Convention covers displacement from causes that include conflict, generalized violence, human rights violations, manmade and natural disasters, climate change and public and private works projects. It affirms the primary responsibility of States for their own internally displaced citizens, and calls for national and regional actions to prevent internal displacement and to ensure that IDPs are protected and helped.

Countries that have ratified the Convention are required to transfer its provisions into national laws. UNHCR, together with partners, is promoting further ratifications and assisting Governments to domesticate the Convention. ●

displaced more than 227,000 people within the country. Inter-communal tensions in Rakhine State of Myanmar resulted in 115,000 people fleeing their homes, and the total number of IDPs in Myanmar was estimated at 430,000 by year-end. Renewed conflict and security concerns displaced 203,000 people in Afghanistan in 2012; by the end of the year, the number of IDPs was estimated at almost half a million.

Significant numbers of new internal displacement caused by conflict or violence were also reported by Pakistan (362,000), South Sudan (190,500), Philippines (178,000), Libya (143,000), and Sudan (104,000).

Although millions of people were newly displaced during the year, others were able to return to their places of habitual residence. In collaboration with the Yemeni authorities, UNHCR assisted tens of thousands of people in making their way back home. This was the first significant number of returns since May 2011 when fighting be-

tween government troops and militants erupted in southern Yemen. Overall, although some 107,000 IDPs in Yemen returned in the course of the year, the number of IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR in Yemen remained high, at around 385,300.

Some 219,000 Iraqis returned to their homes in 2012, reducing the number of IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR in the country to 1.1 million. Similarly, the number of people still displaced in Côte d'Ivoire dropped to 45,000 by year-end as 96,000 people returned to their places of habitual residence.

Although more than 100,000 people headed home, the number of IDPs protected or assisted by UNHCR in Sudan remained high, approximately 1.8 million⁽²⁶⁾ by the end of the year. In Somalia, the IDP figure was an estimated 1.1 million, including large numbers in Mogadishu and the Afgoye Corridor.

Overall, the highest number of IDP returns was reported in the Philippines (336,000), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (305,000), Iraq (219,000), and Libya (177,500). ■

26 According to IDMC estimates, the number of IDPs in Sudan is estimated at at least 2.2 million.

A group of displaced Congolese women make conglomerate wooden bricks, which are used as fuel for cooking. They will be sold to other women so they do not have to risk assault by searching for firewood.





A family of asylum-seekers in a reception centre in Sofia, Bulgaria. Asylum-seekers are provided with shelter, health insurance and a modest allowance while waiting for their claims to be processed.

Asylum-seekers

An asylum-seeker is an individual seeking international protection and whose claim for refugee status has not yet been determined. This section presents main trends in individual asylum applications lodged in 2012, with an overview of decisions. It does not include information on mass influxes of refugees, nor on those granted refugee status on a group or prima facie basis.

SOME 893,700⁽²⁷⁾ INDIVIDUAL applications for asylum or refugee status were submitted to governments or UNHCR's offices in 164 countries or territories during 2012, the second highest level of the past ten years. While this constituted a 3 per cent increase globally compared to 2011 (864,600 claims), the increase in industrialized countries was an estimated 8 per cent.⁽²⁸⁾ Of the provisional total of 893,700 asylum claims, an estimated 731,900 were initial applications⁽²⁹⁾ lodged in first instance procedures, while the remaining 161,800 claims were submitted at second instance, including with courts or other appellate bodies.⁽³⁰⁾

UNHCR's offices registered some 115,800 individual asylum applications of the provisional total of 893,700 claims in 2012, significantly more than the year before (98,800). The Office's share in the global number of applications registered increased from 11 to 13 per cent.

NEW INDIVIDUAL ASYLUM APPLICATIONS REGISTERED

For the first time since 2006, South Africa was not number one host of new asylum-seekers. Instead, the United States of America topped the list with an estimated 70,400 new asylum claims registered during the year.⁽³¹⁾ This number represented an increase of 9 per cent in 2012, compared to 2011 (64,400; revised estimate). Asylum-seekers from

Egypt (+101%), Honduras (+36%), Mexico (+33%), and Guatemala (+13%) accounted primarily for this increase. Almost half of all asylum claims in the country were lodged by asylum-seekers from China (24%), Mexico (17%), or El Salvador (7%). Violence generated by transnational organized crime, gang-related violence and drug cartels in some parts of Central

TABLE 2 New and appeal applications registered | 2010-2012

	2010	2011	2012**
State*	747,300	734,100	755,100
UNHCR	96,800	98,800	115,800
Jointly***	6,200	31,700	22,800
Total	850,300	864,600	893,700
% UNHCR only	11%	11%	13%

* Includes revised estimates.

** Provisional figure.

*** Refers to refugee status determination conducted jointly by UNHCR and governments.

27 Owing to the fact that some European countries have not yet released all their national asylum data at the time of writing, this figure is likely to be revised later this year.

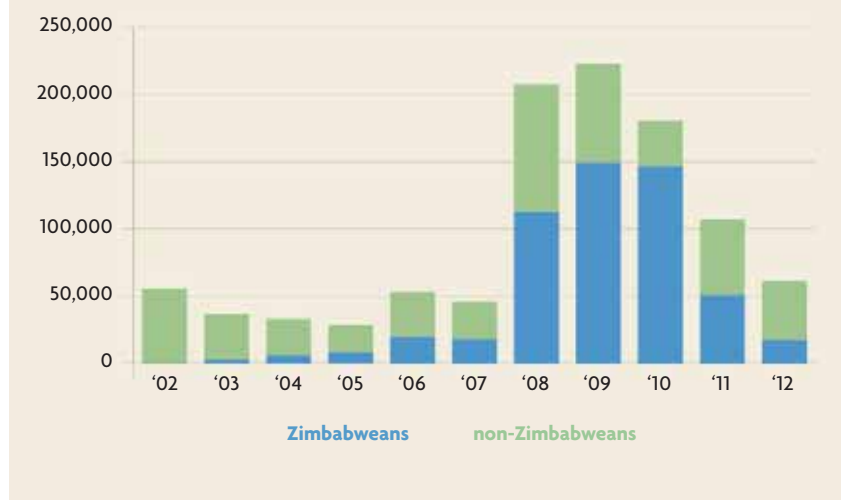
28 For a detailed analysis of asylum trends in industrialized countries, see *Asylum Levels and Trends in Industrialized Countries*, 2012, UNHCR Geneva, March 2013, available at: <http://www.unhcr.org/5149b81e9.html>

29 The data for some countries include a significant number of repeat claims, i.e. the applicant has submitted at least one previous application in the same or another country.

30 Statistical information on outcomes of asylum appeals and court proceedings is under-reported in UNHCR's statistics, particularly in industrialized countries, because this type of data is often either not collected by States or not published separately.

31 Estimated number of individuals based on the number of new cases (43,050) and multiplied by 1.1 to reflect the average number of individuals per case (Source: US Department of Homeland Security); and number of new "defensive" asylum requests lodged with the Executive Office of Immigration Review (23,050, reported by individuals). Until recently, UNHCR applied the factor of 1.4 for data provided by the US Department of Homeland Security. This figure was revised as a result of newly available information. As a result, the figure quoted in this report differs from the one quoted in the document *Asylum Levels and Trends in Industrialized Countries*, 2012, UNHCR Geneva, March 2013 (<http://www.unhcr.org/5149b81e9.html>).

Fig. 11 Asylum claims in South Africa | 2002-2012



America may have contributed to the increased number of individuals from this region seeking international protection.

For the first time since 2001, Germany was the second largest recipient worldwide of asylum-seekers and the main recipient in Europe, with 64,500 new asylum claims registered in 2012. This was a 41 per cent increase over 2011 (45,700 claims), and the fifth consecutive year in which figures have gone up. Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)) was the top country of origin of asylum-seekers in Germany (10,400 claims), followed by Afghanistan (7,500 claims), the Syrian Arab Republic (6,200), and Iraq (5,400 claims). A sizable number of applicants from the Balkans were believed to be of Roma origin,³² and one fifth of all applications in Germany were lodged by people coming from Kosovo (S/RES/1244 (1999)). The number of Syrians fleeing conflict and violence in their country more than doubled, from 2,600 applications in 2011, to 6,200 a year later.

Whereas South Africa had been the leading destination country of new asylum-seekers for the six previous years, asylum levels there dropped by almost half in 2012, compared to 2011. South Africa's Department of Home Affairs reported 61,500 new asylum

applications in 2012, 45,400 claims less than in 2011 (-42%). Asylum levels have gradually dropped from the 2009 peak of 222,300 claims [see **Figure 11**]. Between 2008 and 2012, South Africa registered 778,600 new asylum applications for this five-year period, with Zimbabweans accounting for more than half of all claims submitted – close to half a million asylum applications. As in past years, Zimbabweans again lodged the majority of new asylum claims in 2012 (17,200).

France was the fourth largest recipient of asylum-seekers in 2012, with 55,100 new asylum requests registered during the year – a 6 per cent increase compared to 2011 (52,100 claims), and the highest since 2004 (58,600 claims). The increase was due to higher numbers of asylum-seekers from the Russian Federation (+32%), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (+38%), and Albania (+45%). Overall, the Russian Federation was the top country of origin of asylum-seekers in France, with close to 5,400 applications, followed by the Democratic Republic of the Congo (5,300 claims) and Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)) (4,000 claims).

Sweden ranked fifth in 2012, with 43,900 applications received during the year, a 48 per cent increase compared to 2011 (29,600 claims). This was the second

highest level since 1992, when more than 84,000 people, many of them fleeing the former Yugoslavia, had requested asylum in Sweden. The 2012 increase was mainly due to increased numbers of asylum-seekers from the Syrian Arab Republic (7,800 claims received in 2012, compared to 650 claims in 2011). The number of Somali and Afghan asylum-seekers also increased (+42% and +15% respectively). Afghanistan, Somalia and the Syrian Arab Republic were the top three source countries of asylum applications in Sweden, accounting for 41 per cent of all claims registered.

Other important destination countries for asylum-seekers were the United Kingdom (27,500), Switzerland (25,900), Australia (25,300), Canada (20,200)³³, and Kenya (20,000).

In 2012, UNHCR's offices registered 110,700 new individual applications for refugee status and 5,100 on appeal or for review. The office in Kenya received the largest number of new requests (20,000). Malaysia the second largest (19,400), followed by Turkey (16,700), Indonesia (7,200), and Egypt (6,700). With the exception of Egypt and Yemen, countries listed in **Table 3** saw an increase in individual asylum applications. The top five UNHCR offices receiving asylum applications in 2012 registered 63 per cent of

TABLE 3

New asylum claims lodged in top 10 UNHCR offices* | 2012

Kenya	20,000
Malaysia	19,400
Turkey	16,700
Indonesia	7,200
Egypt**	6,700
Libya	4,500
Pakistan	3,900
Cameroon	3,500
Somalia	3,400
Yemen	3,400

* Excluding appeal/review claims.

** Includes appeal claims.

³² According to the German Federal Office for Migration and Refugees, 92 per cent of all asylum applicants in Germany originating from Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)) were of Roma origin.

³³ Source: Canadian Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB).

all new claims for the year. Four-fifths of UNHCR's refugee status determination work (in terms of new applications registered) was concentrated in 10 countries.

BY NATIONALITY

For the first time since 2008, Zimbabwe was not the top source country of asylum-seekers. The highest number of new asylum claims filed by individuals with UNHCR or with States originated from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (52,400), Afghanistan (48,900), the Syrian Arab Republic (31,800), Eritrea (29,700), Pakistan (28,500), and Somalia (28,300). These figures should, however, be considered as indicative because the country of origin for some asylum-seekers is unknown or undisclosed by some States. As in previous years, asylum-seekers tend to cluster by nationality in particular countries. For instance, almost half of all new Congolese asylum claims were lodged either in Rwanda (17,100) or Burundi (8,200). Similarly, about half of all new Eritrean asylum claims were registered in Sudan. Although asylum-seekers from the Syrian Arab Republic sought protection in 90 countries, 6 out of 10 requested refugee status on an individual basis either in Sweden (7,800 claims), Germany (6,200 claims) or Libya (3,800 claims).

TABLE 4 Substantive decisions taken | 2010-2012

	2010	2011	2012*
State	512,800	518,000	616,400
UNHCR	61,100	52,600	54,400
Jointly**	5,200	6,500	18,200
Total	579,100	577,100	689,000
% UNHCR only	11%	9%	8%

* Provisional figure.

** Refers to refugee status determination conducted jointly by UNHCR and governments.

In the case of Afghan asylum-seekers, five countries registered half of all new claims: Germany (7,500), Sweden (4,800), Turkey (4,400), Indonesia (4,100), and Austria (4,000).

DECISIONS

Provisional figures indicate that States and UNHCR rendered 689,000 decisions on individual asylum applications during 2012. These figures do not include cases which were closed for administrative reasons with no decisions issued to applicants;³⁴ in 2012, at least 205,200 such cases were reported to UNHCR.

UNHCR staff adjudicated 54,400, or 8 per cent of the total number of substantive decisions – a portion similar to 2011 (9%). In 12 countries, 18,200 substantive decisions were taken in joint UNHCR and State procedures. Data relating to individual decisions are incomplete as a few States have not yet released all their official statistics. The 2012 decision data quoted in this report are therefore not fully comparable with previous years.

Some 260,700 asylum-seekers were recognized as refugees (210,000) or given a complementary form of protection (50,700) in the course of 2012. This

³⁴ Also referred to as “non-substantive” decisions which might result inter alia from the death of the applicant, no-show for interview, withdrawal of the application, abandonment of the claim, or the determination that another country is responsible for the claim (‘Dublin II’ procedure).

Refugee status determination (RSD) under UNHCR's mandate

In countries where national asylum systems are not in place or where States are unable or unwilling to assess asylum claims in a fair or efficient manner, UNHCR may conduct refugee status determination under its mandate.

Between 2003 and 2012, UNHCR registered some 900,000 individual asylum applications, making the organization the second largest asylum body in the world after the Government of South Africa. At the global level, in 2003, UNHCR's share in individual applications registered amounted to 7 per cent. While fluctuating between 8 and 15 per cent annually in subsequent

years, it stood at 13 per cent in 2012. Between 2003 and 2007, UNHCR registered on average 80,000 asylum applications per year, and increased to an average 100,000 per year between 2008 and 2012. The largest number of applications was registered in Malaysia (197,600), followed by Kenya (191,100), Turkey (95,000), Egypt (50,600), and Jordan (32,800). These five offices accounted for almost two-thirds (63%) of all asylum applications registered with UNHCR over the past 10 years.

Between 2003 and 2012, UNHCR issued 537,000 substantive individual RSD decisions. Of these, 78 per

cent resulted in the granting of refugee status. While in 2003, UNHCR conducted individual RSD in 50 countries and territories, ten years later, this number had increased to 66, mainly due to the inclusion of a number of Caribbean and Pacific islands in RSD statistics.

Between 2003 and 2012, the world witnessed significant changes in displacement patterns and increasingly complex protection environments. UNHCR was increasingly compelled to implement individual RSD procedures as part of immediate emergency responses to conflict induced displacement in which UNHCR and

Governments had traditionally relied more on group approaches to RSD. Individual RSD procedures in these contexts also necessitated mechanisms to identify and adjudicate complex individual RSD cases and caseloads, including those raising exclusion, security, or political concerns. Frequently, efficient and effective individual RSD procedures were essential to provide protection, and to preserve asylum space in countries of asylum. UNHCR expects that individual RSD operations will remain a feature of modern contexts of displacement, and continues to increase the needed capacity to meet this need. ●

Unaccompanied or separated children (UASC) seeking asylum*

number included an estimated 20,400⁽³⁵⁾ individuals whose initial negative decisions had been overturned at the appeal or review stage.

In contrast, some 428,300 claims were rejected on substantive grounds. This number includes negative decisions at the first instance and on appeal. Asylum-seekers rejected at both first and appeal instances may be reported twice, depending on methods used by governments for reporting asylum decisions.

REFUGEE RECOGNITION RATES (RRR)

At the global level (UNHCR and State asylum procedures combined), the RRR was estimated to be 30 per cent of all substantive decisions taken during 2012, while the Total Recognition Rate (TRR) was 38 per cent.⁽³⁶⁾ These rates have remained relatively stable over the past three years, and are indicative only, as some States have yet to report relevant data.

The TRR has fluctuated over the years. Ten years ago, it was less than 30 per cent. It gradually increased to 46.5 per cent in 2009, only to drop slightly below 40 per cent in the years that followed. There is a significant difference in the TRR in asylum procedures administered by UNHCR compared to that of States. Over the past decade, the TRR in UNHCR procedures never fell below 65 per cent, while the TRR for States never exceeded 40 per cent.

In 2012, among the main receiving industrialized countries, where States are responsible for conducting refugee status determination, Norway and Switzerland

Provisional data indicate that

21,300 individual asylum applications were lodged by UASC in 72 countries in 2012.

This is the highest level on record since UNHCR started collecting such data in a systematic way in 2006. The 2012 figure constituted about 4 per cent of the total number of asylum claims lodged in those countries, and was consistent with the percentage observed in the past five years (4% each). In absolute terms, however, the number of UASC seeking asylum increased compared to 2011 (17,700 claims in 69 countries), and 2010 (15,600 claims in 69 countries) respectively.

Europe received 14,300 or two-thirds of the 21,300 UASC claims. Sweden and Germany again registered the greatest number of UASC asylum claims in Europe, with 3,600 and 2,100 UASC claims respectively. Austria and the United Kingdom were other important recipients of UASC applications, with 1,600 and 1,200 UASC claims respectively. Outside Europe, Canada reported having registered 280 UASC claims, the first time ever it had provided

such data. Kenya and Indonesia were other important destination countries for UASC, with 3,200 and 1,200 asylum claims respectively.

The available information indicates that 5,400 unaccompanied or separated children were recognized in 2012 as refugees or granted a complementary form of protection. Despite a significantly higher number of UASC applications, this figure was comparatively lower than in 2011 (5,200 positive grants), 2010 (5,400) and 2009 (7,700). Europe accounted for 67 per cent of all positive decisions rendered in 2012.

The available information on the country of origin of UASC confirmed the trend already observed in previous years whereby mainly Afghan and Somali children applied for asylum (7,000 and 1,300 claims respectively). Eritrean UASC submitted some 420 asylum claims. In addition, a significant number of UASC originating from South Sudan sought asylum in Kenya (2,100 claims). ●

* For additional information, see 2011 Statistical Yearbook, p. 38, UNHCR, Geneva.

had the highest TRR at the first instance in 2012 (56% and 55%, respectively). Among the countries listed in **Table 3** [see page 26] where UNHCR is conducting RSD, TRRs in 2012 were above 60 per cent. Cameroon was the only exception, with a TRR of 22 per cent.

In UNHCR and State asylum procedures combined, the TRR for persons from the Syrian Arab Republic, Eritrea, and Myanmar were highest in

2012, at over 90 per cent of cases being recognized at the first instance. Recognition rates were also high for asylum-seekers from Somalia (85%), Sudan (77%), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (72%), Iraq (72%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (64%), Afghanistan (61%), and China (57%). In contrast, among the top 20 countries of origin of asylum-seekers in 2012, the TRR was low for persons from Zimbabwe (2%), Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)) (3%), Nigeria (10%), Colombia (14%), and Pakistan (17%).

By the end of the year, a total of 937,000 individuals awaited decisions on their asylum claims. This figure included people at any stage of the asylum procedure. However, the true number of undecided asylum cases is unknown, as many countries do not report this information. ■

TABLE 5 Total recognition rates | 2003-2012 (in %)

Refers to Convention refugee status and complementary forms of protection

Responsible for RSD	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
States	24.8	25.2	30.3	33.6	37.7	33.6	39.3	33.2	32.7	32.8
UNHCR	65.7	73.1	83.3	77.0	76.7	77.7	84.9	80.4	77.8	77.6
Global*	27.3	28.7	36.1	38.5	44.5	40.3	46.5	38.5	37.5	37.8

* Includes RSD conducted jointly by UNHCR and governments.

³⁵ This figure is likely to be substantially higher: a significant number of decisions rendered by States at the appeal or review stage of the asylum procedure have yet to be released.

³⁶ In the absence of an internationally agreed methodology for calculating recognition rates, UNHCR uses two rates to compute the proportion of refugee claims accepted during the year. The **Refugee Recognition Rate** divides the number of asylum-seekers granted Convention refugee status by the total number of substantive decisions (Convention status, complementary protection, and rejected cases). The **Total Recognition Rate** divides the number of asylum-seekers granted Convention refugee status or a complementary form of protection by the total number of substantive decisions (Convention status, complementary protection, and rejected cases). Non-substantive decisions are, to the extent possible, excluded from both calculations. For the purpose of global comparability, UNHCR only uses these two recognition rates and does not report rates calculated by national authorities.

Stateless Persons

Identifying stateless persons remains key to addressing the difficulties they face, and to enabling UNHCR to fulfil its mandate to prevent and reduce statelessness and protect stateless individuals. Measuring statelessness is complicated because stateless people often live in precarious situations on the margins of society. Only a minority of countries have procedures in place for their identification, registration and documentation.

UNHCR'S EXECUTIVE Committee has called on UNHCR to undertake research "to promote an increased understanding of the nature and scope of the problem of statelessness". It has also encouraged States which are in possession of statistics on stateless persons or individuals with undetermined nationality to share them with UNHCR.³⁷ UNHCR issued updated guidance to its field offices on the reporting of statistics for populations under UNHCR's statelessness mandate. The guidance reflects efforts to clarify the definition of a stateless person under Article 1 of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.³⁸ UNHCR's statistics on persons under its statelessness mandate mainly comprises stateless persons, ie. individuals who are not considered as nationals by any State under the operation of its law. Data from some countries also include persons of undetermined nationality.

Statistics on stateless persons can be gathered using several different methods, including analyses of civil registration data, through population census and targeted surveys.³⁹ The United Nations recommendations on population censuses underscore the importance of including questions related to citizenship, including statelessness.⁴⁰ Census data for ten countries are included in this year's statistics compared to two only three years ago. With the *2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme* drawing to a close and as census results are

gradually released by national statistical offices, UNHCR expects further improvements in data.

This report only includes data on countries for which reliable official statistics or estimates of stateless populations were available. Despite the increased number of countries reporting and the enhanced reliability of their figures, UNHCR was unable to provide comprehensive statistics on stateless persons in all countries. **Annex table 7**⁴¹ includes some countries (marked with an asterisk) for which UNHCR has information about the existence of significant stateless populations, but for which no reliable figures were available.

The data on statelessness in 2012 have shown a continuation of the trend observed in previous years of expanding coverage and knowledge of stateless persons. By the end of 2012, statistics on persons falling under UNHCR's statelessness man-

date were available for 72 countries, eight more than in 2011 [see **Figure 12**]. This compared to 30 countries in 2004, and reflected the efforts of UNHCR's offices to gather better data on statelessness. For 2012, UNHCR's offices reported a figure of 3.34 million stateless persons, comparable to that reported in 2011 (3.47 million). ■

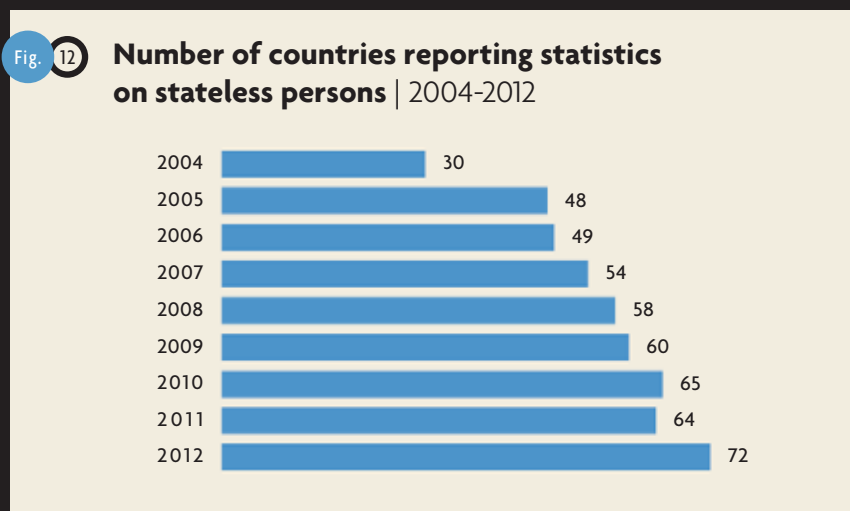
³⁷ UNHCR, *Conclusion on Identification, Prevention and Reduction of Statelessness and Protection of Stateless Persons*, 6 October 2006, No. 106 (LVII) - 2006, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/453497302.html>

³⁸ UNHCR, *Guidelines on Statelessness No. 1: The definition of "Stateless Person" in Article 1(1) of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons*, 20 February 2012, HCR/GS/12/01, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/4f4371b82.html>

³⁹ UNHCR (2012), *The State of the World's Refugees: In Search of Solidarity*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 108-109.

⁴⁰ United Nations (2008), *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 2*, New York, accessible at http://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/seriesM/seriesm_67Rev2e.pdf

⁴¹ See <http://www.unhcr.org/statistics/12-WRD-table-7.xls>



VIII

Other groups or people of concern

UNHCR HAS CONTINUED to extend its protection or assistance activities to individuals whom it considers “of concern”, but who do not fall into any of the above population categories. These activities were based on humanitarian or other special grounds, and included former refugees who were assisted to integrate locally, or asylum-seekers rejected by States, but whom UNHCR deemed to be in need of humanitarian assistance. The number of people in this category was 1.3 million by year-end, of whom two-thirds were Afghans. These were former refugees who had returned to Afghanistan prior to 2012, but who had been unable to reintegrate due to the difficult economic situation, the lack of comprehensive reintegration measures, and poor security. Many of these individuals thus continued to benefit from UNHCR’s assistance. ■



UNHCR / J. TANNER



Kadir serves a customer with a freshly-made bolony – bread stuffed with spinach and onion. The 13-year-old Afghan and his family have faced many challenges since returning to Kabul from the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the loss of his father.



A UNHCR staff member gives an ID card to a Congolese woman who has just registered as a refugee with her family at the Nyakabande Transit Centre in south-west Uganda's Kisoro district.

IX

Demographic and location characteristics

Collecting comprehensive demographic information on forcibly displaced populations remains a key challenge for UNHCR and other humanitarian actors.

DATA ARE MORE READILY available for populations for whom UNHCR has an operational role in data collection, as opposed to those for whom governments are solely responsible for gathering and reporting population data. This is in particularly true for industrial-

ized countries which provide little to no demographic data, impeding a global understanding of the demographic profile of the populations represented in this report. Wherever possible, UNHCR disaggregates population data by sex and age. The consistent gathering and regular reporting of this information is a

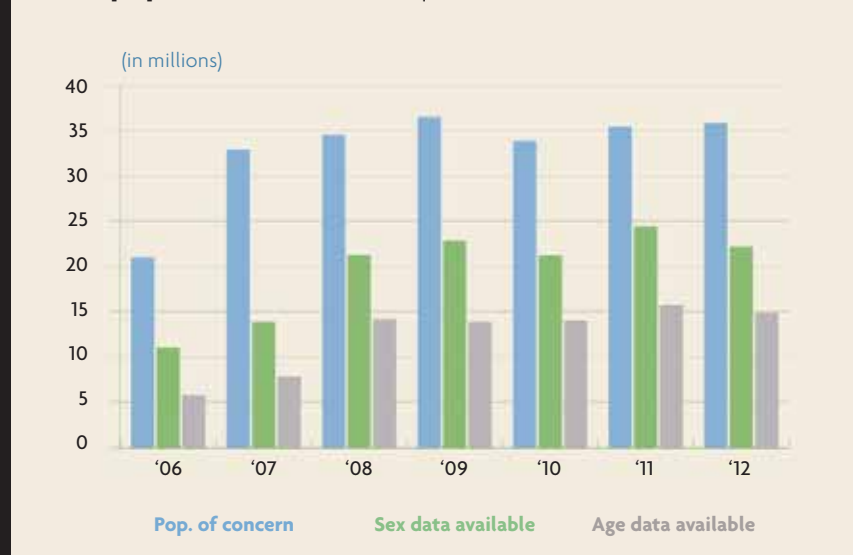
priority for the organization, essential for designing and delivering an effective humanitarian response. In addition to demographic information, location data are also crucial to understand the needs of the populations, plan appropriate responses, and monitor gaps in legal and physical protection.

Demographic characteristics

In 2012, some 165 countries or territories reported population data partly or fully disaggregated by sex and age. The demographic profile is currently available for 22.2 million persons of concern to UNHCR (62%). Historical information shows that data coverage has improved over time. The availability of disaggregated data was highest in 2011, with information broken down by sex available for 69 per cent of persons of concern. This availability dropped to 62 per cent in 2012, as a result of new emergency situations in which reliable demographic data were more difficult to obtain in the initial stages.

Statistical coverage for refugees was better than for other groups of concern: in 2012, data disaggregated

Fig. 13 Demographic characteristics available on UNHCR's population of concern | 2006-2012



by sex were available for 75 per cent of the global refugee population, but for only 27 per cent of stateless persons. Data availability was also relatively high for IDPs (61%), refugee returnees (65%), asylum-seekers (58%) and others of concern to UNHCR (93%); but low for IDP returnees (34%).

According to available data, nearly half (49%) of the persons of concern to UNHCR were female, a value unchanged since 2006. Women and girls accounted for 48 per cent of the refugee population in 2012. The lowest proportion of female refugees was in Europe (44%) and in the Southern Africa region (46%). In the rest of sub-Saharan Africa, 51 to 52 per cent of refugees were female. In other regions, the percentage of female refugees was 46 to 47 per cent.

In most industrialized countries, fewer women than men apply for asylum. In 2012, the proportion of females applying for asylum was around 30 per cent or below in Belgium (27%), Bulgaria (12%), Czech Republic (29%), Denmark (31%), Finland (30%), Hungary (19%), Italy (15%), Norway (33%), and Switzerland (29%). In Germany, France and Sweden - the three major recipients in Europe in 2012 - the proportion of female asylum-seekers ranged between 37 and 39 per cent. Although the gender balance improves once asylum-seekers are recognized and thus entitled to family reunification, complete parity is not achieved as indicated by refugee registers in Bel-

TABLE 6 Demographic characteristics of refugees | 2003-2012 (% of total population)

Year	Women	<18 years	18-59	>60 years
2003	48%	49%	46%	5%
2004	48%	50%	45%	5%
2005	48%	46%	49%	5%
2006	47%	47%	49%	4%
2007	47%	46%	49%	5%
2008	48%	44%	51%	5%
2009	47%	41%	54%	5%
2010	47%	44%	51%	5%
2011	48%	46%	49%	5%
2012	48%	46%	49%	5%

The percentages are based on available data and exclude countries where no demographic information is available. This is in particular the case for industrialized countries.

gium (42%), France (42%), Germany (43%), and Switzerland (44%).

Information on the age breakdown was available for 14.9 million (41%) of the 35.8 million persons of concern to UNHCR. The data coverage was higher for refugees (65%) and others of concern (87%) than for stateless persons (25%) and IDPs (27%). On average, 50 per cent of all persons of concern were children under the age of 18, including 13 per cent under the age of five. Forty-six per cent of the population were adults between the ages of 18 and 59 years, while 4 per cent were people of 60 years or more.

Among refugees and people in refugee-like situations, children below 18 years constituted 46 per cent of the population in 2012. This proportion has ranged over the past decade from a low

of 41 per cent in 2009, to a high of 50 per cent in 2004 [see **Table 6**]. The return of millions of Afghan refugees from Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of the Iran significantly impacted global figures, as more than half of the returnee population were children below the age of 18. In some years, the proportion of returning children exceeded 60 per cent. In the recent outflows from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Somalia, and the Syrian Arab Republic, the proportion of children was estimated to be approximately 55 per cent. While not fully conclusive, the global number of refugee children below the age of 18 has increased from a low of 41 per cent in 2009, to the current level of 46 per cent.

The availability of information according to age breakdown is particularly limited for countries in Europe, North America and Oceania. Thus, the figures are not fully representative of the entire population under UNHCR's responsibility.

Locations

In 2012, in an effort to improve the global understanding of the environments where people of concern live, UNHCR offices were requested to report if beneficiaries resided in urban areas, rural areas, or a mixed/unknown location. They were also requested to report on the type of accommodation people were using according to the following categories: planned/managed camp, self-settled camp, collective centre, reception/transit camp, individual accommodation

The world's biggest refugee camp is 20 years old

2012 was the 20th anniversary of the world's biggest refugee camp: Dadaab in north-eastern Kenya. UNHCR, which manages the Dadaab complex, set up the first camps there between October 1991 and June 1992, to host refugees fleeing a civil war in Somalia culminating in the fall of Mogadishu and overthrow of the central government in 1991.

The now five Dadaab camps were originally intended to host up to 90,000 people. Today they host more than half a million refugees and asylum-seekers, including some

10,000 third-generation refugees born in Dadaab.

Dadaab has been able to provide refuge for so many years and to so many people due to the generosity and extensive efforts of the Government and the people of Kenya. UNHCR, together with the Government of Kenya and aid agencies has provided protection, shelter and humanitarian assistance, often under difficult and complex circumstances. Chronic overcrowding, risk of disease, and seasonal floods are among the major challenges. ●

Fig. 14 Refugee camp characteristics | 2003-2012



(private), or undefined if the type was unclear.^[42] Offices reported on the type of location for more than 1,300 individual locations covering 20.5 million persons of concern.^[43] This was the highest coverage in many years and the result of efforts to collect location data in a more structured and harmonized way, across international actors operating in the humanitarian context.

As in the case of demographic data, the availability of location information was higher for refugees than for other population categories. The available data on 20.5 million people revealed that more IDPs, returned IDPs and returned refugees resided in rural areas than in urban areas. On the contrary, refugees and asylum-seekers were more often found living in urban areas (53% for refugees).

The analysis of refugee camp data over time has revealed interesting pat-

terns. The average, or mean, size of refugee camps was over 15,000 persons in 2003, falling to a low of 8,800 persons in 2009. With new arrivals in camps in Ethiopia, Jordan, Kenya, and Turkey, the mean population size increased to 11,400 persons in 2012. Looking at the median size reveals a similar trend, albeit with a much lower camp population size. The median population size in camps was 4,200 persons in 2003, dropped to 2,400 by 2006 and then increased slowly, remaining below 6,000 persons [see **Figure 14**].^[44]

Among the five largest refugee camps in the world, the top four are located in Kenya and are known collectively as the

“Dadaab camps”, hosting together about half a million refugees. Nyaragusu camp in the United Republic of Tanzania - the fifth largest camp in 2012 - hosted 68,100 refugees, mainly from the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Types of accommodation were known for 80 per cent of refugees (8.4 million), a higher percentage than in previous years. UNHCR’s offices reported that more than half of this number was living in individual accommodation (54%). Planned/managed refugee camps were reported as type of accommodation for approximately one-third of refugees. Far fewer refugees were living in self-settled camps (6%) and collective centres (4%). This was consistent compared to 2011.

Planned/managed refugee camps and self-settled camps were mainly found in rural areas, whereas individual accommodation was the prevailing type of residence in urban areas. By the end of 2011, planned/managed refugee camps were established almost exclusively either in sub-Saharan Africa (60%) or Asia (35%). The distribution had slightly shifted in 2012, with sub-Saharan Africa accounting for 63 per cent of camps, Asia for 29 per cent and Europe for 5 per cent. In principle, there was no difference in the use of accommodation types by male and female refugees. Refugee children, however, constituted more than half of the residents across all types of accommodation, with the exception of those living in individual accommodation, where the proportion dropped to 39 per cent. ■

⁴² For a definition of each category, see http://cod.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/default/files/iasc_guidelines_on_the_humanitarian_profile_common_operational_dataset_2012-08-07_0.pdf

⁴³ Although UNHCR offices reported information on locations of a total of 29.6 million persons of concern, this information was either unclear or a mixture of types in the case of 9.1 million persons (mostly IDPs).

⁴⁴ Because of a limited number of highly populated refugee camps skewing the calculation, the median is the preferred statistical measure for such type of analysis.

TABLE 7 Accommodation of refugees | end-2012

Type of accommodation	No. of refugees	Distribution	% women	% children	% Urban*
Planned/managed camp	2,955,500	35.3%	50%	56%	0.4%
Self-settled camp	542,300	6.5%	52%	58%	0.5%
Collective centre	323,500	3.9%	48%	56%	18.0%
Individual accommodation (private)	4,551,900	54.3%	46%	39%	93.4%
Reception/transit camp	2,100	0.0%	53%	60%	8.3%
Sub-total	8,375,300	100%	48%	46%	53.4%
Unknown	2,124,900				
Grand Total	10,500,200				

* Percentages are based on data available for 8.1 million refugees. Calculation excludes accommodation types which are unknown.



Syrian refugee girls attend class in Lebanon. This school operates a second teaching shift in the afternoon to accommodate the new arrivals.

Who are included in the statistics?

Refugees include individuals recognized under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees; its 1967 Protocol; the 1969 OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa; those recognized in accordance with the UNHCR Statute; individuals granted complementary forms of protection⁽⁴⁵⁾; or, those enjoying temporary protection⁽⁴⁶⁾. The refugee population also includes people in a refugee-like situation.⁽⁴⁷⁾

Asylum-seekers (with “pending cases”) are individuals who have sought international protection and whose claims for refugee status have not yet been determined. Those covered in this report refer to claimants whose individual applications were pending at the end of 2012, irrespective of when they may have been lodged.

Internally displaced persons are people or groups of individuals who have been forced to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of, or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights, or natural or man-made disasters, and who have not

crossed an international border.⁽⁴⁸⁾ For the purposes of UNHCR’s statistics, this population only includes conflict-generated IDPs to whom the Office extends protection and/or assistance. The IDP population also includes people in an IDP-like situation.⁽⁴⁹⁾

Returned refugees (returnees) are former refugees who have returned to their country of origin spontaneously or in an organized fashion but are yet to be fully integrated. Such return would normally only take place in conditions of safety and dignity. For the purposes of this report, only refugees who returned between January and December 2012 are included. However, in practice, operations may assist returnees for longer periods.

Returned IDPs refer to those IDPs who were beneficiaries of UNHCR’s protection and assistance activities and who returned to their areas of origin or habitual residence between January and December 2012. However, in practice, operations may assist IDP returnees for longer periods.

Stateless persons are defined under international law as persons who

are not considered as nationals by any State under the operation of its law. In other words, they do not possess the nationality of any State. UNHCR statistics refer to persons who fall under the agency’s statelessness mandate because they are stateless according to this international definition, but data from some countries may also include persons with undetermined nationality. UNHCR has been given a global mandate by the United Nations General Assembly to contribute to the prevention and reduction of statelessness and the protection of stateless persons. The Office also performs a specific function under Article 11 of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness by receiving claims from persons who may benefit from the statelessness safeguards contained in that Convention and by assisting them and the States concerned to resolve the claims.

Other groups or people of concern refer to individuals who do not necessarily fall directly into any of the groups above, but to whom UNHCR extends its protection and/or assistance services, based on humanitarian or other special grounds.

45 Complementary protection refers to protection provided under national, regional or international law to people who do not qualify for protection under refugee law instruments but are in need of international protection because they are at risk of serious harm.

46 Temporary protection refers to arrangements developed to offer protection of a temporary nature, until the situation in the country of origin improves and allows for a safe and dignified return or for individual refugee or complementary protection status determination to be carried out.

47 This sub-category is descriptive in nature and includes groups of people who are outside their country or territory of origin, and who face protection risks similar to refugees, but for whom refugee status has not been ascertained, for practical or other reasons.

48 See: *United Nations Commission on Human Rights, Report of the Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Francis M. Deng, submitted pursuant to Commission resolution 1997/39. Addendum: Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement*, 11 February 1998.

49 This sub-category is descriptive in nature, and includes groups of people who are inside their country of nationality or habitual residence, and who face protection risks similar to IDPs but who, for practical or other reasons, could not be reported as such.

TABLE 1 Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by country/territory of asylum | end-2012

Country/ territory of asylum ¹	REFUGEES					Returned refugees ⁵	IDPs protected/ assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP- like situations ⁶	Returned IDPs ⁷	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate ⁸	Various ⁹	Total population of concern
	Refugees ²	People in refugee- like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum- seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
Afghanistan	75	16,112	16,187	16,187	51	98,609	486,298	18,830	-	879,376	1,499,351
Albania	86	-	86	86	28	-	-	-	7,443	-	7,557
Algeria ¹⁰	94,133	-	94,133	90,000	1,736	7	-	-	-	-	95,876
Angola	23,413	-	23,413	5,078	20,336	19,724	-	-	-	-	63,473
Argentina	3,488	-	3,488	180	1,921	-	-	-	-	-	5,409
Armenia	2,854	-	2,854	2,331	383	1	-	-	35	5,500	8,773
Aruba	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Antigua and Barbuda	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Australia ¹¹	30,083	-	30,083	-	20,010	-	-	-	-	-	50,093
Austria	51,730	-	51,730	-	22,429	-	-	-	542	-	74,701
Azerbaijan	1,468	-	1,468	1,468	135	-	600,336	-	3,585	-	605,524
Bahamas	30	7	37	37	14	-	-	-	-	1	52
Bahrain	289	-	289	289	50	-	-	-	-	-	339
Bangladesh	30,697	200,000	230,697	50,697	3	-	-	-	-	-	230,700
Barbados	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Belarus	576	-	576	240	62	-	-	-	6,969	-	7,607
Belgium	22,024	-	22,024	-	15,036	-	-	-	3,898	-	40,958
Belize	28	-	28	-	76	-	-	-	-	-	104
Benin	4,966	-	4,966	4,966	131	-	-	-	-	-	5,097
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	733	-	733	162	8	-	-	-	-	-	741
Bonaire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bosnia and Herzegovina	6,903	-	6,903	6,903	42	278	103,449	9,551	4,500	52,717	177,440
Botswana	2,785	-	2,785	2,785	212	-	-	-	-	443	3,440
Brazil	4,715	-	4,715	2,012	1,441	-	-	-	1	5,580	11,737
British Virgin Islands	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,009	-	21,009
Bulgaria	2,288	-	2,288	-	1,270	-	-	-	-	-	3,558
Burkina Faso	39,306	-	39,306	39,028	686	2	-	-	-	-	39,994
Burundi	41,813	-	41,813	41,813	6,130	35,741	78,948	-	1,302	299	164,233
Cambodia	77	-	77	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	101
Cameroon	98,969	-	98,969	98,969	3,126	-	-	-	-	-	102,095
Canada	163,756	-	163,756	-	32,643	-	-	-	-	-	196,399
Cayman Islands	3	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Central African Rep.	14,014	-	14,014	14,014	2,604	2,315	51,679	35,433	-	-	106,045
Chad	373,695	-	373,695	349,782	181	1,726	90,000	35,000	-	-	500,602
Chile	1,695	-	1,695	282	353	-	-	-	-	-	2,048
China ¹²	301,037	-	301,037	124	265	-	-	-	-	-	301,302
- Hong Kong SAR, China	117	-	117	117	835	-	-	-	1	-	953
- Macao SAR, China	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Colombia	219	-	219	54	77	10	3,943,509	-	12	-	3,943,827
Comoros	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congo	98,455	-	98,455	98,455	3,319	54	-	-	-	980	102,808
Costa Rica	12,629	7,820	20,449	16,353	634	-	-	-	-	-	21,083
Côte d'Ivoire	3,980	-	3,980	3,980	520	72,845	45,000	96,010	700,000	332	918,687
Croatia	690	34	724	724	345	98	-	-	2,886	19,970	24,023
Cuba	371	-	371	276	3	-	-	-	-	-	374
Curacao	14	-	14	14	26	-	-	-	-	-	40
Cyprus ¹³	3,631	-	3,631	-	2,636	-	-	-	-	-	6,267
Czech Rep.	2,805	-	2,805	-	574	2	-	-	1,502	-	4,883
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	65,109	-	65,109	21,595	1,825	71,924	2,669,069	304,596	-	71,815	3,184,338
Denmark	11,402	-	11,402	-	692	-	-	-	3,623	-	15,717
Djibouti	19,139	-	19,139	19,139	3,095	-	-	-	-	-	22,234
Dominica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dominican Rep.	758	-	758	260	767	-	-	-	-	-	1,525
Ecuador	55,480	68,344	123,824	55,480	14,567	-	-	-	-	-	138,391
Egypt	109,933	-	109,933	39,933	16,952	4	-	-	60	-	126,949
El Salvador	45	-	45	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	45

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TABLE 1 **Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by country/territory of asylum | end-2012 (ctnd)**

Country/ territory of asylum ¹	REFUGEES					Returned refugees ⁵	IDPs protected/ assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP- like situations ⁶	Returned IDPs ⁷	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate ⁸	Various ⁹	Total population of concern
	Refugees ²	People in refugee- like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum- seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
Equatorial Guinea	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Eritrea	3,600	-	3,600	3,567	14	6	-	-	-	64	3,684
Estonia	63	-	63	-	7	-	-	-	94,235	-	94,305
Ethiopia	376,393	-	376,393	376,393	844	32	-	-	-	1,490	378,759
Fiji	6	-	6	6	7	-	-	-	-	-	13
Finland	9,919	-	9,919	-	1,881	-	-	-	2,017	-	13,817
France	217,865	-	217,865	-	49,885	-	-	-	1,210	-	268,960
Gabon	1,663	-	1,663	1,663	2,380	-	-	-	-	320	4,363
Gambia	9,853	-	9,853	9,828	-	-	-	-	-	320	10,173
Georgia	329	140	469	469	467	-	279,778	-	1,156	-	281,870
Germany	589,737	-	589,737	-	85,560	-	-	-	5,683	-	680,980
Ghana	16,016	-	16,016	16,016	2,605	1	-	-	-	-	18,622
Greece	2,100	-	2,100	-	36,183	-	-	-	154	-	38,437
Grenada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Guatemala	159	-	159	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	162
Guinea	10,371	-	10,371	10,371	532	-	-	-	-	-	10,903
Guinea-Bissau	7,784	-	7,784	7,784	108	-	-	-	-	-	7,892
Guyana	7	-	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Haiti	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	12
Honduras	16	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	17
Hungary	4,054	-	4,054	-	386	-	-	-	111	-	4,551
Iceland	68	-	68	-	69	-	-	-	119	-	256
India	185,656	-	185,656	18,491	3,559	-	-	-	-	-	189,215
Indonesia	1,819	-	1,819	1,819	6,126	35	-	-	-	-	7,980
Iran, Islamic Rep. of	868,242	-	868,242	868,242	17	6	-	-	-	-	868,265
Iraq	98,822	-	98,822	98,822	4,914	82,270	1,131,810	218,800	120,000	-	1,656,616
Ireland	6,327	-	6,327	-	5,471	-	-	-	73	-	11,871
Israel	104	48,401	48,505	4,726	5,699	-	-	-	14	-	54,218
Italy	64,779	-	64,779	-	14,330	-	-	-	470	-	79,579
Jamaica	20	-	20	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Japan ¹⁴	2,581	-	2,581	793	4,711	-	-	-	1,100	-	8,392
Jordan ¹⁵	302,707	-	302,707	147,594	2,936	-	-	-	-	-	305,643
Kazakhstan	564	-	564	370	85	-	-	-	6,935	3,675	11,259
Kenya	564,933	-	564,933	564,933	41,944	-	412,000	-	20,000	-	1,038,877
Kuwait	674	-	674	674	829	-	-	-	93,000	-	94,503
Kyrgyzstan ¹⁶	437	4,504	4,941	724	351	-	168,600	3,400	15,473	-	192,765
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Latvia	125	-	125	-	172	-	-	-	280,759	-	281,056
Lebanon	133,538	402	133,940	133,940	1,912	-	-	-	-	-	135,852
Lesotho	34	-	34	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	37
Liberia	65,901	8	65,909	65,909	48	29,472	-	-	-	1,606	97,035
Libya	7,065	-	7,065	7,065	6,552	1,055	59,425	177,452	-	-	251,549
Liechtenstein	102	-	102	-	17	-	-	-	5	-	124
Lithuania	871	-	871	-	76	-	-	-	4,130	-	5,077
Luxembourg	2,910	-	2,910	-	1,239	-	-	-	177	-	4,326
Madagascar	9	-	9	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	11
Malawi	6,544	-	6,544	6,544	10,120	-	-	-	-	-	16,664
Malaysia	89,210	975	90,185	90,185	11,650	-	-	-	40,001	80,000	221,836
Mali	13,928	-	13,928	13,928	240	28	227,930	-	-	-	242,126
Malta	8,248	-	8,248	-	767	-	-	-	-	-	9,015
Mauritania	54,496	26,000	80,496	80,496	798	6,208	-	-	-	-	87,502
Mauritius	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mexico	1,520	-	1,520	206	357	-	-	-	7	-	1,884
Micronesia (Federated States of)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Monaco	37	-	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
Mongolia	4	-	4	4	9	-	-	-	220	-	233
Montenegro	11,198	-	11,198	11,198	109	-	-	-	3,383	5,406	20,096

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TABLE 1 Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by country/territory of asylum | end-2012 (ctnd)

Country/ territory of asylum ¹	REFUGEES					Returned refugees ⁵	IDPs protected/ assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP- like situations ⁶	Returned IDPs ⁷	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate ⁸	Various ⁹	Total population of concern
	Refugees ²	People in refugee- like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum- seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
Montserrat	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
Morocco	744	-	744	744	2,178	-	-	-	-	-	2,922
Mozambique	4,398	-	4,398	2,586	8,200	-	-	-	-	-	12,598
Myanmar	-	-	-	-	-	-	430,400	-	808,075	-	1,238,475
Namibia	1,806	-	1,806	1,806	1,089	-	-	-	-	-	2,895
Nauru	-	-	-	-	379	-	-	-	-	-	379
Nepal ¹⁷	56,264	-	56,264	41,264	23	-	-	-	-	447	56,734
Netherlands ¹⁸	74,598	-	74,598	-	10,420	-	-	-	2,005	-	87,023
New Zealand	1,517	-	1,517	-	276	-	-	-	-	-	1,793
Nicaragua	129	-	129	86	10	-	-	-	1	-	140
Niger	50,510	-	50,510	50,510	108	-	-	-	-	-	50,618
Nigeria	3,154	-	3,154	3,154	1,042	-	-	-	-	-	4,196
Norway	42,822	-	42,822	-	9,354	-	-	-	2,313	-	54,489
Oman	138	-	138	138	20	-	-	-	-	-	158
Pakistan	1,638,456	-	1,638,456	1,638,456	3,284	2	757,996	56,181	-	-	2,455,919
Palau	1	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
Panama	2,429	15,000	17,429	4,434	365	-	-	-	2	-	17,796
Papua New Guinea	4,802	4,581	9,383	2,565	155	-	-	-	-	-	9,538
Paraguay	133	-	133	23	10	-	-	-	-	-	143
Peru	1,122	-	1,122	123	956	1	-	-	-	-	2,079
Philippines	141	-	141	18	32	-	1,159	336,215	6,015	68	343,630
Poland	15,911	-	15,911	-	2,390	-	-	-	10,825	-	29,126
Portugal	483	-	483	-	197	-	-	-	553	-	1,233
Qatar	80	-	80	80	57	-	-	-	1,200	-	1,337
Rep. of Korea	487	-	487	115	1,548	-	-	-	179	-	2,214
Rep. of Moldova	185	-	185	185	75	-	-	-	1,998	-	2,258
Romania	1,262	-	1,262	132	35	-	-	-	248	-	1,545
Russian Federation ¹⁹	3,178	-	3,178	3,178	844	11	-	-	178,000	9,068	191,101
Rwanda	58,212	-	58,212	58,212	1,477	11,249	-	-	-	89	71,027
Saint Kitts and Nevis	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Saint Lucia	2	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
Saint Maarten	3	-	3	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	7
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saudi Arabia	550	27	577	577	99	1	-	-	70,000	-	70,677
Senegal	14,237	-	14,237	14,237	2,333	-	-	-	-	-	16,570
Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999))	66,370	-	66,370	9,443	332	193	227,821	798	8,500	723	304,737
Sierra Leone	4,204	-	4,204	4,188	67	-	-	-	-	-	4,271
Singapore	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Slovakia	662	-	662	-	194	-	-	-	1,523	69	2,448
Slovenia	176	-	176	-	100	-	-	-	4	-	280
Solomon Islands	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Somalia	2,264	45	2,309	2,309	8,465	48	1,132,963	10,188	-	51	1,154,024
South Africa	65,233	-	65,233	6,831	230,442	1	-	-	-	-	295,676
South Sudan ²⁰	202,581	-	202,581	202,581	35	2,238	345,670	-	-	-	550,524
Spain	4,510	-	4,510	-	2,790	-	-	-	36	-	7,336
Sri Lanka	110	-	110	110	263	1,480	93,482	44,610	-	-	139,945
State of Palestine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sudan ²¹	126,218	25,976	152,194	96,367	7,683	19,485	1,873,300	91,554	-	3,381	2,147,597
Suriname	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Swaziland	505	-	505	164	422	-	-	-	-	-	927
Sweden	92,872	-	92,872	-	18,014	-	-	-	9,596	-	120,482
Switzerland	50,747	-	50,747	-	21,709	-	-	-	69	-	72,525
Syrian Arab Rep. ²²	476,506	-	476,506	67,815	2,222	68,573	2,016,500	-	221,000	-	2,784,801
Tajikistan	2,248	-	2,248	2,155	2,139	-	-	-	2,300	-	6,687
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	750	327	1,077	1,077	516	-	-	-	905	-	2,498

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TABLE 1 Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by country/territory of asylum | end-2012 (ctnd)

Country/ territory of asylum ¹	REFUGEES					Returned refugees ⁵	IDPs protected/ assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP- like situations ⁶	Returned IDPs ⁷	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate ⁸	Various ⁹	Total population of concern
	Refugees ²	People in refugee- like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum- seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
Thailand	84,479	-	84,479	84,479	14,580	-	-	-	506,197	-	605,256
Timor-Leste	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Togo	23,540	-	23,540	13,643	405	91	-	-	-	-	24,036
Tonga	3	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Trinidad and Tobago	18	-	18	18	7	-	-	-	-	-	25
Tunisia	1,435	-	1,435	1,376	340	1	-	-	-	1	1,777
Turcs and Caicos Islands	-	-	-	-	22	-	-	-	-	-	22
Turkey	267,063	-	267,063	267,063	14,051	-	-	-	780	306	282,200
Turkmenistan	46	-	46	46	-	-	-	-	8,947	-	8,993
Uganda	197,877	-	197,877	197,877	28,072	20	-	-	-	-	225,969
Ukraine	2,807	-	2,807	493	5,082	-	-	-	35,000	-	42,889
United Arab Emirates	631	-	631	631	91	-	-	-	-	-	722
United Kingdom	149,765	-	149,765	-	18,916	-	-	-	205	-	168,886
United Rep. of Tanzania	101,021	-	101,021	78,794	522	44	-	-	-	162,256	263,843
United States ²³	262,030	-	262,030	-	18,966	-	-	-	-	-	280,996
Uruguay	181	-	181	83	39	-	-	-	-	-	220
Uzbekistan	176	-	176	176	-	-	-	-	-	-	176
Vanuatu	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	3,644	200,000	203,644	23,637	916	-	-	-	-	-	204,560
Viet Nam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,500	-	11,500
Yemen	237,182	-	237,182	237,182	6,483	-	385,320	106,868	-	-	735,853
Zambia	25,653	-	25,653	22,792	1,193	2	-	-	-	23,550	50,398
Zimbabwe	4,356	-	4,356	4,356	436	21	57,926	-	-	22	62,761
Various	-	-	-	-	-	26	-	-	-	-	26
Grand Total	9,881,538	618,703	10,500,241	6,674,950	936,740	525,941	17,670,368	1,545,486	3,335,777	1,329,927	35,844,480

UNHCR-BUREAUX											
Central Africa-Great Lakes	479,256	-	479,256	413,515	21,383	121,328	2,799,696	340,029	1,302	235,759	3,998,753
East and Horn of Africa	1,866,700	26,021	1,892,721	1,812,948	90,333	23,555	3,853,933	136,742	20,000	4,986	6,022,270
Southern Africa	134,736	-	134,736	52,942	272,454	19,748	57,926	-	-	24,016	508,880
Western Africa	267,750	8	267,758	257,542	8,825	102,439	272,930	96,010	700,000	2,258	1,450,220
Asia and Pacific	3,299,340	226,172	3,525,512	2,817,149	70,394	100,132	1,937,935	459,236	1,427,952	963,566	8,484,727
Middle East and North Africa	1,519,027	74,830	1,593,857	912,082	53,868	158,119	3,593,055	503,120	505,274	1	6,407,294
Europe	1,799,350	501	1,799,851	304,990	345,270	583	1,211,384	10,349	681,225	93,759	4,142,421
Americas	515,379	291,171	806,550	103,782	74,213	11	3,943,509	-	24	5,582	4,829,889
Various/unknown	-	-	-	-	-	26	-	-	-	-	26
Total	9,881,538	618,703	10,500,241	6,674,950	936,740	525,941	17,670,368	1,545,486	3,335,777	1,329,927	35,844,480

UN MAJOR REGIONS											
Africa	3,016,248	52,029	3,068,277	2,756,561	421,551	274,345	7,043,910	750,233	721,362	267,020	12,546,698
Asia	4,789,492	270,561	5,060,053	3,778,371	92,546	250,977	6,351,679	784,904	1,938,722	969,372	15,448,253
Europe	1,524,005	361	1,524,366	33,659	327,598	582	331,270	10,349	675,669	87,953	2,957,787
Latin America and the Caribbean	89,593	291,171	380,764	103,782	22,604	11	3,943,509	-	24	5,582	4,352,494
Northern America	425,786	-	425,786	-	51,609	-	-	-	-	-	477,395
Oceania	36,414	4,581	40,995	2,577	20,832	-	-	-	-	-	61,827
Various	-	-	-	-	-	26	-	-	-	-	26
Total	9,881,538	618,703	10,500,241	6,674,950	936,740	525,941	17,670,368	1,545,486	3,335,777	1,329,927	35,844,480

See notes on page 46.

TABLE 2 Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by origin | end-2012

Origin ¹	REFUGEES					Returned refugees ⁵	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations ⁶	Returned IDPs ⁷	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate ⁸	Various ⁹	Total population of concern
	Refugees ²	People in refugee-like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
Afghanistan	2,585,605	-	2,585,605	2,483,452	51,834	98,609	486,298	18,830	-	880,468	4,121,644
Albania	12,573	-	12,573	6	3,420	-	-	-	-	783	16,776
Algeria	5,702	4	5,706	89	2,359	7	-	-	-	-	8,072
Andorra	7	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Angola	20,182	-	20,182	1,448	1,164	19,724	-	-	-	96,398	137,468
Antigua and Barbuda	45	-	45	-	34	-	-	-	-	-	79
Argentina	447	-	447	13	49	-	-	-	-	-	496
Armenia	16,056	1	16,057	78	2,784	1	-	-	-	-	18,842
Aruba	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Australia	48	-	48	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	57
Austria	12	-	12	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	18
Azerbaijan	15,914	-	15,914	1,797	2,113	-	600,336	-	-	-	618,363
Bahamas	196	-	196	-	37	-	-	-	-	-	233
Bahrain	297	-	297	2	78	-	-	-	-	-	375
Bangladesh	10,156	5	10,161	86	7,040	-	-	-	-	-	17,201
Barbados	55	-	55	-	59	-	-	-	-	-	114
Belarus	6,194	-	6,194	21	946	-	-	-	-	-	7,140
Belgium	93	-	93	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	109
Belize	39	-	39	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	47
Benin	457	-	457	12	427	-	-	-	-	-	884
Bermuda	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Bhutan	41,589	-	41,589	40,989	103	-	-	-	-	-	41,692
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	618	-	618	24	156	-	-	-	-	-	774
Bosnia and Herzegovina	51,884	55	51,939	4,779	2,667	278	103,449	9,551	-	54,792	222,676
Botswana	126	-	126	-	128	-	-	-	-	-	254
Brazil	1,076	-	1,076	4	251	-	-	-	-	-	1,327
Brunei Darussalam	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Bulgaria	2,147	-	2,147	14	142	-	-	-	-	-	2,289
Burkina Faso	1,454	4	1,458	13	511	2	-	-	-	-	1,971
Burundi	73,645	-	73,645	40,078	12,742	35,741	78,948	-	-	162,555	363,631
Cambodia	13,993	31	14,024	180	210	-	-	-	-	-	14,234
Cameroon	13,410	-	13,410	977	3,137	-	-	-	-	-	16,547
Canada	119	4	123	5	10	-	-	-	-	-	133
Cape Verde	26	-	26	1	13	-	-	-	-	-	39
Cayman Islands	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Central African Rep.	162,442	2,126	164,568	153,964	1,907	2,315	51,679	35,433	-	-	255,902
Chad	15,845	23,850	39,695	17,708	3,779	1,726	90,000	35,000	-	-	170,200
Chile	1,152	-	1,152	6	66	-	-	-	-	-	1,218
China	193,337	-	193,337	319	14,718	-	-	-	-	-	208,055
- Hong Kong SAR, China	19	-	19	-	67	-	-	-	-	-	86
- Macao SAR, China	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Colombia	111,778	282,344	394,122	93,027	18,850	10	3,943,509	-	-	-	4,356,491
Comoros	454	-	454	2	44	-	-	-	-	-	498
Congo	12,193	-	12,193	1,920	2,241	54	-	-	-	640	15,128
Cook Islands	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Costa Rica	325	-	325	4	27	-	-	-	-	-	352
Côte d'Ivoire	100,686	3	100,689	89,632	11,170	72,845	45,000	96,010	-	333	326,047
Croatia	62,613	-	62,613	14,549	1,291	98	-	-	-	20,615	84,617
Cuba	6,723	1,007	7,730	1,449	865	-	-	-	-	2	8,597
Cyprus ¹⁰	11	-	11	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	14
Czech Rep.	622	-	622	1	207	2	-	-	-	-	831
Dem. People's Rep. of Korea	1,110	-	1,110	48	1,027	-	-	-	-	-	2,137
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	509,188	208	509,396	446,665	56,965	71,924	2,669,069	304,596	-	-	3,611,950
Denmark	9	-	9	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	10
Djibouti	640	-	640	81	312	-	-	-	-	-	952
Dominica	54	-	54	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	66
Dominican Rep.	289	-	289	21	369	-	-	-	-	-	658
Ecuador	844	-	844	14	511	-	-	-	-	-	1,355

TABLE 2 Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by origin | end-2012 (ctnd)

Origin ¹	REFUGEES					Returned refugees ⁵	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations ⁶	Returned IDPs ⁷	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate ⁸	Various ⁹	Total population of concern
	Refugees ²	People in refugee-like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
Egypt	9,976	4	9,980	156	3,954	4	-	-	-	-	13,938
El Salvador	8,170	-	8,170	521	1,635	-	-	-	-	-	9,805
Equatorial Guinea	228	-	228	28	85	1	-	-	-	-	314
Eritrea	247,795	37,347	285,142	157,422	20,511	6	-	-	-	64	305,723
Estonia	456	-	456	2	29	-	-	-	-	-	485
Ethiopia	74,940	29	74,969	41,258	38,719	32	-	-	-	4,760	118,480
Fiji	1,317	-	1,317	2	268	-	-	-	-	-	1,585
Finland	7	-	7	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	13
France	100	-	100	-	49	-	-	-	-	-	149
French Guiana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
French Polynesia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gabon	183	-	183	3	66	-	-	-	-	-	249
Gambia	3,076	-	3,076	15	1,746	-	-	-	-	-	4,822
Georgia	9,290	-	9,290	1,483	4,515	-	279,778	-	-	-	293,583
Germany	182	-	182	2	25	-	-	-	-	-	207
Ghana	24,297	2	24,299	7,583	2,804	1	-	-	-	-	27,104
Gibraltar	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Greece	51	-	51	-	125	-	-	-	-	-	176
Grenada	316	-	316	-	48	-	-	-	-	-	364
Guatemala	6,386	-	6,386	74	1,332	-	-	-	-	-	7,718
Guinea	14,206	-	14,206	181	9,514	-	-	-	-	-	23,720
Guinea-Bissau	1,182	-	1,182	11	904	-	-	-	-	-	2,086
Guyana	801	-	801	-	77	-	-	-	-	-	878
Haiti	38,567	-	38,567	418	2,773	-	-	-	-	5,580	46,920
Holy See (the)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Honduras	2,613	-	2,613	77	810	-	-	-	-	-	3,423
Hungary	1,089	-	1,089	2	3,734	-	-	-	-	-	4,823
Iceland	3	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4
India	14,258	-	14,258	16	5,127	-	-	-	-	446	19,831
Indonesia	10,054	5,472	15,526	3,452	503	35	-	-	-	-	16,064
Iran, Islamic Rep. of	75,613	2	75,615	12,177	23,719	6	-	-	-	-	99,340
Iraq ¹¹	746,424	16	746,440	165,921	23,920	82,270	1,131,810	218,800	-	-	2,203,240
Ireland	9	-	9	-	17	-	-	-	-	-	26
Israel	1,341	-	1,341	16	414	-	-	-	-	-	1,755
Italy	66	-	66	-	64	-	-	-	-	-	130
Jamaica	1,379	-	1,379	8	505	-	-	-	-	-	1,884
Japan	173	-	173	-	41	-	-	-	-	-	214
Jordan	2,360	10	2,370	110	600	-	-	-	-	-	2,970
Kazakhstan	3,582	-	3,582	10	824	-	-	-	-	-	4,406
Kenya	8,948	-	8,948	4,049	1,454	-	412,000	-	-	-	422,402
Kiribati	33	-	33	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	43
Kuwait	1,213	-	1,213	56	136	-	-	-	-	-	1,349
Kyrgyzstan ¹²	3,489	-	3,489	278	1,088	-	168,600	3,400	-	-	176,577
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	7,983	1	7,984	3	8	-	-	-	-	-	7,992
Latvia	662	-	662	2	103	-	-	-	-	-	765
Lebanon	15,112	-	15,112	68	1,885	-	-	-	-	-	16,997
Lesotho	13	-	13	-	173	-	-	-	-	-	186
Liberia	23,453	27	23,480	17,674	2,003	29,472	-	-	-	-	54,955
Libya	5,250	2	5,252	38	1,856	1,055	59,425	177,452	-	-	245,040
Liechtenstein	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lithuania	491	-	491	2	87	-	-	-	-	-	578
Luxembourg	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Madagascar	300	1	301	1	33	-	-	-	-	1	335
Malawi	277	-	277	4	3,604	-	-	-	-	-	3,881
Malaysia	530	-	530	-	174	-	-	-	-	-	704
Maldives	24	-	24	-	32	-	-	-	-	-	56
Mali	149,942	1	149,943	143,202	1,838	28	227,930	-	-	-	379,739
Malta	6	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6

.../...

TABLE 2 Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by origin | end-2012 (ctnd)

Origin ¹	REFUGEES					Returned refugees ⁵	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations ⁶	Returned IDPs ⁷	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate ⁸	Various ⁹	Total population of concern
	Refugees ²	People in refugee-like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
Marshall Islands	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Mauritania	33,774	-	33,774	26,236	3,040	6,208	-	-	-	-	43,022
Mauritius	62	-	62	-	118	-	-	-	-	-	180
Mexico	8,435	-	8,435	12	3,603	-	-	-	-	-	12,038
Micronesia (Federated States of)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Monaco	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Mongolia	2,121	-	2,121	-	832	-	-	-	-	-	2,953
Montenegro	4,054	-	4,054	3	360	-	-	-	-	3	4,417
Montserrat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Morocco	2,405	2	2,407	30	1,743	-	-	-	-	-	4,150
Mozambique	160	-	160	11	401	-	-	-	-	-	561
Myanmar	215,312	200,031	415,343	227,197	25,621	-	430,400	-	-	-	871,364
Namibia	1,098	-	1,098	999	583	-	-	-	-	-	1,681
Nauru	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nepal	7,569	2	7,571	37	2,498	-	-	-	-	-	10,069
Netherlands	67	-	67	1	34	-	-	-	-	-	101
New Caledonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Zealand	20	-	20	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	29
Nicaragua	1,531	-	1,531	814	113	-	-	-	-	-	1,644
Niger	842	-	842	11	364	-	-	-	-	-	1,206
Nigeria	18,020	1	18,021	3,452	11,854	-	-	-	-	-	29,875
Niue	10	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Norway	8	-	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	14
Oman	65	-	65	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	70
Pakistan	33,624	16,112	49,736	17,103	21,635	2	757,996	56,181	-	-	885,550
Palau	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Palestinian ¹³	94,804	97	94,901	15,873	2,416	-	-	-	-	-	97,317
Panama	106	-	106	20	31	-	-	-	-	-	137
Papua New Guinea	174	-	174	-	86	-	-	-	-	-	260
Paraguay	101	-	101	4	24	-	-	-	-	-	125
Peru	5,212	-	5,212	476	340	1	-	-	-	-	5,553
Philippines	966	20	986	30	377	-	1,159	336,215	-	80,000	418,737
Pitcairn	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poland	1,640	-	1,640	4	323	-	-	-	-	-	1,963
Portugal	32	-	32	1	49	-	-	-	-	-	81
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Qatar	124	-	124	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	130
Rep. of Korea	559	-	559	-	186	-	-	-	-	-	745
Rep. of Moldova	6,149	-	6,149	16	440	-	-	-	-	-	6,589
Romania	2,814	1	2,815	8	616	-	-	-	-	-	3,431
Russian Federation	110,699	2	110,701	1,269	15,022	11	-	-	-	10,557	136,291
Rwanda	97,471	-	97,471	43,190	10,239	11,249	-	-	-	89	119,048
Saint Kitts and Nevis	12	-	12	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	36
Saint Lucia	566	-	566	-	516	-	-	-	-	-	1,082
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	1,316	-	1,316	-	489	-	-	-	-	-	1,805
Samoa	1	-	1	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	13
San Marino	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sao Tome and Principe	32	-	32	31	1	-	-	-	-	-	33
Saudi Arabia	816	1	817	20	149	1	-	-	-	-	967
Senegal	18,721	-	18,721	16,769	2,585	-	-	-	-	-	21,306
Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999))	157,858	306	158,164	10,013	16,146	193	227,821	798	-	2,576	405,698
Seychelles	29	-	29	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	30
Sierra Leone	7,365	-	7,365	1,002	2,316	-	-	-	-	1,606	11,287
Singapore	68	-	68	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	98
Slovakia	247	-	247	-	631	-	-	-	-	-	878
Slovenia	34	-	34	-	12	-	-	-	-	1	47

TABLE 2 Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by origin | end-2012 (ctnd)

Origin ¹	REFUGEES					Returned refugees ⁵	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations ⁶	Returned IDPs ⁷	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate ⁸	Various ⁹	Total population of concern
	Refugees ²	People in refugee-like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
Solomon Islands	61	-	61	7	5	-	-	-	-	-	66
Somalia	1,136,142	1	1,136,143	1,023,580	32,978	48	1,132,963	10,188	-	38	2,312,358
South Africa	420	-	420	6	240	1	-	-	-	-	661
South Sudan ¹⁴	86,909	100	87,009	86,892	18,681	2,238	345,670	-	-	-	453,598
Spain	52	-	52	4	89	-	-	-	-	-	141
Sri Lanka	132,782	10	132,792	2,676	14,008	1,480	93,482	44,610	-	-	286,372
Sudan ¹⁵	558,468	10,744	569,212	528,368	21,525	19,485	1,873,300	91,554	-	-	2,575,076
Suriname	15	-	15	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	34
Swaziland	65	-	65	2	157	-	-	-	-	-	222
Sweden	19	1	20	7	19	-	-	-	-	-	39
Switzerland	17	-	17	-	4	-	-	-	-	1	22
Syrian Arab Rep.	728,218	324	728,542	571,374	25,671	68,573	2,016,500	-	-	6,900	2,846,186
Tajikistan	665	-	665	53	439	-	-	-	-	-	1,104
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	7,591	-	7,591	5	4,515	-	-	-	-	45	12,151
Thailand	368	12	380	17	175	-	-	-	-	-	555
Tibetan	15,068	-	15,068	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	15,071
Timor-Leste	9	-	9	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	16
Togo	15,722	1	15,723	6,076	3,028	91	-	-	-	-	18,842
Tonga	13	-	13	-	39	-	-	-	-	-	52
Trinidad and Tobago	332	-	332	-	92	-	-	-	-	-	424
Tunisia	1,935	1	1,936	37	2,273	1	-	-	-	-	4,210
Turkey	135,448	2	135,450	15,557	8,810	-	-	-	-	-	144,260
Turkmenistan	723	-	723	24	129	-	-	-	-	-	852
Turks and Caicos Islands	14	-	14	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	23
Tuvalu	1	-	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	6
Uganda	5,572	-	5,572	1,081	2,585	20	-	-	-	-	8,177
Ukraine	25,283	2	25,285	36	1,180	-	-	-	-	-	26,465
United Arab Emirates	584	-	584	3	24	-	-	-	-	-	608
United Kingdom	153	-	153	7	48	-	-	-	-	-	201
United Rep. of Tanzania	1,128	-	1,128	80	723	44	-	-	-	-	1,895
United States ¹⁶	4,453	3	4,456	17	432	-	-	-	-	-	4,888
Uruguay	171	-	171	7	36	-	-	-	-	-	207
US Virgin Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uzbekistan	7,099	4,505	11,604	653	1,340	-	-	-	-	-	12,944
Vanuatu	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	8,208	-	8,208	264	505	-	-	-	-	-	8,713
Viet Nam ¹⁷	336,945	-	336,945	251	1,393	-	-	-	-	68	338,406
Western Sahara ¹⁸	90,452	26,000	116,452	116,268	126	-	-	-	-	-	116,578
Yemen	2,589	1	2,590	394	1,557	-	385,320	106,868	-	-	496,335
Zambia	242	-	242	3	209	2	-	-	-	-	453
Zimbabwe	22,098	-	22,098	1,138	38,385	21	57,926	-	-	22	118,452
Stateless	19,755	-	19,755	95	3,007	-	-	-	3,335,777	-	3,358,539
Various/unknown	125,927	7,865	133,792	5,550	255,545	26	-	-	-	583	389,946
Total	9,881,538	618,703	10,500,241	6,674,950	936,740	525,941	17,670,368	1,545,486	3,335,777	1,329,927	35,844,480

UNHCR-BUREAUX	Refugees ²	People in refugee-like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) ⁴	Returned refugees ⁵	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations ⁶	Returned IDPs ⁷	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate ⁸	Various ⁹	Total population of concern
Central Africa-Great Lakes	869,921	2,334	872,255	686,936	88,106	121,328	2,799,696	340,029	-	163,284	4,384,698
East and Horn of Africa	2,135,258	72,071	2,207,329	1,860,439	140,544	23,555	3,853,933	136,742	-	4,862	6,366,965
Southern Africa	45,528	1	45,529	3,614	45,240	19,748	57,926	-	-	96,421	264,864
Western Africa	379,449	39	379,488	285,634	51,077	102,439	272,930	96,010	-	1,939	903,883
Asia and Pacific	3,717,078	226,203	3,943,281	2,789,057	175,632	100,132	1,937,935	459,236	-	960,983	7,577,199
Middle East and North Africa	1,743,439	26,462	1,769,901	896,692	72,212	158,119	3,593,055	503,120	-	6,900	6,103,307
Europe	632,722	370	633,092	49,661	70,656	583	1,211,384	10,349	-	89,373	2,015,437
Americas	212,466	283,358	495,824	97,273	34,721	11	3,943,509	-	-	5,582	4,479,647
Various/Stateless	145,677	7,865	153,542	5,644	258,552	26	-	-	3,335,777	583	3,748,480
Total	9,881,538	618,703	10,500,241	6,674,950	936,740	525,941	17,670,368	1,545,486	3,335,777	1,329,927	35,844,480

.../...

TABLE 2 Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by origin | end-2012 (ctnd)

Origin ¹	REFUGEES					Returned refugees ⁵	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations ⁶	Returned IDPs ⁷	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate ⁸	Various ⁹	Total population of concern
	Refugees ²	People in refugee-like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
UN MAJOR REGIONS											
Africa	3,579,650	100,458	3,680,108	2,979,477	340,318	274,345	7,043,910	750,233	-	266,506	12,355,420
Asia	5,486,061	226,655	5,712,716	3,561,811	250,274	250,977	6,351,679	784,904	-	967,883	14,318,433
Europe	456,003	367	456,370	30,742	52,431	582	331,270	10,349	-	89,373	940,375
Latin America and the Caribbean	207,894	283,351	491,245	97,251	34,275	11	3,943,509	-	-	5,582	4,474,622
Northern America	4,572	7	4,579	22	446	-	-	-	-	-	5,025
Oceania	1,683	-	1,683	3	444	-	-	-	-	-	2,127
Various/Stateless	145,675	7,865	153,540	5,644	258,552	26	-	-	3,335,777	583	3,748,478
Total	9,881,538	618,703	10,500,241	6,674,950	936,740	525,941	17,670,368	1,545,486	3,335,777	1,329,927	35,844,480

Notes table 1:

The data are generally provided by Governments, based on their own definitions and methods of data collection.

A dash (-) indicates that the value is zero, not available or not applicable.

1 Country or territory of asylum or residence.

2 Persons recognized as refugees under the 1951 UN Convention/1967 Protocol, the 1969 OAU Convention, in accordance with the UNHCR Statute, persons granted a complementary form of protection and those granted temporary protection. In the absence of Government figures, UNHCR has estimated the refugee population in 25 industrialized countries based on 10 years of individual refugee recognition.

3 This category is descriptive in nature and includes groups of persons who are outside their country or territory of origin and who face protection risks similar to those of refugees, but for whom refugee status has, for practical or other reasons, not been ascertained.

4 Persons whose application for asylum or refugee status is pending at any stage in the asylum procedure.

5 Refugees who have returned to their place of origin during the calendar year. Source: country of origin and asylum.

6 Persons who are displaced within their country and to whom UNHCR extends protection and/or assistance. It also includes people in IDP-like situations. This category is descriptive in nature and includes groups of persons who are inside their country of nationality or habitual residence and who face protection risks similar to those of IDPs but who, for practical or other reasons, could not be reported as such.

Notes table 2:

The data are generally provided by Governments, based on their own definitions and methods of data collection.

A dash (-) indicates that the value is zero, not available or not applicable.

1 Country or territory of origin.

2 Persons recognized as refugees under the 1951 UN Convention/1967 Protocol, the 1969 OAU Convention, in accordance with the UNHCR Statute, persons granted a complementary form of protection and those granted temporary protection. In the absence of Government figures, UNHCR has estimated the refugee population in 25 industrialized countries based on 10 years of individual refugee recognition.

3 This category is descriptive in nature and includes groups of persons who are outside their country or territory of origin and who face protection risks similar to those of refugees, but for whom refugee status has, for practical or other reasons, not been ascertained.

4 Persons whose application for asylum or refugee status is pending at any stage in the asylum procedure.

5 Refugees who have returned to their place of origin during the calendar year. Source: country of origin and asylum.

6 Persons who are displaced within their country and to whom UNHCR extends protection and/or assistance. It

7 IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR who have returned to their place of origin during the calendar year.

8 Refers to persons who are not considered as nationals by any State under the operation of its law. This category refers to persons who fall under the agency's statelessness mandate because they are stateless according to this international definition, but data from some countries may also include persons with undetermined nationality. See annex table 7 for footnotes (<http://www.unhcr.org/statistics/12-WRD-table-7.xls>).

9 Refers to individuals who do not necessarily fall directly into any of the other groups but to whom UNHCR may extend its protection and/or assistance services. These activities might be based on humanitarian or other special grounds.

10 According to the Government of Algeria, there are an estimated 165,000 Sahrawi refugees in the Tindouf camps.

11 Information on the number of pending cases at 1 January 2012 for asylum-seekers who had arrived in Australia by boat was not available when the number of pending cases was calculated at 31 December 2012.

12 The 300,000 Vietnamese refugees are well integrated and in practice receive protection from the Government of China.

13 UNHCR's assistance activities for IDPs in Cyprus ended in 1999. Visit the website of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) for further information.

14 Figures are UNHCR estimates.

15 Refugee figure for Iraqis in Jordan is a Government estimate. UNHCR has registered and is assisting 27,800 Iraqis at year-end.

also includes people in IDP-like situations. This category is descriptive in nature and includes groups of persons who are inside their country of nationality or habitual residence and who face protection risks similar to those of IDPs but who, for practical or other reasons, could not be reported as such.

7 IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR who have returned to their place of origin during the calendar year.

8 Refers to persons who are not considered as nationals by any State under the operation of its law. This category refers to persons who fall under the agency's statelessness mandate because they are stateless according to this international definition, but data from some countries may also include persons with undetermined nationality. See annex table 7 for footnotes (<http://www.unhcr.org/statistics/12-WRD-table-7.xls>).

9 Refers to individuals who do not necessarily fall directly into any of the other groups but to whom UNHCR may extend its protection and/or assistance services. These activities might be based on humanitarian or other special grounds.

10 UNHCR's assistance activities for IDPs in Cyprus ended in 1999. Visit the website of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) for further information.

11 Refugee figures for Iraqis in Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic are Government estimates. UNHCR has registered and is assisting 90,500 Iraqis in both countries at year-end.

16 IDP figure in Kyrgyzstan includes 168,600 people who are in an IDP-like situation.

17 In 2011, UNHCR reported the figure of 800,000 as an estimate of individuals who lack citizenship certificates in Nepal. However, as individuals without citizenship certificates are not necessarily stateless. UNHCR has been in dialogue with the Government of Nepal to clarify and address the situation for future reporting.

18 All figures relate to 31 December 2011 (no updated data available).

19 The figure of 178,000 stateless persons is based on the number of persons who self-identified as stateless in the 2010 census and is subject to further discussion/verification with the Government.

20 IDP figure in South Sudan includes 155,200 people who are in an IDP-like situation.

21 IDP figure in Sudan includes 77,300 people who are in an IDP-like situation.

22 Refugee figure for Iraqis in the Syrian Arab Republic is a Government estimate. UNHCR has registered and is assisting 62,700 Iraqis at year-end.

23 Asylum-seekers (pending cases) excludes individuals pending a decision on their asylum claim with the Executive Office for Immigration Review.

Source: UNHCR/Governments.

12 IDP figure in Kyrgyzstan includes 168,600 people who are in an IDP-like situation.

13 Refers to Palestinian refugees under the UNHCR mandate only.

14 An unknown number of refugees and asylum-seekers from South Sudan may be included under Sudan (in absence of separate statistics for both countries). IDP figure in South Sudan includes 155,200 people who are in an IDP-like situation.

15 Figures for refugees and asylum-seekers may include citizens of South Sudan (in absence of separate statistics for both countries). IDP figure in Sudan includes 77,300 people who are in an IDP-like situation.

16 A limited number of countries record refugee and asylum statistics by country of birth rather than country of origin. This affects the number of refugees reported as originating from the United States of America.

17 The 300,000 Vietnamese refugees are well integrated and in practice receive protection from the Government of China.

18 According to the Government of Algeria, there are an estimated 165,000 Sahrawi refugees in the Tindouf camps.

Source: UNHCR/Governments.



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This document along with further statistical information on global
displacement is available on UNHCR's website:
<http://www.unhcr.org/statistics>

Cover photo: Syrian refugees arrive in Jordan's Za'atri refugee camp in the cold, early
morning hours. Many civilians fleeing the Syrian Arab Republic cross the border at night,
when it is less dangerous. The night journey is still a perilous one and very cold, especially
in the winter months. Young children and the elderly are particularly vulnerable.

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