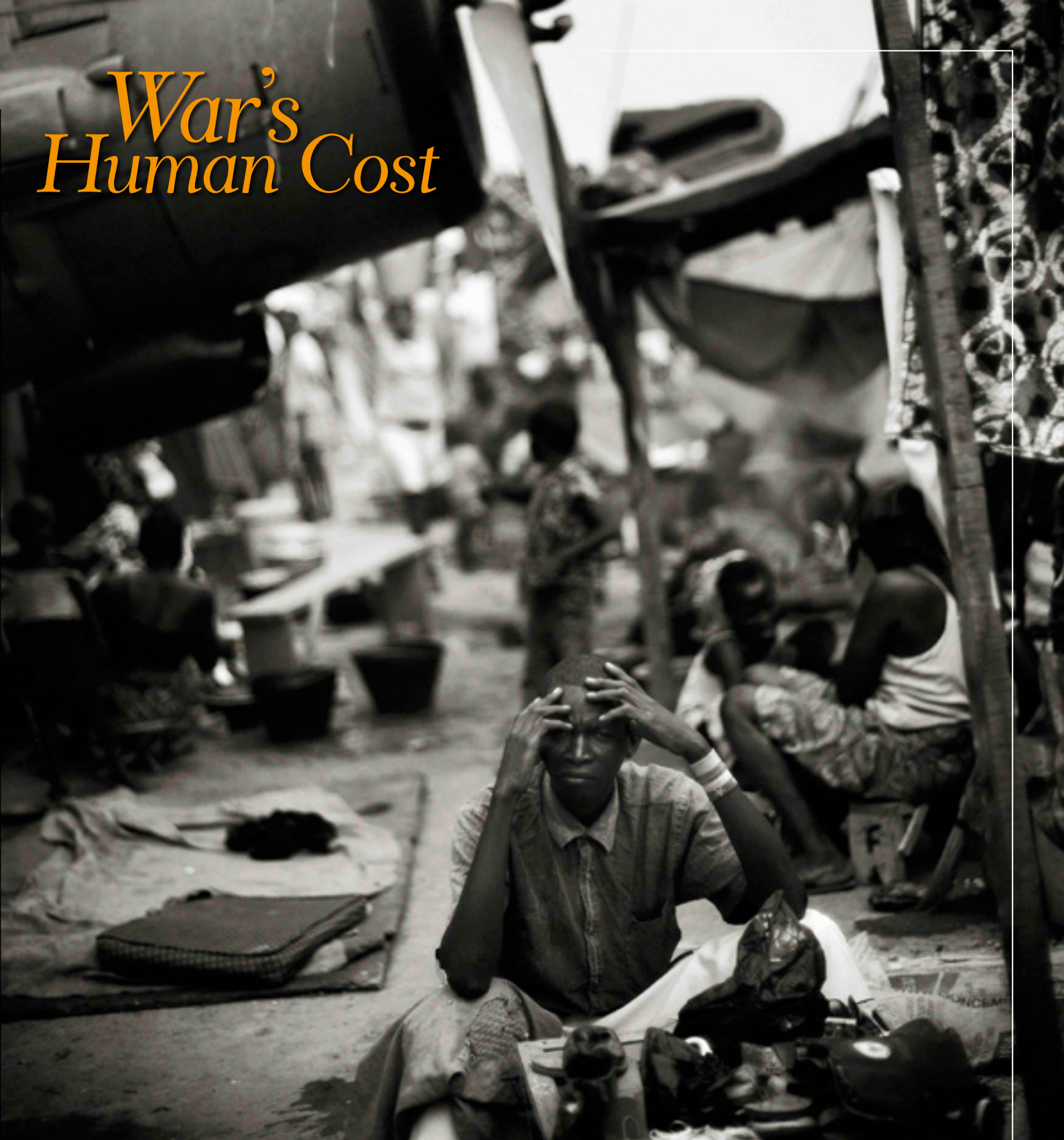


# *War's Human Cost*



# UNHCR

## Global Trends 2013



# 2013 IN REVIEW

## Trends at a glance

By end-2013, 51.2 million individuals were forcibly displaced worldwide as a result of persecution, conflict, generalized violence, or human rights violations. Some 16.7 million persons were refugees: 11.7 million under UNHCR's mandate and 5.0 million Palestinian refugees registered by UNRWA. The global figure included 33.3 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) <sup>(1)</sup> and close to 1.2 million asylum-seekers. If these 51.2 million persons were a nation, they would make up the 26<sup>th</sup> largest in the world.

10.7 MILLION

An estimated 10.7 million individuals were **newly displaced due to conflict or persecution** in 2013. This includes 8.2 million persons newly displaced within the borders of their own country, the highest figure on record. <sup>(2)</sup> The other 2.5 million individuals were new refugees – the highest number of new arrivals since 1994.

32,200

During 2013, conflict and persecution **forced** an average of 32,200 individuals per day **to leave their homes and seek protection elsewhere**, either within the borders of their own country or in other countries. This compares to 23,400 in 2012 and 14,200 in 2011.

TOP  
HOSTS

1. Pakistan (1.6 million)
2. Islamic Republic of Iran (857,400)
3. Lebanon (856,500)
4. Jordan (641,900)
5. Turkey (609,900)

Pakistan was **host to the largest number of refugees** worldwide (1.6 million), followed by the Islamic Republic of Iran (857,400), Lebanon (856,500), Jordan (641,900), and Turkey (609,900).

The 2013 level of displacement was the highest on record since comprehensive statistics on global forced displacement have been collected. <sup>(3)</sup>

51.2 MILLION

FORCIBLY DISPLACED WORLDWIDE

16.7 million refugees

33.3 million internally displaced persons

1.2 million asylum-seekers

11.7 million under UNHCR's mandate

5.0 million Palestinian refugees registered by UNRWA

10 MILLION

**Statelessness** is estimated to have affected at least 10 million persons in 2013. However, data captured by governments and communicated to UNHCR were limited to 3.5 million stateless individuals in 75 countries.

86%

**Developing countries** hosted 86 per cent of the world's refugees, compared to 70 per cent 10 years ago. This is the highest value in more than two decades. The Least Developed Countries were providing asylum to 2.8 million refugees by year-end.

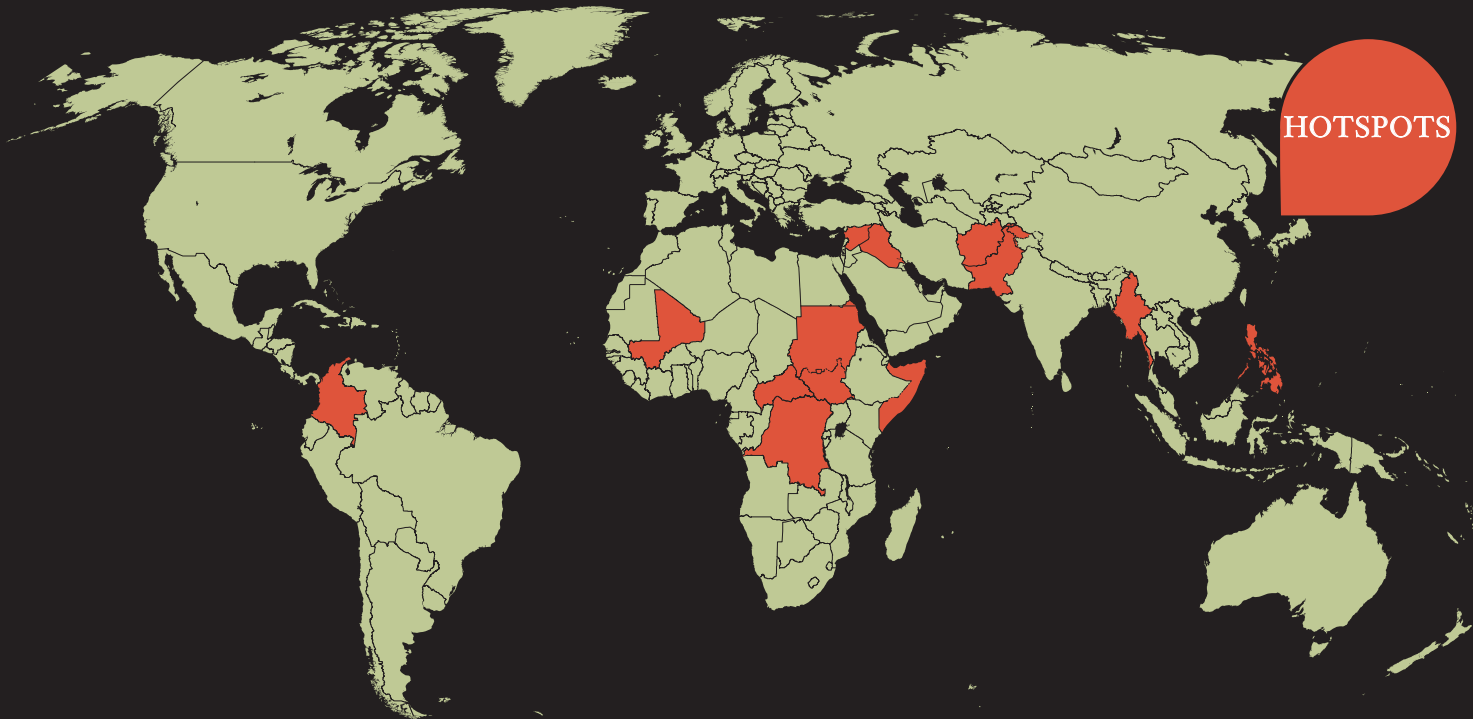
5.4 MILLION

More than 5.4 million refugees under UNHCR's mandate (46%) resided in countries where the **GDP per capita was below USD 5,000**.

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

<sup>(2)</sup> Idem.

<sup>(3)</sup> The highest figure since 1989 when record keeping began.



See Annex Table 2 for detailed notes.

Lebanon **hosted the largest number of refugees in relation to its national population**, with 178 refugees per 1,000 inhabitants. This was the highest relative burden a country had been exposed to since 1980. Jordan (88) and Chad (34) ranked second and third, respectively.

TOP ORIGINS

1. Afghanistan (2.56 million)
2. Syrian Arab Republic (2.47 million)
3. Somalia (1.12 million)

More than half (53%) of all refugees worldwide **came from just three countries:** Afghanistan (2.56 million), the Syrian Arab Republic (2.47 million), and Somalia (1.12 million).

1.1 MILLION

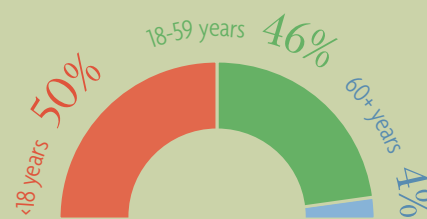
Close to 1.1 million individuals **submitted applications for asylum or refugee status** in 2013. UNHCR offices registered a record high of 203,200 or 19 per cent of these claims. With 109,600 asylum claims, Germany was for the first time since 1999 the world's largest recipient of new individual applications, followed by the United States of America (84,400) and South Africa (70,000).

25,300

Some 25,300 asylum applications were lodged by **unaccompanied or separated children** in 77 countries in 2013, mostly by Afghan, South Sudanese, and Somali children. This was the highest number on record since UNHCR started collecting such data in 2006.

21 COUNTRIES

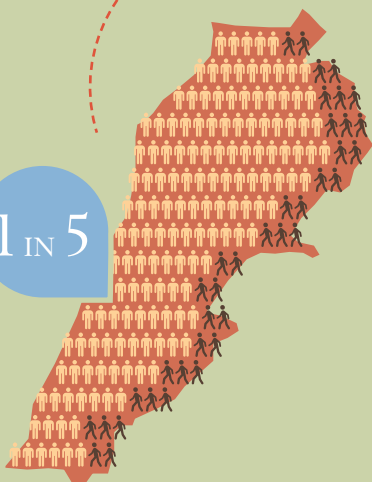
During the year, UNHCR submitted 93,200 refugees to **States for resettlement**, and some 71,600 departed with UNHCR's assistance. According to government statistics, 21 countries admitted 98,400 refugees for resettlement during 2013 (with or without UNHCR's assistance). The United States of America received the highest number (66,200).



REFUGEES

**Children** below 18 years constituted 50 per cent of the refugee population in 2013, the highest figure in a decade.

1 IN 5



414,600

Over the course of 2013, 414,600 refugees **returned to their countries of origin**. Two-thirds of these returned to the Syrian Arab Republic (140,800), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (68,400), or Iraq (60,900). This figure was the fourth lowest level of refugee returns in almost 25 years.





**A 19-year old South Sudanese refugee in Nyumanzi settlement, Uganda** helps his family clear a thorny plot, where they will build a shelter. He was not able to complete secondary school due to instability in South Sudan and now worries about if he will be able to finish his studies.



# Introduction

*The year 2013 was marked by a continuation of multiple refugee crises, reaching levels unseen since the Rwandan genocide in 1994. As such, 2013 has been one of the most challenging years in UNHCR's history. More than 2.5 million persons were forced to abandon their homes and seek protection outside the borders of their country, most of them in neighbouring countries. These new refugees joined the two million persons who had become refugees in 2011 and 2012. The war in the Syrian Arab Republic, entering into its third year in 2013, was the primary cause of these outflows, as highlighted by two dramatic milestones. In August, the one millionth Syrian refugee child was registered; only a few weeks later, UNHCR announced that the number of Syrian refugees had passed two million. The Syrian Arab Republic had moved from being the world's second largest refugee-hosting country to being its second largest refugee-producing country – within a span of just five years.*

**E**VEN WHILE THE SYRIAN crisis continued to unfold, millions of individuals were forcibly displaced in other parts of the world, notably in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic, Mali, and the border area between South Sudan and Sudan. By the end of 2013, an estimated 51.2 million persons worldwide were considered to be forcibly displaced due to persecution, conflict, generalized violence, or human rights violations. These included 16.7 million refugees,<sup>(4)</sup> 33.3 million internally displaced persons (IDPs),<sup>(5)</sup> and close to 1.2 million individuals whose asylum applications had not yet been adjudicated by the end of the reporting period. The 2013 levels of forcible displacement were the highest since at least 1989, the first year that comprehensive statistics on global forced displacement existed.

If these 51.2 million persons were a nation, they would make up the 26<sup>th</sup> largest in the world.

While 2.5 million persons sought refuge abroad, an additional 8.2 million<sup>(6)</sup> were displaced within the borders of their countries, bringing the total number of displaced persons within the year to 10.7 million. In addition, nearly 1.1 million persons lodged asylum claims on an individual basis during 2013, resulting in conflict and persecution forcing an average of 32,200 persons per day to leave their homes. This compares to 23,400 a year earlier and 14,200 two years ago.

Largely due to escalating crises in the Syrian Arab Republic and

multiple parts of Africa, the total number of refugees and IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR in 2013 increased by 7.4 million persons, reaching a record high of 35.6 million persons by year-end [see Figure 2]. The number of refugees increased to 11.7 million, from 10.5 million in 2012, and the number of IDPs protected or assisted by UNHCR increased to 23.9 million, from 17.7 million in 2012. In addition, UNHCR estimates that at least 10 million persons were stateless globally, though official statistics covered only some 3.5 million.

Close to 1.1 million individual asylum applications were registered with governments or UNHCR in

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

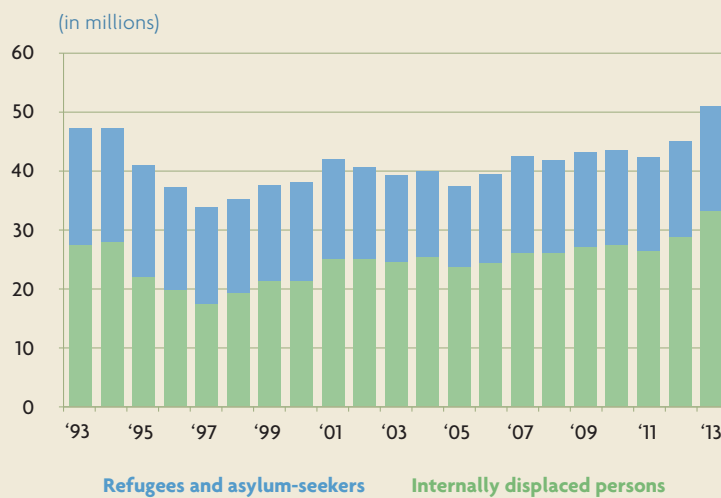
(5) Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre.

(6) Idem.

“ We are seeing here the immense costs of not ending wars, of failing to resolve or prevent conflict. Peace is today dangerously in deficit. Humanitarians can help as a palliative, but political solutions are vitally needed. Without this, the alarming levels of conflict and the mass suffering that is reflected in these figures will continue. ”

—ANTÓNIO GUTERRES, UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

Fig. 1 Global forced displacement | 1993-2013 (end-year)



2013, the highest such figure in more than a decade. Among the top 10 source countries of asylum-seekers were eight currently experiencing war, conflict, or gross human rights violations. This clearly reflects a continued, increasing demand for international protection throughout the year. Similarly, the number of unaccompanied or separated children filing an asylum application during the year also continued to increase, surpassing the 25,000 mark for the first time since UNHCR started collecting such information in a systematic way in 2006.

Some 414,600 refugees were able to return to their country of origin during the year, though unfortunately this was a fifth less than in 2012 (526,000). In contrast, UNHCR submitted over 93,200 refugees for resettlement in 2013, a quarter more than in 2012. Where UNHCR was engaged with IDPs, an estimated 1.4 million persons were able to return home in 2013. Nevertheless, the situation in many countries pre-

vented the return of millions of forcibly displaced individuals. For example, the number of refugees considered to be in protracted situations<sup>(7)</sup> was 6.3 million at year-end.

This report analyses statistical trends and changes from January to December 2013 for the populations for whom UNHCR has been entrusted with a responsibility by the international community. This includes refugees, asylum-seekers, returnees, stateless persons, and certain groups of internally displaced persons, collectively referred to as 'persons of concern'.<sup>(8)</sup> The data presented are based on information available as of 19 May 2014, unless otherwise indicated.

The figures in 2013 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 2013 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 2013. ■

(7) 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.

(8) See p. 39 for a definition of each population group.

# Overview of Global Trends

*By the end of 2013, the population of concern to UNHCR stood at an unprecedented 42.9 million persons. This figure takes into account new displacement occurring throughout the year; durable solutions found for refugees, IDPs, and stateless persons; and legal and demographic changes. It also takes into account revised estimates for a number of countries and improved availability of data due to both enhanced data collection methods and tools as well as improved security conditions.*

**T**HE 11.7 MILLION refugees under UNHCR's responsibility included some 700,000 persons in refugee-like situations.<sup>(9)</sup> The number of individuals whose asylum applications had not yet been adjudicated by the end of the reporting period was estimated at almost 1.2 million. In addition, a total of 23.9 million IDPs, including some 267,500 persons in IDP-like situations, were protected or assisted by UNHCR by year-end, the highest figure on record.

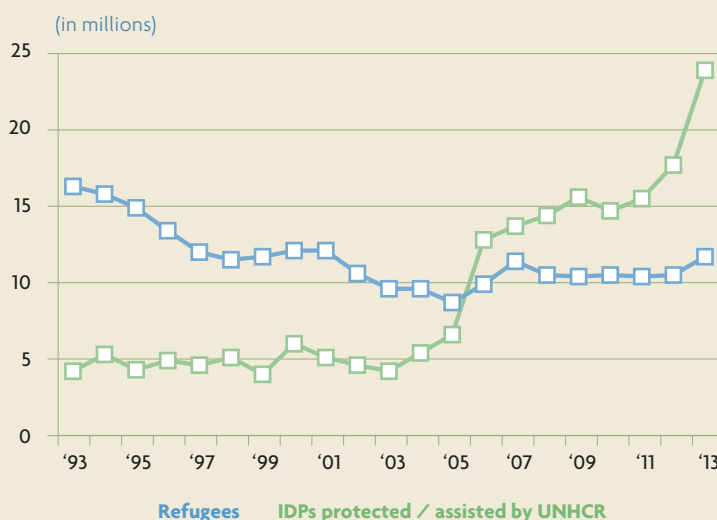
In countries where UNHCR was engaged with IDPs, an estimated

1.4 million IDPs were able to return home during the year, while some 414,600 refugees returned to their country of origin. During 2013, UNHCR also identified close to 3.5 million stateless persons in 75 countries, and estimated the total number of stateless persons worldwide at more than 10 million.<sup>(10)</sup> In addition, some 836,600 individuals outside 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'. ■

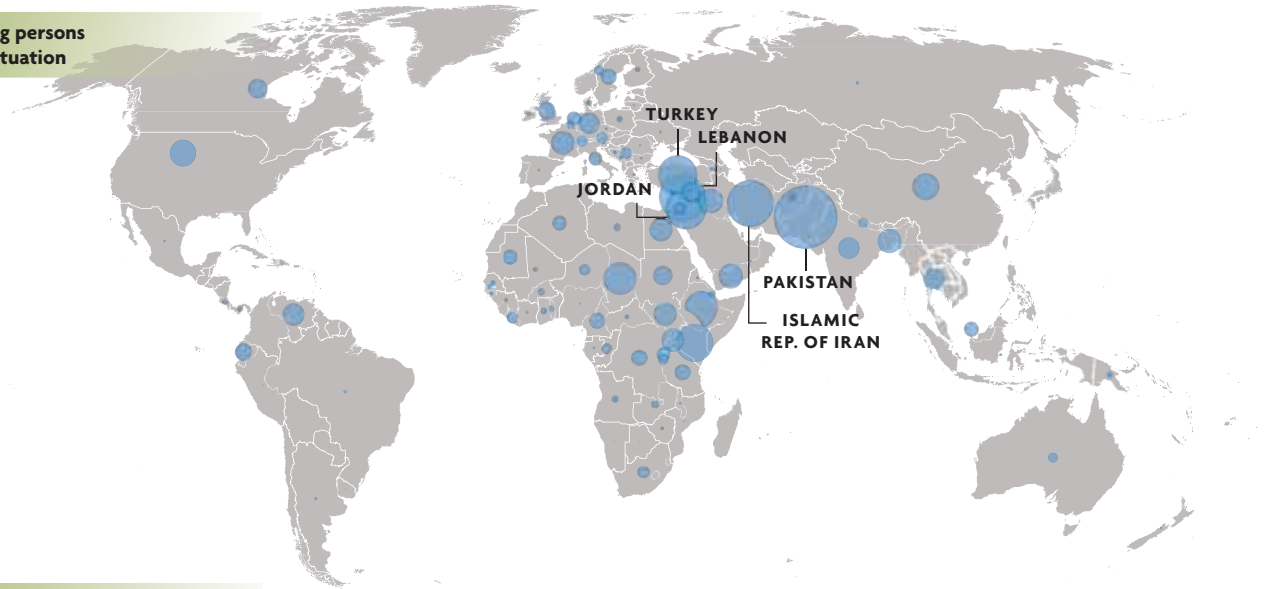
<sup>(9)</sup> Four-fifths of the 700,000 people in a refugee-like situation were located in Bangladesh, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Ecuador, and Thailand.

<sup>(10)</sup> 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.

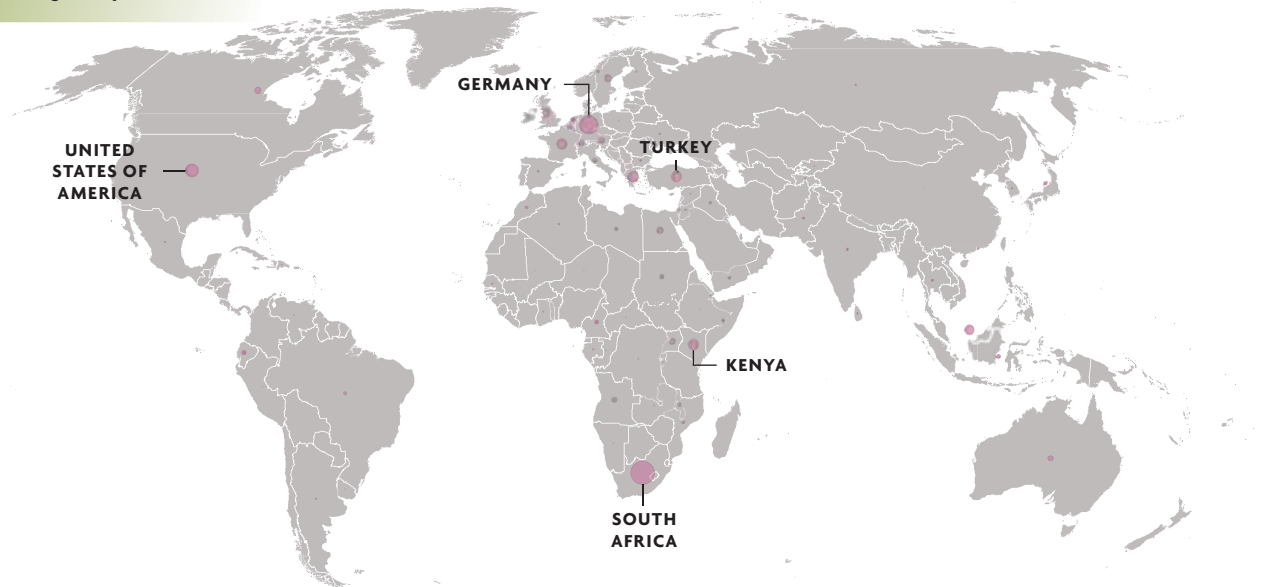
Fig. 2 Refugees and IDPs | 1993-2013 (end-year)



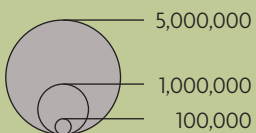
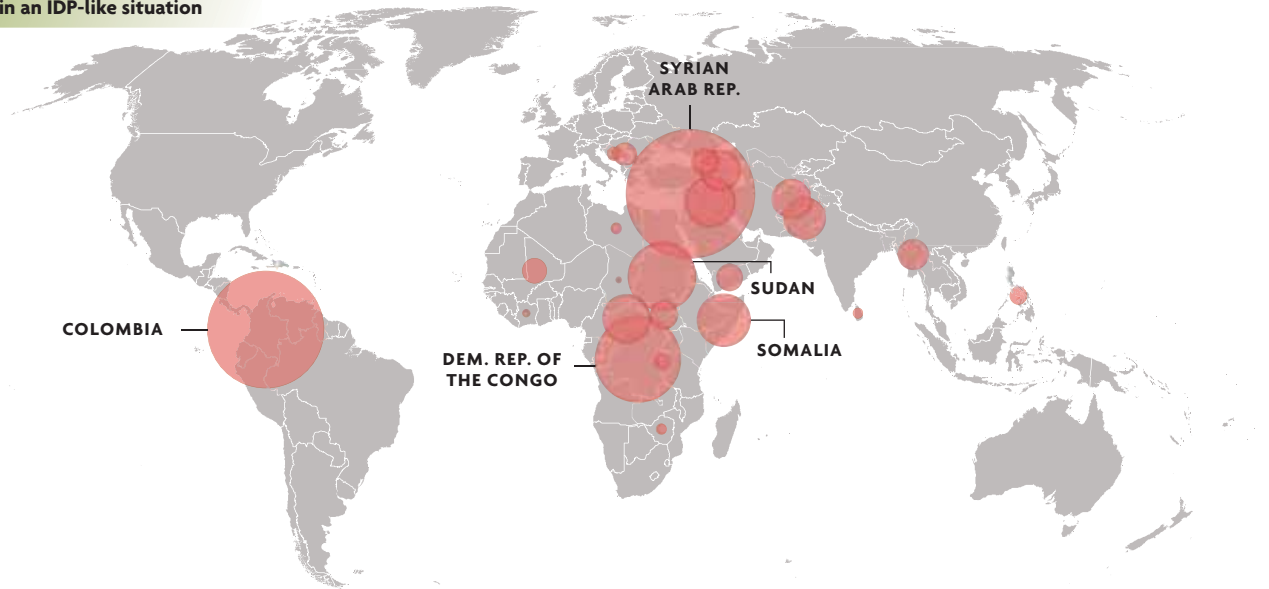
Refugees, including persons in a refugee-like situation



Asylum-seekers (pending cases)



IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, including persons in an IDP-like situation



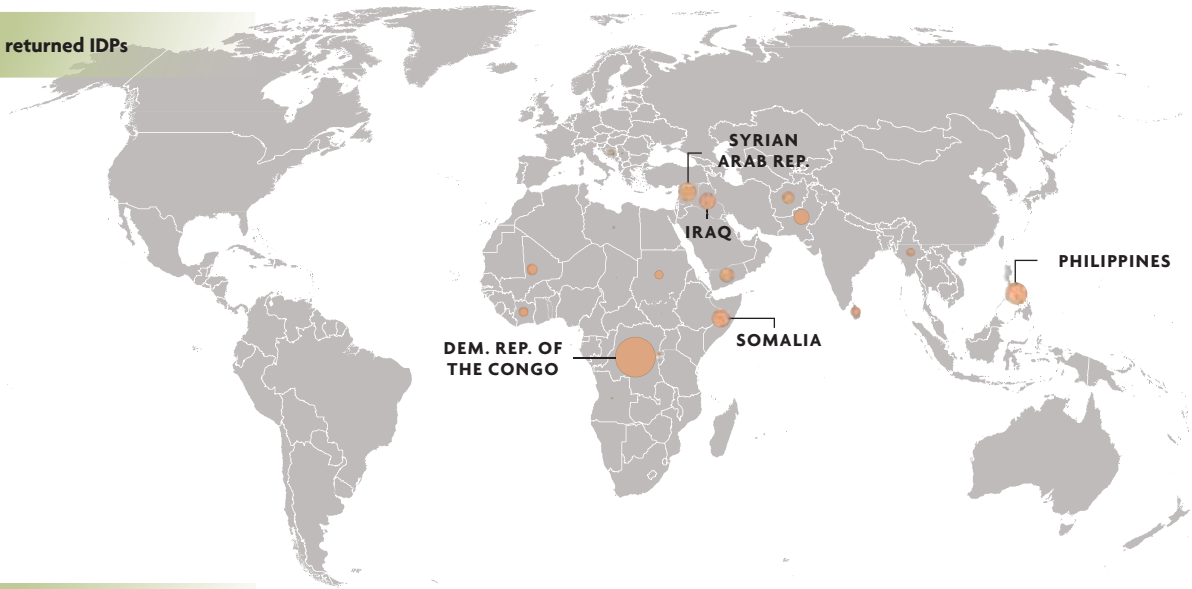
A country is listed if it features among the top-5 per population group.

See Annex table 1 for detailed notes.

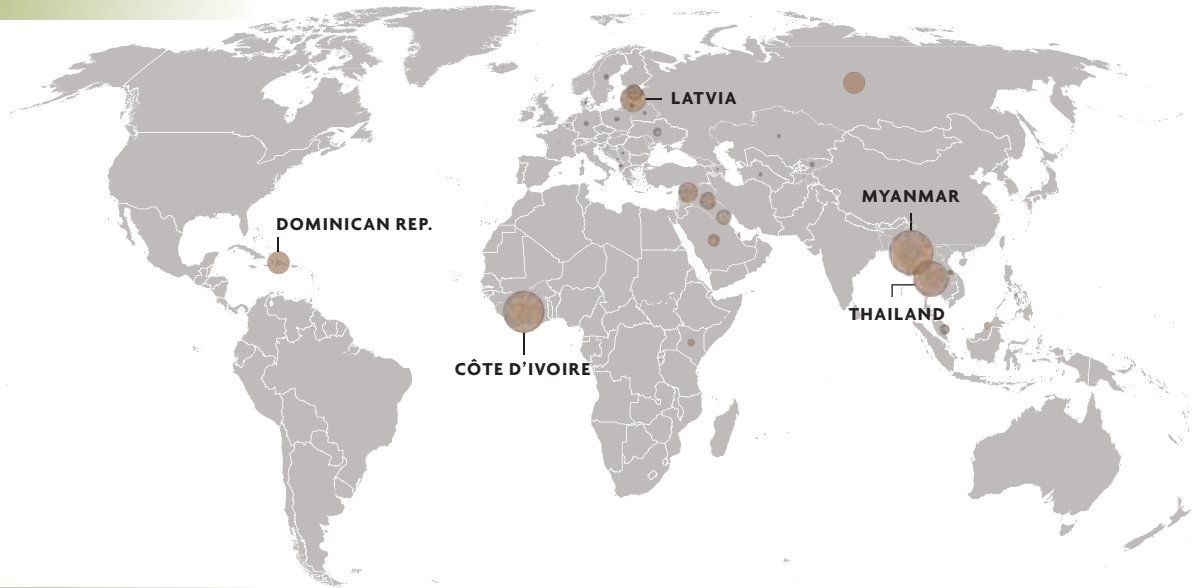
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



Returned refugees, returned IDPs



Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate



Others of concern to UNHCR





**A Malian refugee in the Sag-Nionogo camp in Burkina Faso collects water.** Sag-Nionogo hosts thousands of refugees who fled violence and serious human rights abuses in northern Mali. They have lost everything and do not know how long it will be before they can return home.

# Refugee population

*The global number of refugees under UNHCR's mandate was estimated at 11.7 million at year-end, some 1.2 million more than at the end of 2012 (+11%). This was the highest level since 2001, when an estimated 12.1 million persons were considered refugees at year-end. During 2013, 2.2 million Syrian refugees were registered, mainly in neighbouring countries, while hundreds of thousands fled their country across Africa, from the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan, Sudan, and Mali. The 2013 increase in refugee numbers has not been seen since 1994. Refugee numbers were reduced through the return of some 414,600 refugees, primarily to the Syrian Arab Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Further reductions in global refugee figures result from revisions of refugee estimates in the Syrian Arab Republic and Germany, as explained further below.*

**T**ABLE 1 SHOWS THAT 3.5 million refugees, or one third of the global total were residing in countries covered by UNHCR's Asia and Pacific region. Of these, more than 2.4 million were Afghans (69%) in Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran. Sub-Saharan Africa was host to more than 2.9 million, or one quarter, of all refugees, primarily from Somalia (778,400), Sudan (605,400), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (470,300), the Central African Republic (251,900), and Eritrea (198,700). The Middle East and North Africa region hosted some 2.6 million or 22 per cent of the world's refugees, mainly from the Syrian Arab Republic (1.8 million), while Europe hosted some 1.8 million (15%), particularly from the Syrian Arab Republic (663,700) and Iraq (127,200). Finally, with 806,000 refugees, the Americas

region hosted the smallest share of refugees (7%) globally, with Colombians (397,300) continuing to constitute the largest proportion.<sup>(11)</sup>

Two developments had a major impact on refugee figures in the Middle East and North Africa region. Conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic forced almost 2.2 million persons to seek refuge in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, and other countries in the region. At the same time, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic revised the estimated number of Iraqi refugees in that country from 471,400 down to 146,200, based on the assumption that people had left due to continued conflict and the deteriorating situation. UNHCR continued to provide assistance to 28,300 Iraqi refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic. In addition, some 31,400 Malian refugees fled to Mauritania in 2013, while

about 9,700 Somali refugees were registered in Yemen.

In sub-Saharan Africa, the number of refugees increased for the fourth consecutive year, standing at more than 2.9 million by year-end, some 158,200 more than 12 months earlier. Multiple refugee crises across sub-Saharan Africa in recent years have led to the highest such levels

## Resettled refugees in UNHCR's statistics

Over the past 10 years, more than 879,800 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. However, they do remain of concern to UNHCR. ●

(11) This figure includes 288,600 Colombians in Ecuador, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Costa Rica, and Panama considered to be in a refugee-like situation.



**TABLE 1** Refugee populations by UNHCR regions | 2013

UNHCR regions	Start-2013			End-2013			Change (total)	
	Refugees	People in refugee-like situations	Total refugees	Refugees	People in refugee-like situations	Total refugees	Absolute	%
- Central Africa and Great Lakes	479,300	-	479,300	508,600	7,400	516,000	36,700	7.7%
- East and Horn of Africa	1,866,700	26,000	1,892,700	2,003,400	35,500	2,038,900	146,200	7.7%
- Southern Africa	134,700	-	134,700	135,500	-	135,500	800	0.6%
- West Africa	267,800	-	267,800	242,300	-	242,300	-25,500	-9.5%
<b>Total Africa*</b>	<b>2,748,500</b>	<b>26,000</b>	<b>2,774,500</b>	<b>2,889,800</b>	<b>42,900</b>	<b>2,932,700</b>	<b>158,200</b>	<b>5.7%</b>
Americas	515,300	291,200	806,500	514,800	291,200	806,000	-500	-0.1%
Asia and Pacific	3,299,300	226,200	3,525,500	3,267,500	279,500	3,547,000	21,500	0.6%
Europe	1,794,900	6,000	1,800,900	1,775,100	11,400	1,786,500	-14,400	-0.8%
Middle East and North Africa	1,522,900	74,800	1,597,700	2,556,500	74,200	2,630,700	1,033,000	64.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,880,900</b>	<b>624,200</b>	<b>10,505,100</b>	<b>11,003,700</b>	<b>699,200</b>	<b>11,702,900</b>	<b>1,197,800</b>	<b>11.4%</b>

\* Excluding North Africa.

observed since 2002, when more than three million persons enjoyed refugee status in the region.

The outbreak of violence in the Central African Republic led to the new internal displacement of more than 800,000 persons, as well as outflows of more than 88,000 into surrounding countries: the Democratic Republic of the Congo (53,900), Chad (15,200), the Republic of Congo (9,900), and Cameroon (9,800). Renewed fighting in the Democratic Republic of the Congo led to new internal displacement of one million persons, as well as outflows of tens of thousands of Congolese into Uganda (39,300), Rwanda (13,000), and Burundi (10,000).<sup>(12)</sup> Sudan remained another hotspot during the year, with an estimated 75,800 persons fleeing, primarily into Chad (36,300), South Sudan (31,300), and Ethiopia (4,800).

The armed conflict that erupted in Mali in early 2012 continued into 2013,

pushing some 58,000 persons to seek refuge, predominantly in Mauritania (31,400), Burkina Faso (15,700), and Niger (11,000). As observed in earlier years, on-going violence and drought in southern and central Somalia continued to force individuals to flee those areas, albeit at a much lower scale than in previous years. In 2013, 29,100 Somalis sought refuge abroad, mainly in Ethiopia (17,700) and Yemen (9,700).

On a positive note, however, an estimated 168,500 refugees across sub-Saharan Africa were able to return home in safety and dignity, including to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (68,400), Somalia (36,100), and Côte d'Ivoire (20,000).

In the Americas, the refugee population remained virtually unchanged, at roughly 806,000. The United States of America accounted for one third of refugees in this region, with a figure of 263,700 according to UNHCR estimates.<sup>(13)</sup> The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Ecuador were the other major refugee-hosting countries in the region with 204,300 and 123,100 refugees, respectively. Both of these figures include a significant number of Colombians considered to be in a refugee-like situation.<sup>(14)</sup>

In the Asia and Pacific region, the total number of refugees, including individuals in a refugee-like situation, was estimated at more than 3.5 million at the end of 2013, a marginal increase of less than one per cent. For the first time ever, some 57,500 unregistered persons from Myanmar in the refugee camps in Thailand have been included in the reported figures. Yet refugee figures were also reduced by the voluntary repatriation of almost 40,000 Afghan refugees from Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as the departures for resettlement of more than 32,000 refugees out of Malaysia, Nepal, and Thailand, all facilitated by UNHCR.

In Europe, while the overall refugee population remained relatively stable at about 1.8 million, two major developments offset each other in 2013. First, Turkey managed the arrival of approximately 478,000 Syrian refugees during the year, of which some 140,800 returned spontaneously to their country over the year. An additional 37,800 Syrian asylum-seekers were granted international protection on an individual basis in European countries.

Second, the overall refugee figures in Europe were reduced by a significant drop in the refugee estimate for Ger-

## Protracted refugee situations

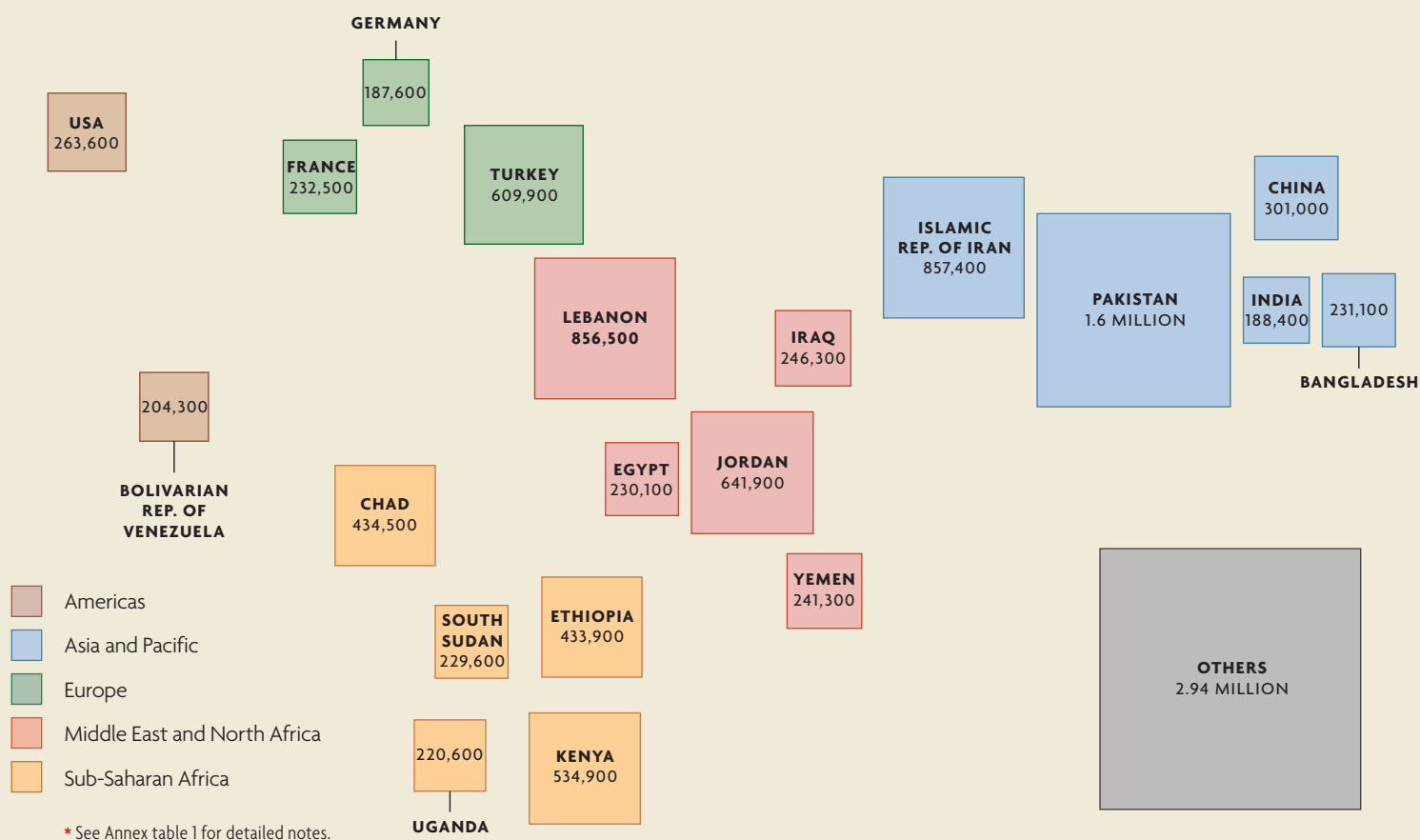
UNHCR defines a protracted refugee situation as one in which 25,000 or more refugees of the same nationality have been in exile for five years or longer in a given asylum country. Based on this definition, it is estimated that some 6.3 million refugees (54%) were in a protracted situation by the end of 2013. These refugees were living in 27 host countries, constituting an overall total of 33 protracted situations. ●

<sup>(12)</sup> Some 19,500 Congolese arriving in Uganda were granted refugee status on a *prima facie* basis, while 9,800 sought asylum on an individual basis. Those arriving in Burundi and Rwanda went through individual refugee status determination.

<sup>(13)</sup> In the absence of official refugee statistics, UNHCR is required to estimate refugee populations in many of the industrialized countries. The refugee estimate for the United States of America is currently under review, which may lead to an adjustment in future reports.

<sup>(14)</sup> This includes 200,000 Colombians in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and 68,300 in Ecuador.

Fig. 3 **Top-20 refugee-hosting countries in the world | end-2013\***  
(Total = 11.7 million)



many. Refugee figures were reduced from 589,700 at the beginning of 2013 to 187,600 by year-end, due to an alignment of the definitions used to count refugees. As a result, only those with a particular protection status<sup>(15)</sup> are now included in the statistics reported by UNHCR. Persons potentially of concern to UNHCR but who cannot be identified as such based on the nature of their recorded status are no longer taken into account for statistical purposes. This figure is consistent with the one used by the Government of Germany when responding to Parliament regarding queries over the number of refugees and persons benefiting from protection status in Germany.

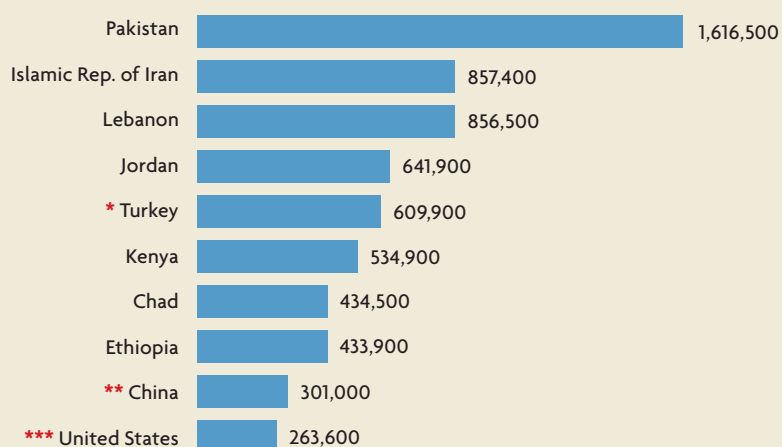
#### COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM

The Syrian crisis had a significant impact on the ranking of the 10 major refugee-hosting countries in 2013, with

Lebanon now being included among these countries and Jordan and Turkey having moved up in the rankings. The revision of the Iraqi refugee estimate in the Syrian Arab Republic as well as

changes in figures for Germany led to both countries dropping out of the top 10. Together, the top 10 countries hosted 6.55 million or 56 per cent of all refugees worldwide [see Figure 4].

Fig. 4 **Major refugee-hosting countries | end-2013**

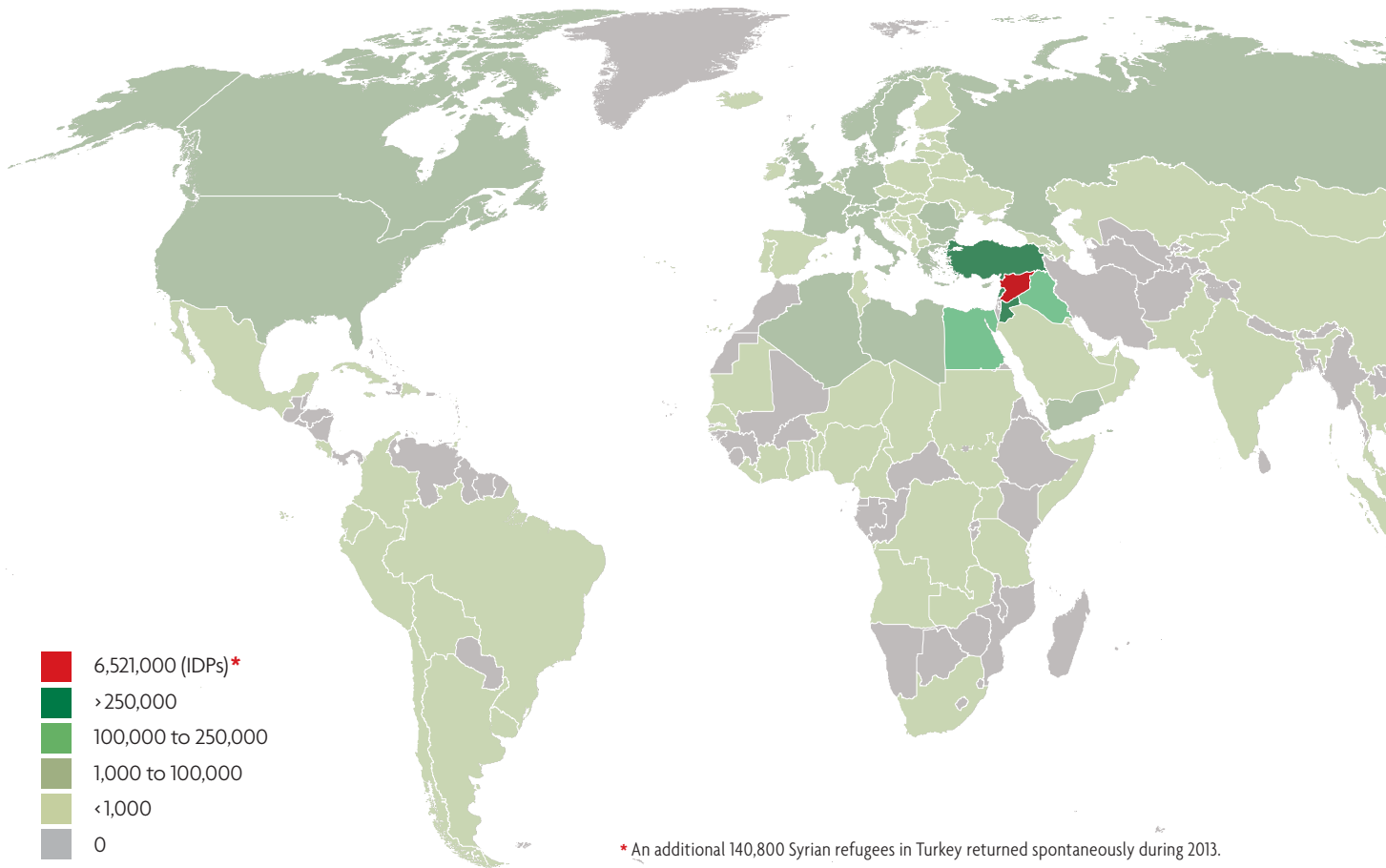


(15) Refers to residence permits based on the constitutional right to asylum, Convention refugee status, subsidiary protection according to EU provisions, national complementary protection status, as well as derived status for relatives of refugees.

\* Refugee figure for Syrians in Turkey is a Government estimate.

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

\*\*\* UNHCR estimate.



\* An additional 140,800 Syrian refugees in Turkey returned spontaneously during 2013. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

By the end of 2013, Pakistan continued to host the largest number of refugees in the world (1.6 million), nearly all from Afghanistan. The overall figure decreased by 22,000 persons compared to the start of the year, mainly due to the voluntary repatriation of Afghan refugees. The situation is similar for the Islamic Republic of Iran, which hosted 857,400 refugees by year-end, almost all Afghans. Here, an overall drop of 11,000 refugees was observed, mainly due to repatriating Afghans. Since the mass exodus from Afghanistan began in 1979, either Pakistan or the Islamic Republic of Iran has ranked as the world's top refugee-hosting country for 33 out of the past 35 years. Pakistan was the top country for 22 of those years (including for the past 11), while the Islamic Republic of Iran held this spot for another 11 years.

With more than 737,000 Syrian refugees newly registered during 2013, Lebanon became the third largest refugee-hosting country in the space of just one year, stretching the country's

socio-economic absorption capacity to the limit. Jordan was also heavily affected by the crisis after having registered 667,000 Syrian refugees in 2013, and it is now the world's fourth largest refugee-hosting country. By the end of 2013, Jordan's overall refugee population stood at 641,900 <sup>(16)</sup> and included 55,500 Iraqi refugees.

Meanwhile, some 478,000 Syrian refugees arrived in Turkey over the course of the year and were granted temporary protection by the Government of Turkey. With the return of 140,800 persons to the Syrian Arab Republic, this number stood at 585,600 at the end of 2013. Combined with other refugee populations, the total number of refugees in Turkey was 609,900, and it was the fifth largest refugee-hosting country by year-end.

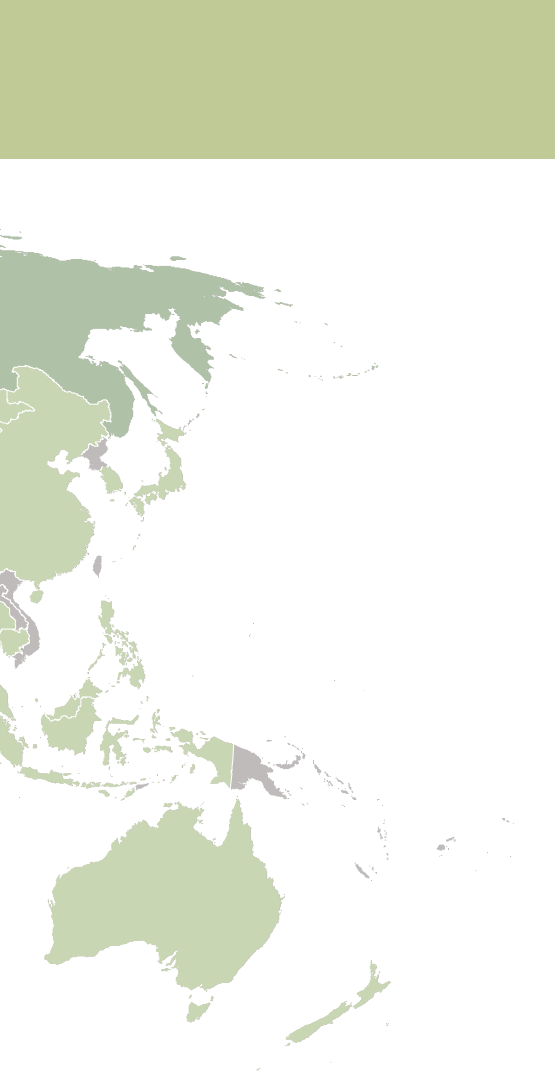
Kenya was host to 534,900 refugees at year-end, a decrease of 30,000 per-

sons compared to the start of the year (564,900). This drop is mainly the result of the verification of registration records among Somali refugees in the Dadaab complex. In Chad, on the other hand, the refugee population increased for the 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, reaching a new high of 434,500 by the end of the year. This year's increase was primarily due to refugee influx from neighbouring Sudan (36,300) and the Central African Republic (15,200).

Ethiopia continued to receive new arrivals in 2013 with 55,000 persons seeking refuge in that country, mostly from Eritrea (21,400) and Somalia (17,700) but also from South Sudan (11,100) and Sudan (4,800). Since 2008, more than 346,700 refugees have arrived in Ethiopia, and by the end of 2013 the refugee population had grown to 433,900 – the eighth largest refugee population in the world.

<sup>(16)</sup> A significant number of registration records of Syrian refugees were inactivated either as a result of a physical move of individuals from camps to urban or rural areas, or as a result of spontaneous departures from Jordan either to the Syrian Arab Republic or onwards to a third country.





Reported numbers of refugees in China (301,000) have remained largely unchanged since the early 1980s, placing the country as the ninth largest refugee-hosting country for 2013. Finally, the United States of America was in 10<sup>th</sup> position with 263,600 refugees, according to UNHCR estimates.

#### COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

Afghanistan, the Syrian Arab Republic, and Somalia were the top three source countries of refugees at the end of 2013, together accounting for more than half (53%) of all refugees under UNHCR's responsibility. While Afghanistan and Somalia were listed among the top three for a number of years, the Syrian Arab Republic moved onto this list in 2013 as a result of the on-going armed conflict raging in that country [see **Figure 5**].

With some 2.56 million refugees in 86 countries, Afghanistan remained the leading country of origin of refugees in 2013 – the 33<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year it has topped this list. Today, on average, one out of every five refugees in the world is from Afghanistan, with 95 per cent located in Pakistan or the Islamic Republic of Iran. Outside the imme-

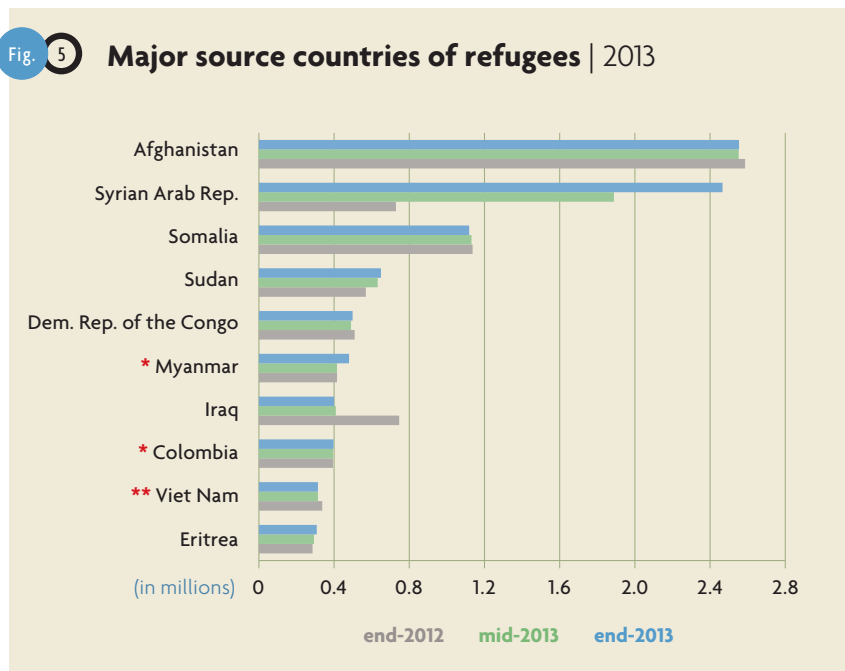
diated region, Germany hosts the largest number of Afghans, an estimated 24,200 persons in 2013.

Whereas Afghanistan had been the main refugee country of origin for more than three decades, at the current pace of the conflict and outflow in the Syrian Arab Republic the number of Syrian refugees could replace Afghans during the course of 2014. At the end of 2013, Syrian refugees numbered 2.47 million, making them the second largest refugee group in the world, a jump from 36<sup>th</sup> place just two years earlier. Conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic forced nearly 2.2 million persons to flee in 2013, mainly to neighbouring countries. This was the largest annual exodus by a single refugee group since the Rwandan genocide in 1994, when 2.3 million persons were forced to flee their homes. Lebanon (851,300), Turkey (585,600; Government estimate), Jordan (585,300), Iraq (212,800), and Egypt (131,700) were shouldering the largest burdens in hosting Syrian refugees.

Somalis were the third largest refugee group under UNHCR's responsibility with some 1.12 million persons at the end of 2013, a figure almost unchanged since the end of 2012 (1.14 million). The large-scale arrivals into Kenya and Ethiopia witnessed between 2007 and 2011, when more than half a million Somalis arrived as a result of conflict and violence combined with drought and famine, slowed considerably in 2012 and 2013 amidst hopes for improved security conditions on the horizon. Nevertheless, a total of 29,000 Somalis sought international protection during the year, notably in Ethiopia (17,700), while an estimated 9,700 Somalis embarked on perilous journeys across the Gulf of Aden or the Red Sea to Yemen.

The number of Sudanese refugees swelled to 649,300, some 80,000 more than at the end of the previous year. Chad and South Sudan received the largest number of new arrivals from Sudan with 36,300 and 31,300, respectively. Sudan was thus the fourth largest country of origin for refugees, and an estimated 294,000 Sudanese have fled the country since the outbreak of conflict in 2011.

**Fig. 5 Major source countries of refugees | 2013**



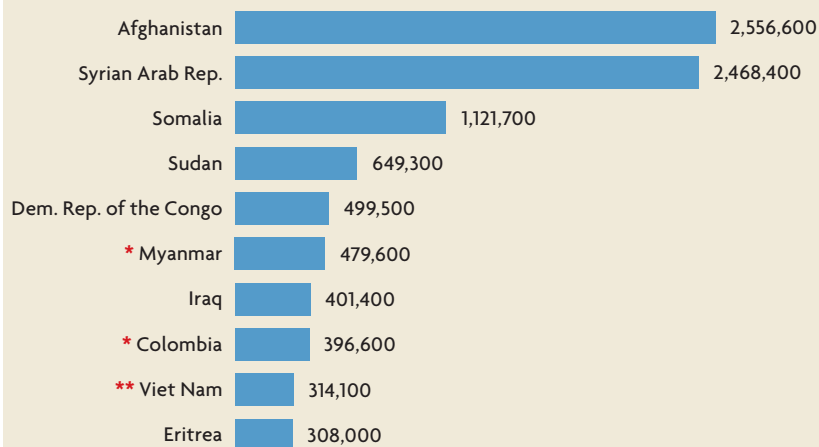
\* Includes people in a refugee-like situation.

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

Despite the fact that at least 55,000 persons originating from the Democratic Republic of the Congo were forced to seek refuge in neighbouring countries, the overall number of Congolese refugees dropped from 509,500 at the start of the year to 499,500 twelve months later. The main reason for this change was the return of almost 63,000 Congolese refugees from the Republic of Congo during the reporting period. In addition, verification of registration records in Uganda and other countries in the region led to a reduction in the size of Congolese refugee estimates, while more than 4,500 persons departed on resettlement.<sup>(17)</sup>

Myanmar was the sixth largest source country of refugees at the end of 2013 (479,600), mainly as a result of the inclusion of 57,500 unregistered persons from Myanmar in the refugee camps in Thailand, now reported as persons in a refugee-like situation in UNHCR's statistics. In addition, some 20,000 asylum-seekers from Myanmar were granted refugee status on an individual basis in 2013, notably in Malaysia (13,600) and India (3,700).

Fig. 6 Major source countries of refugees | end-2013



\* Includes people in a refugee-like situation.

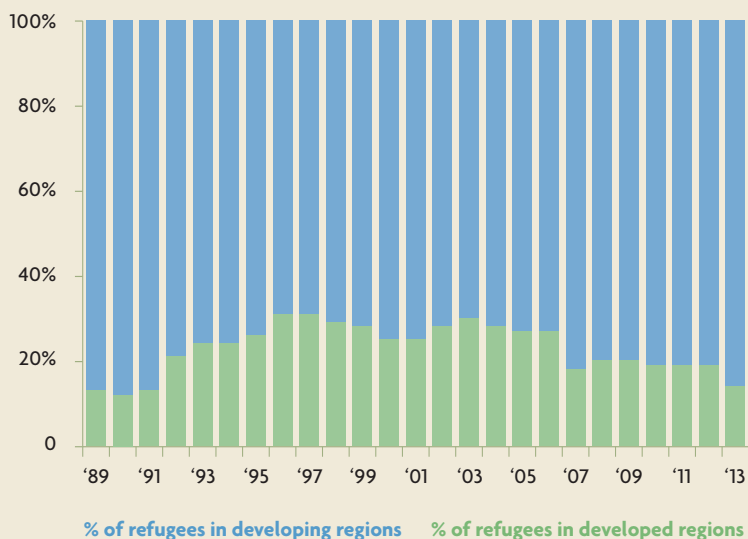
\*\* The 300,000 Vietnamese refugees are well integrated and in practice receive protection from the Government of China.

Iraqis dropped to the seventh largest refugee group in 2013 with 401,400 persons, mainly in the Syrian Arab Republic (146,200) and Jordan (55,500). This is significantly less than the figure reported at the end of 2012 (745,900), as

the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic revised the estimated number of Iraqi refugees in that country from 471,400 down to 146,200 as a result of departures due to the escalation of violence and deteriorating security situation. Other important host countries of Iraqi refugees were the Islamic Republic of Iran (43,300) and Germany (40,200).

Other main source countries of refugees were Colombia, Viet Nam, and Eritrea. While the numbers of refugees from Colombia (396,600)<sup>(18)</sup> and Viet Nam (314,100) remained stable compared to 2012, the figure for Eritrea increased for the fifth consecutive year. In 2008 Eritrea's refugees were estimated at 186,400, yet in light of continuous human rights violations in the country this number grew by more than 121,000 persons worldwide over the past five years. The majority of Eritrean refugees reside in Sudan (109,600) and Ethiopia (84,400) as well as European countries (65,300).

Fig. 7 Refugees hosted by developed vs. developing regions | 1989-2013



#### WHO IS HOSTING THE WORLD'S REFUGEES?

Analyzing the proportion of refugees residing in developed versus developing regions<sup>(19)</sup> shows a shifting pattern over time. In the late 1980s, the vast majority of refugees were residing in developing regions, with their proportion at times approaching the 90 per cent mark. This proportion dropped to about 70 per cent

<sup>(17)</sup> An initiative adopted at the end of 2012 foresees the resettlement of 50,000 refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo currently in the region.

<sup>(18)</sup> This figure includes refugees as well persons in a refugee-like situation in Ecuador, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Costa Rica, and Panama.

<sup>(19)</sup> See <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49regin.htm#ftnc> for a list of countries included under each region.

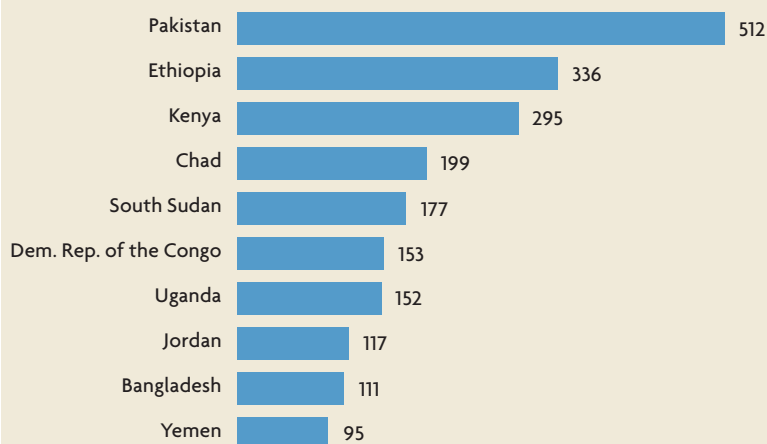
in the 1990s, mainly as a result of the various conflicts and wars in the Balkans. During this period, developed regions absorbed most of these refugees. The end of the conflict in the late 1990s led to tens of thousands of refugees from the Balkans either returning to their country of origin or taking up permanent residency and subsequently citizenship in their host country.

The proportion of developed regions hosting the world's refugees has since diminished, while developing regions have continued to receive millions of new refugees – and, during the past few years, in increasing numbers. At the end of 2013, developing regions hosted 10.1 million or 86 per cent of the world's refugees, the highest value for the past 22 years. The Least Developed Countries alone provided asylum to 2.8 million refugees or 24 per cent of the global total.

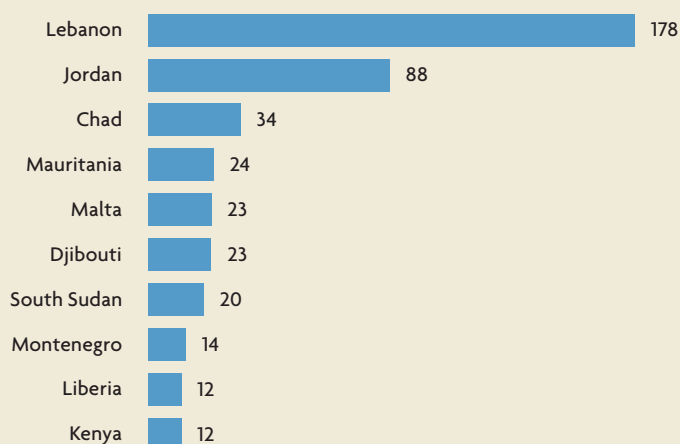
This analysis is further supported by an analysis of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (Purchasing Power Parity)<sup>(20)</sup> per capita and hosted refugee population.<sup>(21)</sup> The ratio of the size of a country's hosted refugee population to its average income level can provide a proxy measure of the burden of hosting refugees. 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 also be considered to be high. In 2013, the 40 countries with the largest number of refugees per 1 USD GDP (PPP) per capita were all members of developing regions, and included 22 Least Developed Countries. More than 5.4 million refugees, representing 46 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, hosting 512 refugees per 1 USD GDP (PPP) per capita [see **Figure 8**]. Ethiopia was second with 336 refugees per 1 USD GDP (PPP) per capita, followed by Kenya (295), Chad (199), South Sudan (177), and the Democratic Republic of the Congo

**Fig. 8** Number of refugees per 1 USD GDP (PPP) per capita | 2013



**Fig. 9** Number of refugees per 1,000 inhabitants | 2013



(153). The first developed country was Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)), in 44<sup>th</sup> place, with seven refugees per 1 USD GDP (PPP) per capita.

These rankings change when the number of refugees is compared to the national population of the host country. Here the Syria crisis displays its full effect, with Lebanon and Jordan occupying the first two places. Lebanon tops the list with 178 refugees per 1,000 inhabitants, followed by Jordan (88), Chad (34), and Mauritania (24) [see **Figure 9**].

In other words, in Lebanon almost one in five inhabitants is a refugee; further, when the 447,300 Palestinian refugees registered with UNRWA<sup>(22)</sup> living in Lebanon are included, this proportion increases to one in four. No other country has been exposed to such a high concentration of refugees over the past three decades. Indeed, the last time a country was in a similar situation was 1980, when Somalia hosted two million Ethiopian refugees, resulting in a ratio of 328 refugees per 1,000 inhabitants. ■

<sup>(20)</sup> Source for Gross Domestic Product (Purchasing Power Parity): International Monetary Fund, *World Economic Outlook Database*, April 2014 (accessed 18 April 2014).

<sup>(21)</sup> Source for national populations: United Nations, Population Division, *World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision*, New York, 2013. For the purpose of this analysis, the medium fertility variant population of 2013 has been taken into account.

<sup>(22)</sup> See [http://www.unrwa.org/sites/default/files/2014\\_01\\_uif\\_-\\_english.pdf](http://www.unrwa.org/sites/default/files/2014_01_uif_-_english.pdf)





**This two-year old boy and his family escaped fighting in the Syrian border town of Idlib, fleeing across the border to seek international protection in Turkey. After being granted refugee status, they were resettled in France.**

# Durable Solutions for Refugees

*While UNHCR's primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees, the organization's ultimate goal is to help find durable solutions that will allow these individuals to rebuild their lives in dignity. UNHCR is mandated to provide international protection and seek 'permanent solutions to the problem of refugees'. In exercising its mandate for durable solutions, UNHCR is to facilitate the voluntary repatriation of refugees, their assimilation within new national communities, or their resettlement to third countries. UNHCR's Executive Committee has subsequently re-emphasized that 'the seeking of solutions is a mandatory function' of the Office.*

**T**HE 1951 CONVENTION relating to the Status of Refugees affirms this function. It indicates the need for cooperation among signatory States in finding solutions, by exhorting them to facilitate the assimilation and naturalization of refugees and to ease the transfer of assets in case of resettlement. Other regional instruments have similarly pointed to the primary need to find solutions to the plight of refugees, while the solutions orientation of the Statute and of international refugee instruments is additionally reflected in their provisions on cessation.

While awaiting the implementation of a durable solution, refugees may make positive contributions to their host societies, drawing on opportunities to become self-reliant. For instance, enhanced skills training or migration opportunities for education or work can each increase opportunities for self-reliance and facilitate access to durable solutions.

It is important to note that general trends of voluntary repatriation and resettlement do not constitute

a measure of UNHCR's strategies on durable solutions. Rather, such trends are a function of multiple variables, many of which are outside of the organization's direct influence. For instance, voluntary return depends on political stability and safety in the country of origin. Similarly, resettlement depends on the available number of resettlement countries as well as the allocation of available resettlement places.

## RETURN OF REFUGEES

Voluntary repatriation is the return of refugees to their country of origin, based upon a free and informed decision, in and to conditions of safety and dignity, and with the full restoration of national protection. Voluntary repatriation may take the form of an on-going programme or a single operation, and may range from the return of a few individuals to the movement of thousands of persons

## Resettlement, humanitarian and other forms of admissions for Syrian refugees

In light of the growing needs of the Syrian refugee population, UNHCR called on countries to admit up to 30,000 Syrian refugees on resettlement, humanitarian admission, or other programmes by the end of 2014, with a focus on protecting the most vulnerable. UNHCR subsequently called upon States to make multi-annual commitments towards a goal

of providing resettlement and other forms of admission for an additional 100,000 Syrian refugees in 2015 and 2016.

At the time of writing this report, 21 countries have pledged to receive refugees on resettlement or humanitarian admission for 2013-2014. The total pledges stand at more than 21,900 places, plus an open-ended number to

the United States of America. Other pledging States include 17 European countries, Australia, Canada, and New Zealand. Additional initiatives include a special humanitarian visa programme established by Brazil, Ireland's immigration-based Syrian Humanitarian Admission Programme, and the United Kingdom's Vulnerable Persons Relocation scheme. ●

together with their belongings. The return may be organized or spontaneously initiated by the refugees themselves, and is by preference to the refugee's place of residence in the country of origin.

In practice, UNHCR, in cooperation with governments, NGOs, and other partners, promotes and facilitates voluntary repatriation through various means. These include the negotiation of repatriation agreements, registration for return, organizing and assisting with transport, negotiation for the full recognition of skills obtained in exile, and ensuring a safe and dignified reception in the country of origin, among other activities. Throughout the repatriation process, particular attention is given to the specific needs of returning refugees – including women, children, older people, and other persons with special concerns – in order to ensure that they receive adequate protection, assistance, and care.

Compared to the past 25 years, 2013 witnessed the fourth lowest level of refugee returns, with lower figures only in 1990, 2009, and 2010. During the past decade, some 6.5 million refugees were able to return to their country of origin, compared to 14.6 million during the preceding decade [see **Figure 10**].

During 2013, some 414,600 refugees returned to their various countries of origins, 206,000 of them with UNHCR's assistance.<sup>(23)</sup> This figure

constitutes a drop compared to 2011 and 2012, when return figures totalled 532,000 and 526,300, respectively. Further, the proportion of refugees assisted by UNHCR to return to their country of origin reached its lowest level (50%) in a decade. This situation was particularly influenced by the fact that some 140,800 Syrian refugees in Turkey returned spontaneously during the year. With the continued violence in the Syrian Arab Republic, however, returns to this country may not be sustainable.

Excluding spontaneous returns to the Syrian Arab Republic, the countries that reported the largest number of returned refugees during 2013 included the Democratic Republic of the Congo (68,400), Iraq (60,900), Afghanistan (39,700), Somalia (36,100), Côte d'Ivoire (20,000), Sudan (17,000), and Mali (14,300). In many instances, UNHCR facilitated the return of these refugees.

During the same period, the largest numbers of refugee departures were reported by Turkey (140,900), the Republic of Congo (62,900), the Syrian Arab Republic (45,900), Pakistan (31,200), Kenya (28,800), Liberia (18,700), and Chad (16,900).

UNHCR's voluntary repatriation programme for Angolan refugees in Botswana ended on 31 October 2013 with the return to Angola of 194 persons, closing a chapter on one of Africa's

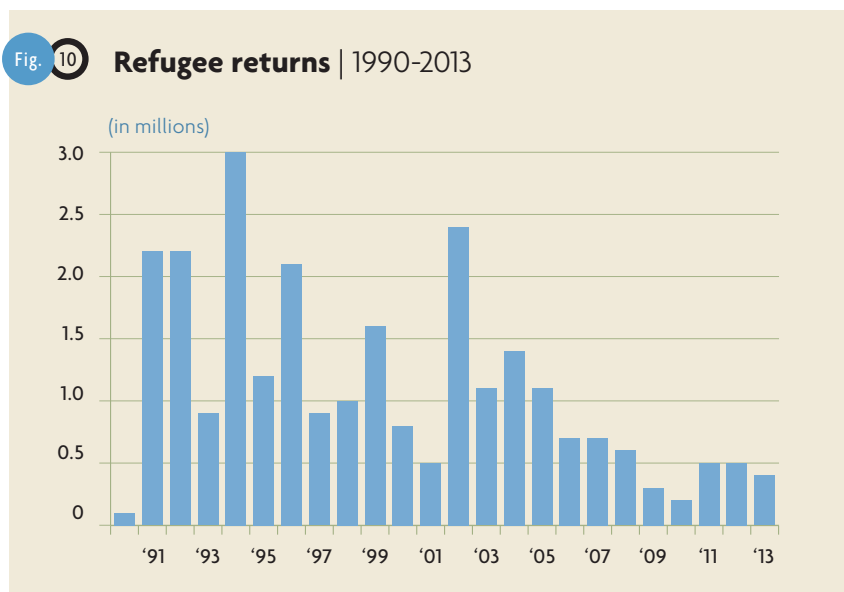
oldest refugee situations. Nearly half of those returnees were below 17 years of age and either had been born in exile or had lived most of their lives outside of their homeland. UNHCR declared cessation for the Angolan refugee situation on 30 June 2012, though in the case of Botswana refugee status was finally withdrawn by the Government in August and former Angolan refugees were given until 31 October 2013 to return home. This last convoy brought to 461 the number of Angolans repatriated from Botswana since June of last year.

## RESETTLEMENT

Traditionally, resettlement ranks second in numerical terms out of the three durable solutions, after voluntary repatriation. Moreover, the total demand for resettlement always exceeds the available places, thus making this comprehensive strategy pose a constant challenge to durable solution. In 2013, the total number of countries offering resettlement remained unchanged (27) compared to the previous year.

In 2013, UNHCR offices in 80 countries presented over 93,200 refugees to States for resettlement consideration. The main beneficiaries were refugees from Myanmar (23,500), Iraq (13,200), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (12,200), Somalia (9,000), and Bhutan (7,100). In numerical terms, these refugee groups have constituted the top five since 2009, although the order has shifted. Women and girls at risk represented more than 12 per cent of total submissions, surpassing for a third consecutive year the 10 per cent target set to implement Executive Committee Conclusion No. 105 (2006).<sup>(24)</sup> Over four-fifths of submissions were made under three submission categories: legal and/or physical protection needs (42%), lack of foreseeable alternative durable solutions (22%), and survivors of violence and/or torture (16%).

During the year, a total of 98,400 refugees were admitted by 21 resettlement countries, according to government statistics. These included the United States of America (66,200),<sup>(25)</sup> Australia (13,200), Canada (12,200), Sweden (1,900), and the United Kingdom (970). This was 9,400 more individuals than in 2012 (89,000). The United States of America,



<sup>(23)</sup> Based on consolidated reports from countries of asylum (departure) and origin (return).

<sup>(24)</sup> See <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49e6e6dd6.html>

<sup>(25)</sup> During US fiscal year 2013, some 69,900 were resettled to the United States of America.



Australia, and Canada together admitted 90 per cent of resettled refugees in 2013. UNHCR facilitated the departure of about 71,600 of these 98,400 admitted refugees [see **Figure 11**].

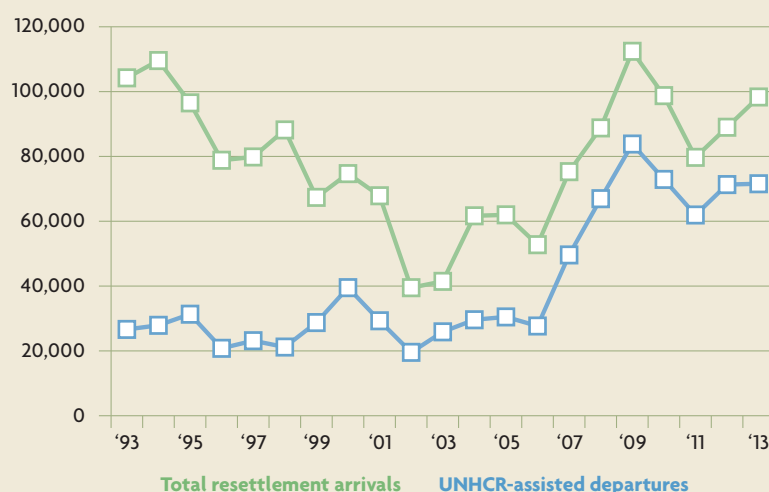
Over the course of 2013, UNHCR offices in 81 countries facilitated the processing of resettlement claims, a slight decline from 85 countries in 2012. The largest number of resettled refugees left from Nepal (10,700), Thailand (8,800), Malaysia (8,500), Turkey (7,200), the Syrian Arab Republic (4,200), Kenya (3,600), Jordan (3,400), and Lebanon (3,300). Since 2011, UNHCR offices in Nepal, Thailand, and Malaysia have consistently been among the top three involved in the processing of resettlement claims.

Finally, the largest numbers of refugees who benefited from UNHCR-facilitated resettlement were nationals of Myanmar (16,700), Iraq (14,300), Bhutan (10,700), Somalia (8,800), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (4,500), and Afghanistan (4,400).

#### LOCAL INTEGRATION

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

**Fig. 11 Resettlement of refugees | 1993-2013**



As an economic process, refugees attain a growing degree of self-reliance, becoming able to pursue sustainable livelihoods and thus contributing to the economic life of the host country. As a social and cultural process, refugees are able to live among or alongside the host population, without discrimination or exploitation, and contribute actively to the social life of their country of asylum.

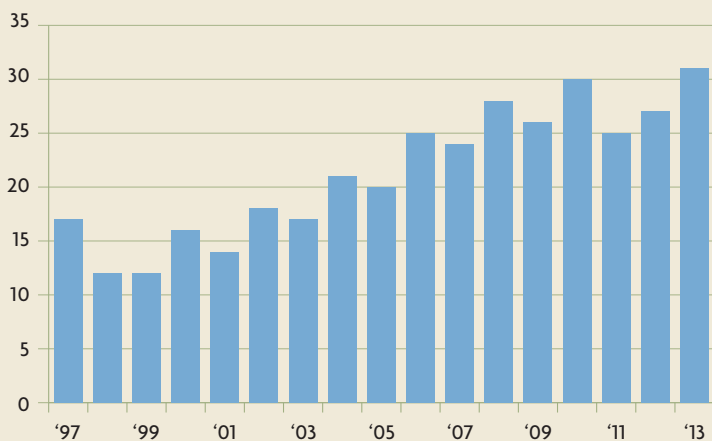
Local integration requires efforts by all parties concerned. This includes preparedness on the part of refugees to adapt to the host society without having to forego their own cultural identity. This also includes a corresponding readiness on the part of host communities and public institutions to welcome refugees and to meet the needs of a diverse population.

Measuring the various dimensions of local integration from a statistical perspective remains a challenge, however, and analysis of related data in this report is limited by the availability of statistics on the naturalization of refugees in host countries.

In recent years, UNHCR has advocated that States either collect statistics on naturalized refugees separately or improve their national statistical systems to enable UNHCR and others to report on such data. These advocacy efforts have yielded positive results, with 31 countries reporting such statistics in 2013 – the highest figure since UNHCR started collecting this data in 1997. These 31 included Canada, where the Government shared statistics on naturalized refugees for the first time in 2013.

The limited information available to UNHCR shows that, during the past decade, at least 716,000 refugees have been granted citizenship by their asylum countries. The United States of America alone accounted for two-thirds of this figure.<sup>(26)</sup> As noted, for 2013 UNHCR was informed of refugees being granted citizenship in 31 countries, including Canada (14,800), Benin (3,700), Belgium (2,500), Ireland (730), and Guinea (300). ■

**Fig. 12 Number of countries reporting statistics on naturalized refugees | 1997-2013**



<sup>(26)</sup> 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.



**An internally displaced woman in Colombia** contemplates her future at an illegal settlement perched on the side of a mud hill in the town of Soacha, outside of Bogotá. The majority of families who have settled in improvised housing in Soacha were displaced by conflict in other areas of Colombia. UNHCR has been working to improve the living conditions of the population and enhance their protection.

# Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

The global number of internally displaced persons, as well as those protected/assisted by UNHCR, reached unprecedented levels in 2013. The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre estimated the global number of persons displaced by armed conflict, generalized violence, or human rights violations at the end of 2013 at some 33.3 million, the highest number ever recorded.<sup>(27)</sup> The number of IDPs, including those in IDP-like situations,<sup>(28)</sup> who benefited from UNHCR's protection and assistance activities stood at 23.9 million at the end of 2013. This was the highest figure on record, and almost 6.3 million more than at the start of the year (17.7 million).

**W**HERE UNHCR WAS engaged with IDP populations in 2013, offices reported some 7.6 million newly displaced persons, particularly in the Syrian Arab Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Central African Republic. Among those countries where UNHCR was operational, close to 1.4 million IDPs returned home during the report-

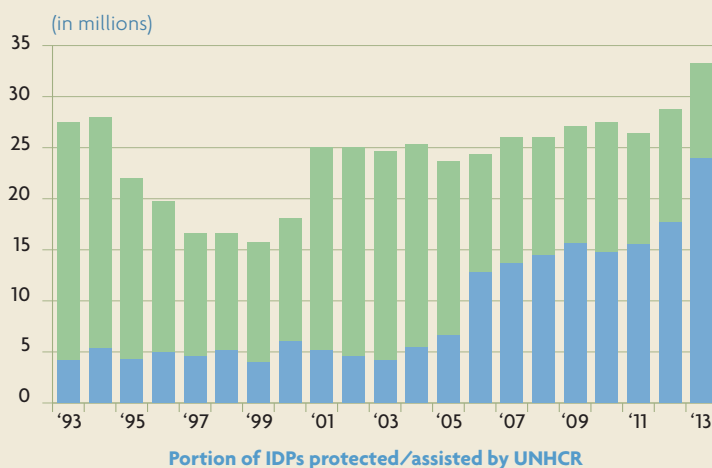
ing period, about one third of them with UNHCR's assistance. In 2013, UNHCR was responsible for leading, coordinating and supporting assessment and response for 19 protection, eight shelter and seven camp coordination and camp management clusters or other coordination mechanisms in a total of 19 operations worldwide.<sup>(29)</sup> UNHCR figures for the end of 2013 included IDP populations in a total of 24 countries.

## UNHCR welcomes national policy on IDPs in Yemen

In June 2013, the Government of Yemen approved a new national policy on IDPs, which seeks to protect and assist people displaced by conflict, violence, or natural disasters. The policy establishes a Supreme Committee, chaired by the Prime Minister, and features three strategic goals. The first is to prevent arbitrary displacement while simultaneously being ready to cope with displacement if and when it happens. The second goal is to support not only IDPs but also the communities that host them, as well as other communities affected by displacement. The third policy goal is to create the conditions for durable solutions – such as employment, local integration, and return – that IDPs can accept safely and voluntarily.

Currently Yemen, along with Afghanistan, Kenya, and Uganda, is one of the countries that have made an effort to adopt a national policy on IDPs. UNHCR feels this is the best way forward, to make sure countries and the international community are prepared to deal with displacement when it happens and, above all, to protect and support people who are displaced. ●

Fig. 13 Global conflict-induced internal displacement | 1993-2013 (end-year)

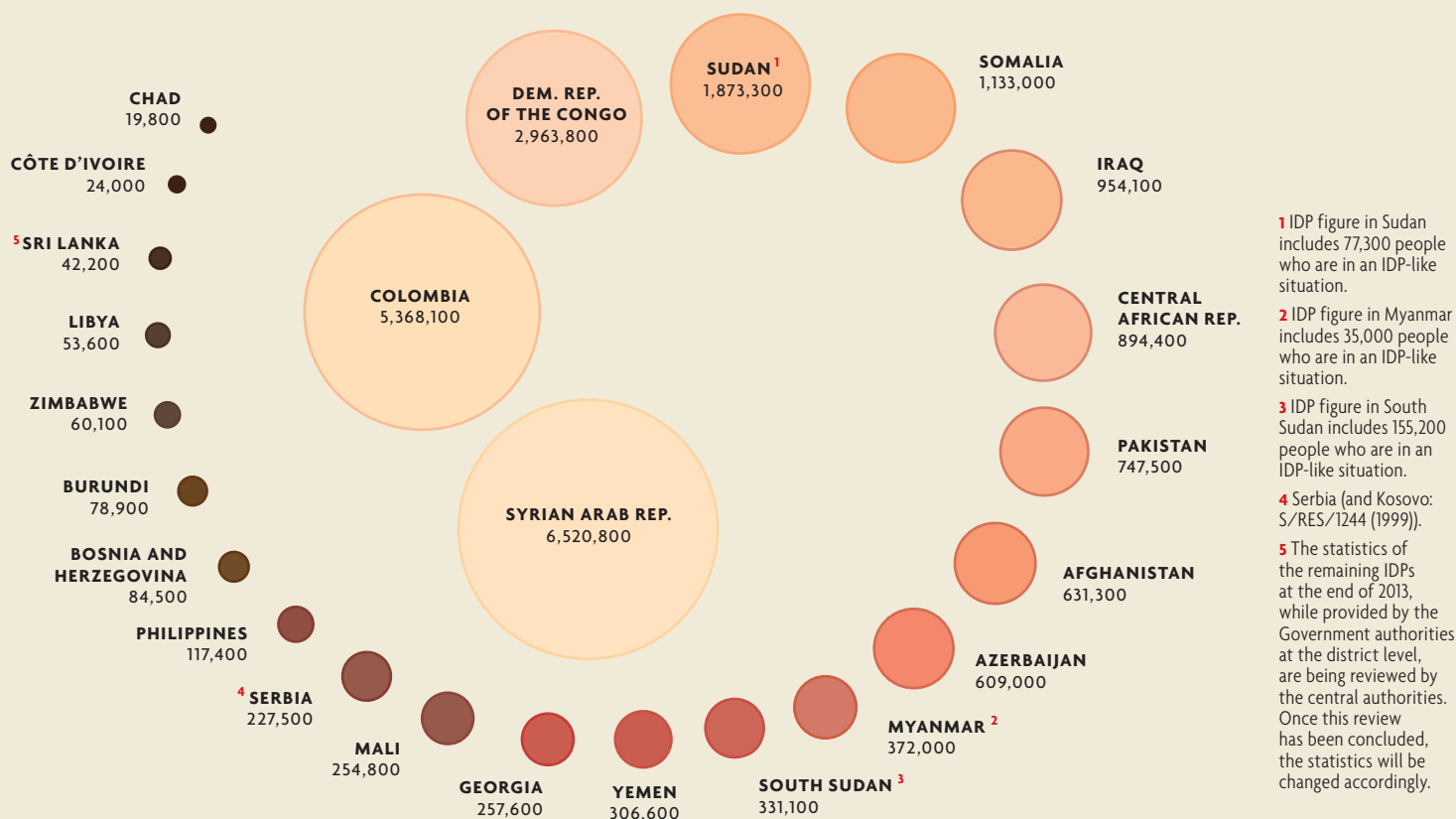


(27) For detailed statistics on global internal displacement, see the IDMC website [www.internal-displacement.org](http://www.internal-displacement.org). Statistics on IDPs are available since 1989.

(28) As in Myanmar (35,000), South Sudan (155,200), and Sudan (77,300).

(29) In December 2005, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee endorsed the 'cluster' approach for handling situations of internal displacement. Under this arrangement, UNHCR assumes leadership responsibility and accountability for three clusters: protection, emergency shelter, and camp coordination and camp management.





<sup>1</sup> IDP figure in Sudan includes 77,300 people who are in an IDP-like situation.  
<sup>2</sup> IDP figure in Myanmar includes 35,000 people who are in an IDP-like situation.  
<sup>3</sup> IDP figure in South Sudan includes 155,200 people who are in an IDP-like situation.  
<sup>4</sup> Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)).  
<sup>5</sup> The statistics of the remaining IDPs at the end of 2013, while provided by the Government authorities at the district level, are being reviewed by the central authorities. Once this review has been concluded, the statistics will be changed accordingly.

Escalating conflict and violence in the Syrian Arab Republic displaced an estimated 4.5 million persons in 2013, bringing the total number of IDPs in the country to 6.5 million by year-end. Despite access and security constraints, UNHCR was able to assist some 3.4 million persons in the country during the year.

With close to 5.4 million internally displaced persons registered by the Government by the end of 2013, Colombia too continued to face a large displacement situation. According to Government estimates, some 115,000 Colombians were newly displaced in the course of the year.

Renewed fighting in the Democratic Republic of the Congo displaced close to one million persons during 2013, bringing the total number of IDPs in the country to almost three million by the end of the year. Indeed, the repeated large-scale movements witnessed in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in recent years underscores the fact that internal displacement in the country constitutes a continuous problem. On the positive side, an estimated 595,200 <sup>(30)</sup>

Congolese IDPs were able to return home during 2013, some soon after their displacement.

In the Central African Republic, fighting intensified in December 2013, displacing more than 844,000 persons. Targeted attacks against civilians, looting, and the presence of armed elements at some displacement sites severely limited humanitarian agencies' access to those in need of urgent assistance. By the end of the year, the IDP population in the Central African Republic was estimated at 894,000.

The conflict in Mali, which erupted in 2012 and displaced more than 227,000 persons within the country, continued into its second year. In 2013, an additional 111,000 persons were uprooted. Nevertheless, some 42,000 Malian IDPs were able to return to their place of origin during the year, bringing the year-end IDP figure to 255,000.

Renewed conflict and security concerns also displaced 124,000 persons in Afghanistan in 2013, and by the end of the year the number of IDPs in that country was estimated at 631,000. Significant levels of new internal displacement

caused by conflict or violence were also reported in 2013 by the Philippines (328,000), Sudan (390,000), and Pakistan (128,000).

Ultimately, although millions of individuals were newly displaced during the course of 2013, others were able to return to their place of habitual residence. In collaboration with the Yemeni authorities, for instance, UNHCR assisted some 93,000 IDPs in making their ways back home. Still, the number of IDPs protected or assisted by UNHCR in Yemen remained high, at around 306,600.

In Somalia, too, more than 100,000 persons headed home. But the number of IDPs protected or assisted by UNHCR in that country again remained high, at approximately 1.1 million by the end of the year, including large numbers in Mogadishu and the Afgooye corridor. In Iraq, some 63,000 returned to their homes in 2013, reducing the number of IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR in the country to 954,000. Similarly, the number of persons still displaced in Côte d'Ivoire dropped to 24,000 by year-end, as 21,000 persons returned to their place of habitual residence. ■

<sup>(30)</sup> This figure should be considered as indicative only in the absence of reliable data available.

**In the Philippines, this 62-year-old internally displaced woman feeds her grandchild.** Their family was displaced by fighting that broke out in the Maguindanao province of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao. She talks about the daily struggles for her family, who eat only once a day. "If it is hard for us adults, imagine how difficult it is for the kids," she says.







**A Chadian asylum-seeker** with his registration documents in a room he shares with 11 others in the Bertillon squat in Dijon, France. The former meat-packing factory, now home to some 100 asylum-seekers, mostly from Chad, Mali and Somalia, has only one toilet and two sources of running water. There is no heating, no kitchen or bathing facilities, and only sporadic electricity. Former storage rooms and freezers are now used as bedrooms and the disused building is infested with rats.



# 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 the main trends regarding individual asylum applications lodged in 2013, 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.*

**A**T LEAST 1,067,500<sup>(31)</sup> individual applications for asylum or refugee status were submitted to governments or UNHCR in 167 countries or territories during 2013, the highest level of the past 10 years. While the provisional 2013 figure constituted a 15 per cent increase in asylum claims globally compared to 2012 (929,700 claims), the increase in industrialized countries was an estimated 28 per cent.<sup>(32)</sup> Of the provisional total of 1,067,500 asylum claims, an estimated 914,600 were initial applications<sup>(33)</sup> lodged in first instance procedures. The remaining

152,900 claims were submitted at second instance, including with courts or other appellate bodies.<sup>(34)</sup>

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. In 2013, UNHCR offices registered a record-high 203,200 individual asylum applications. This was significantly more than the year before (125,500) and increased the Office's share in the global number of individual asylum applications registered from 13 to 19 per cent.

## NEW INDIVIDUAL ASYLUM APPLICATIONS REGISTERED

With 109,600 new asylum applications registered during 2013, Germany was for the first time since 1999 the world's largest single recipient of new asylum claims. This figure is 70 per cent higher than that recorded a year earlier (64,500) and the sixth consecutive annual increase. The 2013 level is partly attributable to a higher number of applicants from the Russian Federation, Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)), and the Syrian Arab Republic requesting international protection in Germany. In the case of the Russian Federation, figures more than quadrupled, from 3,200 new asylum claims in 2012 to 14,900 a year later. Syrian asylum claims almost doubled to 11,900, while applications lodged by individuals from Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)) stood at 14,900, up from 10,400 a year earlier. Eritrean asylum claims also increased during this period, from 650 to 3,600. Overall, the Russian Federation was the top country of origin of asylum-seekers in Germany, followed by Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)) and the Syrian Arab Republic.

The United States of America received the second largest number of individual asylum applications in 2013 with an estimated 84,400 claims registered, a 19 per cent increase (+13,700 claims) from

**TABLE 2** New and appeal applications registered\* | 2010-2013

	2010	2011	2012	2013**
State	738,900	734,300	781,400	858,500
UNHCR	96,800	98,800	125,500	203,200
Jointly***	6,200	31,700	22,800	5,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>841,900</b>	<b>864,800</b>	<b>929,700</b>	<b>1,067,500</b>
<b>% UNHCR only</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>19%</b>
* Includes revised estimates.				
** Provisional figure.				
*** Refers to refugee status determination conducted jointly by UNHCR and governments.				

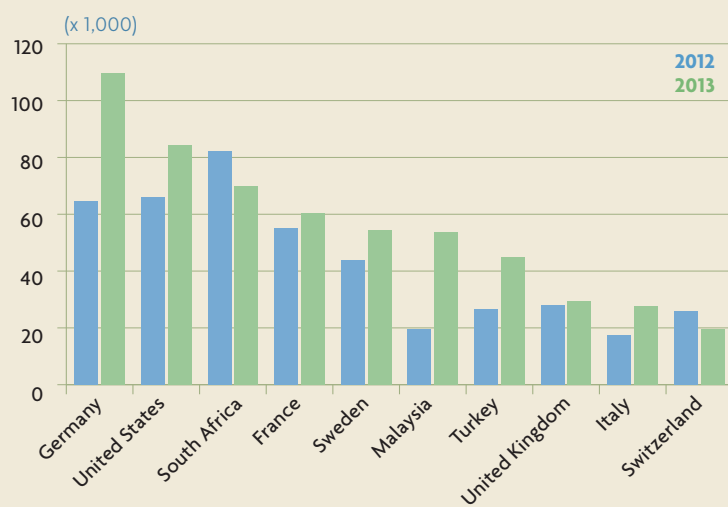
(31) Owing to the fact that some European countries have not yet released all of their national asylum data at the time of writing, this figure is likely to be revised later this year.

(32) For a detailed analysis of asylum trends in industrialized countries, see *Asylum Levels and Trends in Industrialized Countries, 2013*, UNHCR Geneva, March 2014, available at: <http://www.unhcr.org/5329b15a9.html>

(33) 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.

(34) 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.

**Fig. 15** Main destination countries for asylum-seekers  
| 2012-2013



the year before.<sup>(35)</sup> Asylum-seekers from the Syrian Arab Republic (+125%), Honduras (+50%), Egypt (+25%), and El Salvador (+24%), among others, accounted for this increase. About 31 per cent of all asylum claims in the country were lodged by asylum-seekers from Mexico and Central America, likely due in part to violence generated by transnational organized crime, gang-related activities, and drug cartels in some parts of Central America. China remained the main country of origin for asylum-seekers in the United States of America with 12,300 claims, followed by Mexico (10,700) and El Salvador (5,700).

Whereas South Africa had been the leading destination country of new asylum-seekers for the seven previous years, asylum levels there dropped in 2013 compared to 2012. In 2013, the number of new asylum applications was estimated at 70,000, 12,000 claims less than in 2012 (-15%). Asylum levels have gradually dropped from the 2009 peak of 222,300 claims. Between 2008 and 2013, South Africa registered 869,100 new asylum applications for this six-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 2013 (16,400).

France was the fourth largest recipient of new applications, with 60,200 new asylum requests registered during 2013. This is a 9 per cent increase compared to 2012 (55,100 claims) and the highest

figure since 1989 (61,400 claims). The increase in 2013 is partly attributed to a higher number of asylum-seekers from Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)) (+48%), Albania (+89%), and Bangladesh (+181%). Overall, Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)) was the top country of origin of asylum-seekers in France with about 5,900 applications, followed by the Democratic Republic of the Congo (5,300 claims), Albania (5,000 claims), and the Russian Federation (4,700 claims).

Sweden ranked fifth with 54,300 asylum applications received during the year, a 24 per cent increase compared to 2012 (43,900 claims). In addition, 2013 saw Sweden's second highest number of claims on record, exceeded only in 1992 when more than 84,000 persons, many of them fleeing the former Yugoslavia, requested asylum in the country. The increase is in part a result of the more than doubling of asylum applications from the Syrian Arab Republic, from 7,800 in 2012 to 16,300 in 2013. Since the outbreak of violence in the Syrian Arab Republic in early 2011, close to 24,700 Syrians have sought international protection in Sweden, making it the main recipient of Syrian asylum-seekers in Europe.

During the same period, the number of asylum applicants reported as being stateless by the Swedish Migration Board tripled from 2,300 to 6,900 applications. Eritrean asylum claims alone doubled to 4,800, compared to 2,400 a year earlier. Together with Syrians, these origins were the top three groups of new asylum applications in Sweden, together accounting for more than half (52%) of all claims registered. In contrast, the number of Somali and Afghan asylum-seekers in the country dropped significantly (-31% and -37% respectively).

With a record high of 53,600 new asylum applications registered during the year, Malaysia ranked sixth globally for 2013. This compares to 19,400 asylum claims a year earlier. By and large, Myanmar was the most important origin of asylum-seekers in Malaysia, with 50,300 asylum claims registered by the UNHCR office during the year. Sri Lanka (1,000 claims) and the Syrian Arab Republic (750 claims) were other important source countries of asylum applicants in Malaysia in 2013.

Turkey was the seventh largest recipient of asylum applications in the world, with 44,800 new asylum requests registered by UNHCR during 2013.<sup>(36)</sup> This is a 69 per cent increase compared to 2012 (26,500 claims) and the highest figure on record. Iraqis mainly account for this increase, as their number almost quadrupled from 6,900 in 2012 to 25,300 a year later. As a consequence, more than half (56%) of all asylum claims registered by UNHCR in Turkey were lodged by Iraqis. Other important source countries of asylum applicants in Turkey were Afghanistan (8,700 claims), the Islamic Republic of Iran (5,900 claims), and Somalia (1,300 claims).

In 2013, UNHCR's offices registered 194,600 new individual applications for refugee status and 8,600 on appeal or for review. The office in Malaysia received the largest number of new requests (53,600), followed by Turkey (44,800),

<sup>(35)</sup> Estimated number of individuals based on the number of new cases (45,370) and multiplied by 1.356 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 (22,870, reported by individuals). Until recently, UNHCR applied a factor of 1.4 for data provided by the US Department of Homeland Security, but this figure was revised due to 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, 2013*, UNHCR Geneva, March 2014 (<http://www.unhcr.org/5329b15a9.html>).

<sup>(36)</sup> The 2013 figure includes asylum-seekers registered with UNHCR as well as asylum-seekers who have been pre-registered but who are pending formal registration with UNHCR. The 2012 figure for Turkey has been revised to include all asylum-seekers, both those pre-registered and those registered on a monthly basis with UNHCR.

# Unaccompanied or separated children (UASC) seeking asylum\*

Provisional data indicate that the number of unaccompanied or separated children seeking asylum on an individual basis is on the rise. More than 25,300 individual asylum applications were lodged by UASC in 77 countries in 2013, far more than in previous years. At the same time, 78 countries reported that they had not registered a single asylum claim by an unaccompanied or separated child during the year while a number of important recipients of asylum-seekers were not able to report such information, including South Africa and the United States of America.

The number of UASC seeking asylum increased compared to 2012 (21,300 claims in 72 countries), 2011 (17,700 claims in 69 countries), and 2010 (15,600 claims in 69 countries). The 2013 level constituted about 4 per cent of the total number of asylum claims lodged in these 77 countries. Despite fluctuations in the global number of asylum claims registered over the past years, this proportion has remained consistent with the percentage observed in

the past six years (4% each). Much of the increase in 2013 came from one country only: Kenya. Here, some 4,600 UASC were registered by UNHCR, two-thirds (3,100) of them from boys and girls originating from South Sudan.

Europe received 15,700 or more than half of the 25,300 UASC claims. Sweden and Germany registered the greatest number of UASC new asylum claims in Europe, with 3,900 and 2,500, respectively. The United Kingdom and Norway were other important recipients of UASC applications, with 1,200 and 1,100 claims, respectively. In Asia, UNHCR offices in Malaysia and Indonesia reported having registered close to 1,400 and 500 UASC claims, respectively, while in the Americas, Canada registered 200 UASC claims. The number of UASC asylum claims in the United States of America is believed to be relatively significant, though official statistics are unfortunately not available.\*\*

In sub-Saharan Africa, Burundi and Malawi reported the highest number

of UASC claims with 610 and 300 applications, respectively, in addition to the 4,600 UASC claims in Kenya. Data on UASC for South Africa, the largest recipient of new asylum applications on the continent, is not available. Egypt appeared to be the country with the highest number of UASC claims (540) in the Middle East region.

The available information indicates that more than 7,100 unaccompanied or separated children were recognized in 2013 as refugees or granted a complementary form of protection in 44 countries. This figure appears to be higher than during the period 2010-2012, when on average some 5,300 UASC were granted a positive decision on their asylum claim. Roughly two-thirds of all decisions taken on UASC claims during the year led to the granting of refugee status or another form of protection, with the proportion between the two almost evenly split.

South Sudan was one of the main countries of origin of UASC in 2013

with close to 3,100 asylum claims registered, virtually all of them in Kenya. Besides this group, Afghan and Somali boys and girls continued to be the dominant groups, with the former lodging about 4,500 asylum claims and the latter lodging 2,500. The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Myanmar, and Eritrea were other important groups among UASC asylum claims, with 1,800, 1,500, and 1,200 applications recorded in 2013, respectively. Some 1,500 Syrian UASC were registered during the year, two-third of them in Sweden (400), Germany (290), Egypt (190), and Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)) (160).

Average recognition rates among all of these groups were at above 80 per cent – and, in the case of Eritrea, Syrian Arab Republic, and Myanmar, above 90 per cent.

\* For additional information, see 2012 *Statistical Yearbook*, p. 46, UNHCR, Geneva.

\*\* See *Children on the Run*, [http://www.unhcrwashington.org/sites/default/files/UAC\\_UNHCR\\_Children\\_on\\_the\\_Run\\_Full\\_Report.pdf](http://www.unhcrwashington.org/sites/default/files/UAC_UNHCR_Children_on_the_Run_Full_Report.pdf) ●

Kenya (19,200), Egypt (10,800), and Indonesia (8,300). With the exception of Kenya, which saw a 4 per cent decrease in individual asylum applications, all other countries listed in Table 3 experienced an increase in individual asylum applications. The top five UNHCR offices receiving asylum applications in 2013 registered 70 per cent of all new claims for the year. Four-fifths of UNHCR's refugee status determination work (in terms of new applications registered) was concentrated in just eight countries.

## BY NATIONALITY

Out of the 914,600 initial applications registered with either UNHCR or States worldwide during 2013, Syrians lodged 64,300 claims – on average, every 14<sup>th</sup> claim. Syrian asylum-seekers were reported by more than 100 countries or territories, underscoring this population's global dimension. However, excluding

the Middle East region, where Syrians enjoy temporary protection, the largest number of Syrian asylum claims was concentrated in Europe, notably Sweden (16,300), Germany (11,900), Bulgaria (4,500), and the Netherlands (2,700).

Asylum-seekers from the Democratic Republic of the Congo filed the second highest number of new applications (60,400). These were followed by individuals originating from Myanmar (57,400), Afghanistan (49,100), Iraq (45,700), the Russian Federation (39,800), Somalia (35,300), Eritrea (35,000), Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)) (34,700), and Pakistan (33,600). Out of the top 10 countries of origin for asylum applications, eight are currently facing war, conflict, or gross human rights violations. However, these figures should be considered as indicative only, because the country of origin for some asylum-seekers is unknown or undisclosed by some States.

## DECISIONS

Provisional figures indicate that States and UNHCR rendered 659,700 decisions on individual asylum applications during 2013. These figures do not include cases that were closed for administrative reasons with no decision issued to applicants, <sup>(37)</sup> of which at least 216,300 such cases were reported to UNHCR in 2013.

UNHCR staff adjudicated 72,100 or 11 per cent of the total number of substantive decisions, the highest such figure in recent history and significantly higher than in 2012 (54,400 decisions). Data relating to individual decisions are incomplete, however, as a few States have not yet released all their official statistics, and thus the 2013 decision data quoted in this report are not fully comparable with previous years.

Some 288,000 asylum-seekers were recognized as refugees (213,400) or given a complementary form of protection (74,600) during 2013. This number included an estimated 20,100 <sup>(38)</sup> individuals whose initial negative decisions had been overturned at the appeal or review

<sup>(37)</sup> Also referred to as 'non-substantive' decisions, which may 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).

<sup>(38)</sup> This figure is likely to be substantially higher, as a significant number of decisions rendered by States at the appeal or review stage of the asylum procedure have yet to be released.



TABLE 3

## New asylum claims lodged in top 10 UNHCR offices\* | 2013

Malaysia	53,600
Turkey**	44,800
Kenya	19,200
Egypt***	10,800
Indonesia	8,300
Jordan	6,700
Yemen	6,100
Cameroon	5,800
India	5,600
Libya	5,600

\* Excluding appeal/review claims.

\*\* Includes asylum-seekers registered with UNHCR as well as asylum-seekers who have been pre-registered but who are pending official registration with UNHCR.

\*\*\* Includes appeal claims.

stage. By contrast, some 371,700 claims were rejected on substantive grounds, a number that includes negative decisions both 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 Refugee Recognition Rate (RRR) amounted to an estimated 32 per cent of all decisions taken during 2013 while the Total Recognition Rate (TRR) was 44 per cent.<sup>(39)</sup> Both values are significantly higher than the rates in 2012 – 30 per cent for RRR and 37 per cent for TRR – reflecting a continued increasing demand for international protection throughout the year. At this time, however, global recognition rates are indicative, as some States have not yet reported the relevant data.

In 2013, among the main receiving industrialized countries, where States are responsible for conducting refugee status determination, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, and Italy had

the highest TRR at the first instance. This figure ranged from 68 per cent (Switzerland and Sweden) to 64 per cent (Italy). Among the countries listed in Table 3, where UNHCR is conducting refugee status determination, TRRs in 2013 were above 70 per cent in eight of the 10 main receiving operations. Cameroon and Yemen were the only exceptions, with TRRs of 22 and 48 per cent, respectively.

In UNHCR and State asylum procedures combined, the TRR for persons from the Syrian Arab Republic, Myanmar, and Eritrea were highest in 2013, with around or over 90 per cent of cases being recognized at the first instance. Recognition rates were also high for asylum-seekers from Somalia (82%), Iraq (79%), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (74%), and Afghanistan (65%). In contrast, among the top 10 countries of origin of asylum-seekers in 2013, the TRR was comparatively low for persons from the Russian Federation (28%), Pakistan (22%), and Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)) (5%).

By the end of the year, close to 1.2 million individuals awaited decisions on their asylum claims, a figure that includes applicants at any stage of the asylum procedure. This was the highest such number in many years. The significant increase is partly due to the fact that some government agencies were reporting these figures to UNHCR for the first time in many years, including the United States Executive Office for Immigration Review. This comparably higher backlog of asylum-seekers is also due to the larger number of asylum-seekers registered during 2013 in countries where decision-making bodies did not succeed in adjudicating all applications within a reasonable time-frame. It should be noted that despite improved statistical reporting on pending asylum applications, the true number of undecided asylum cases is unknown, as many countries do not report this information. ■

<sup>(39)</sup> 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.

## VII

# 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. Indeed, as UNHCR prepares to launch a campaign to end statelessness within a decade, improving baseline population data has become increasingly important. Yet measuring statelessness remains complicated because stateless persons 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.*

<sup>(40)</sup> 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>

<sup>(41)</sup> 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>

<sup>(42)</sup> UNHCR (2012), *The State of the World's Refugees: In Search of Solidarity*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 108-109.

<sup>(43)</sup> 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](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/seriesM/seriesm_67Rev2e.pdf).

<sup>(44)</sup> See <http://www.unhcr.org/statistics/13-WRD-table-7.xls>

**U**NHCR'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 that are in possession of statistics on stateless persons, or on individuals with undetermined nationality, to share them with UNHCR.<sup>(40)</sup> The agency has issued updated guidance to its field offices on the reporting of statistics for populations under UNHCR's statelessness mandate, reflecting efforts to clarify the definition of a stateless person under Article 1 of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.<sup>(41)</sup> UNHCR's statistics on those under its statelessness mandate mainly comprise stateless persons, those not considered as nationals by any State under the operation of its law. However, data from some countries also include persons of undetermined nationality.

Statistics on stateless persons can be gathered using several methods, including analysis of civil registration data, a population census, or a targeted survey.<sup>(42)</sup> The United Nations recommendations on population censuses underscore the importance of including questions related to citizenship, including statelessness.<sup>(43)</sup> Based on census data obtained through the *2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme*, data for 10 countries are included in this year's statistics – a significant increase, given that just two countries were included in the report only three years ago. With the United Nations and national statistical offices having now started preparations for the *2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme*,

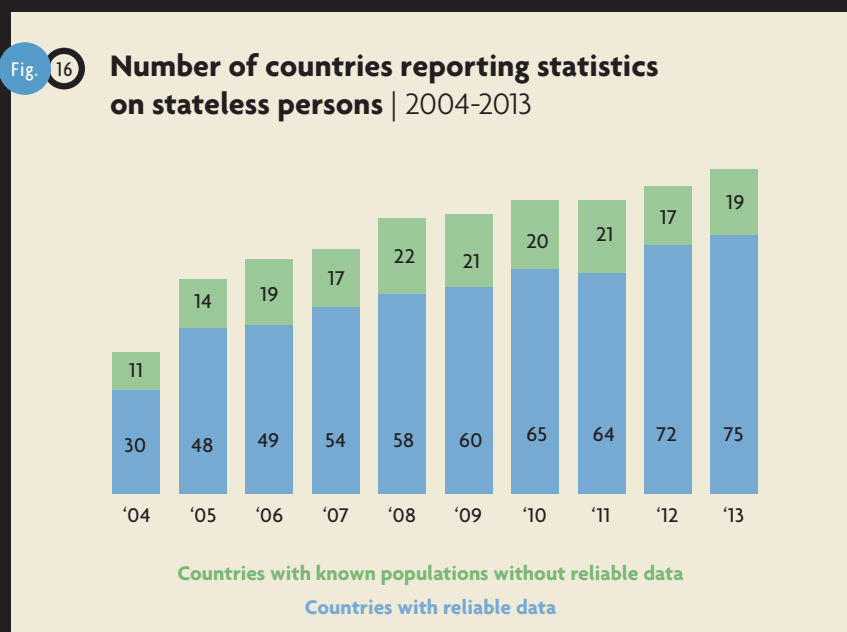
UNHCR expects further improvements in data quality and coverage in the coming years.

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 engaged in reporting and the enhanced reliability of their figures, UNHCR was unable to provide comprehensive statistics on stateless persons in all countries. A considerable gap remains between the data reported in this report and the estimated global stateless population, which numbers at least 10 million persons. Annex Table 7<sup>(44)</sup> 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.

By the end of 2013, statistics on persons falling under UNHCR's statelessness mandate were available for 75 countries, three more than in 2012 [see Figure 16]. This

compared to just 30 countries in 2004, and reflected the efforts of UNHCR's offices to gather better data on statelessness. For 2013, UNHCR's offices reported a figure of almost 3.5 million stateless persons, slightly higher than that reported in 2012 (3.34 million). This increase was due to the clarification of the status of an estimated 210,000 persons in the Dominican Republic, where a Constitutional Court judgment retroactively applied new nationality criteria. In so doing, the court ruled that many individuals of Haitian descent born in the country since 1929 are not Dominican nationals.

Progress continued to be made to reduce the number of stateless persons through the acquisition or confirmation of nationality. According to information available at the time of this report's writing, at least 37,700 stateless persons in 19 countries acquired nationality during 2013. This figure is likely to be revised upwards as final annual statistical data become available. ■



VIII

# Other groups or people of concern

**U**NHCR HAS CONTINUED to extend its protection or assistance activities to individuals whom it considers to be ‘of concern’ but who do not fall into any of the previous population categories. These activities have been based on humanitarian or other special grounds, and have included former refugees who were assisted to integrate locally as well as asylum-seekers rejected by States but whom UNHCR deemed to be in need of humanitarian assistance.

The number of persons in this category stood at 836,100 by year-end. A third of this number were Afghans, former refugees who had returned to Afghanistan prior to 2013 but who had been unable to reintegrate due to the difficult economic situation, the lack of comprehensive reintegration measures, or poor security. Many of these individuals thus continued to benefit from UNHCR’s assistance. This category also included former Angolan refugees whose refugee status had ended as a result of cessation in 2012 but whose local integration continued to be monitored by UNHCR, notably in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (71,300)<sup>(45)</sup> and Zambia (23,200). ■

<sup>(45)</sup> Approximately two-thirds are assisted for local integration, with the remaining one third to repatriate voluntarily to Angola.



UNHCR / S. SISOMACK





**An area with a high number of returnees in Kochi Abad, Afghanistan.** Such high return areas have been prioritized for the provision of reintegration activities to support the sustainable return of Afghans coming back from the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan.



**Sumeh, an elderly Karenni refugee** at the Ban Mai Nai Soi camp in northern Thailand. She is one of more than 120,000 refugees who live in nine camps along the Thai-Myanmar border. Life remains difficult for these refugees, who have lived in exile for more than two decades.



# Demographic and location characteristics

*Detailed demographic data collection on displaced persons continues to pose a challenge to UNHCR and its humanitarian partners around the world. Comprehensive demographic data are important for planning, programming, and decision-making in order to improve the design and delivery of humanitarian response. In countries where UNHCR is directly involved in data collection, demographic data are typically more readily available. However, in countries where governments are the principal agents for data collection, comprehensive demographic information tends to be incomplete or lacking. Most often, it is in industrialized countries where governments are the sole agents for data collection, and the overwhelming majority of these countries provide little or no comprehensive demographic data.*

**D**ATA COVERAGE ON demographic information generally differs among the various population categories, with coverage for refugees traditionally being among the highest. This can be explained by the fact that UNHCR has in place a dedicated refugee registration system and mechanism for collecting information on refugees, as opposed to for the other population categories. Population data on refugees is often disaggregated by sex and age, as well as by location. It is important to emphasize that demographic and location information improves needs assessment and monitoring, while also enhancing mechanisms for identifying gaps in effective protection.

## DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

The total number of countries or territories that provide demographic information disaggregated by sex has decreased slightly, from 165 in 2012 to 157 a year later. While overall data coverage increased slightly in 2013 in absolute terms, a further deterioration in relative terms has been observed. This is primarily explained by a continuation of

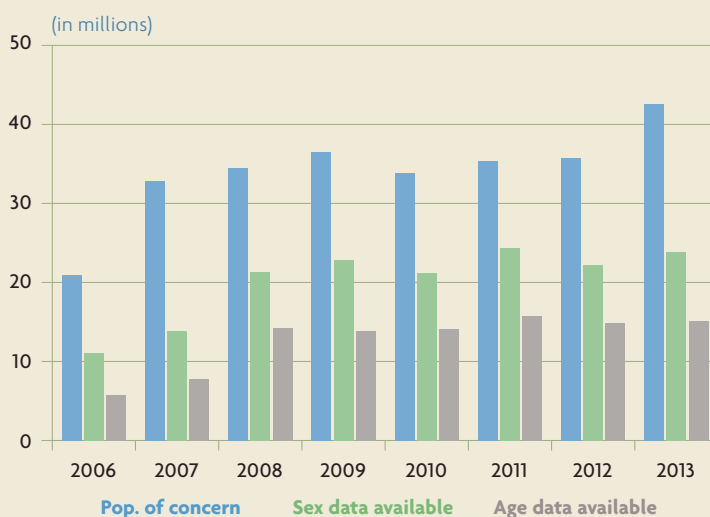
emergencies in some countries combined with newly emerging crises in others, during which periods reliable demographic data are typically more difficult to obtain than during stable situations.

Of the 42.9 million persons of concern to UNHCR at the end of 2013, data broken down by sex were available for 23.9 million persons (56%). This represents 1.7 million more than the previous year, when such

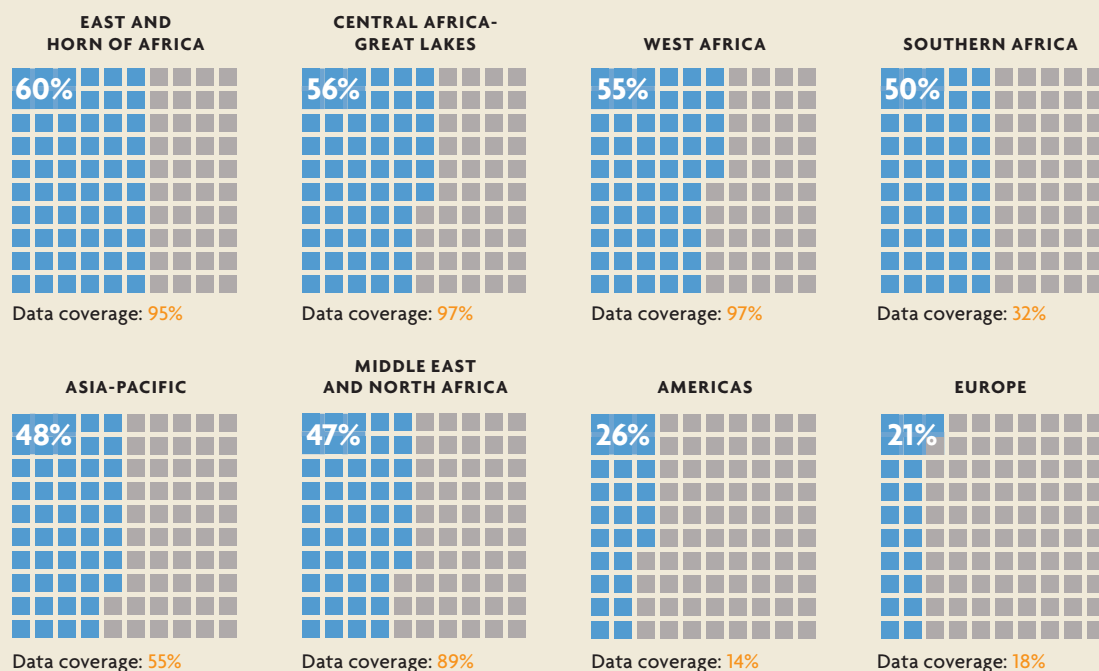
data were available for 22.2 million individuals (62%). During the same period, availability of age-disaggregated data increased only marginally, from 14.9 million in 2012 (42% of data coverage) to 15.2 million (35%).

Again, statistical coverage for refugees was better than for other population groups. In 2013, data disaggregated by sex were available for 71 per cent of the global refugee population but for only 8 per cent of stateless

Fig. 17 Demographic characteristics available on UNHCR's population of concern | 2006-2013







persons. Data availability was also relatively high for IDPs (56%), refugee returnees (55%), asylum-seekers (57%), and others of concern to UNHCR (78%). However, data availability was low for IDP returnees (23%).

According to available data, women and girls accounted for 49 per cent of the refugee population in 2013, virtually unchanged compared to the 48 per cent recorded in 2012. This implies that the total number of female refugees is almost at par with its corresponding value for male refugees.

Refugee information disaggregated by age was available for 7.4 million refugees, 63 per cent of the total<sup>(46)</sup> as compared to 65 per cent in 2012. Based on available evidence, refugee children accounted for 50 per cent of the global refugee population in 2013 compared to 46 per cent a year earlier, the highest value in 10 years. In other words, currently one in every two refugees is a child. These averages, however, hide significant variations across countries. Among the major refugee-hosting countries, the percentage of refugee children ranged from 78 per cent in Uganda to 19 per cent in Yemen.<sup>(47)</sup>

The increase in the global number of refugee children is principally driv-

en by the growing number of Syrian, Afghan and Somali children. In all three cases, half of its individual refugee population is composed of children. Further, these three refugee groups together accounted for nearly a third (31%) of the world's refugee children. Over the past decade, the number of refugee children has been growing intermittently, from a low of 41 per cent in 2009 to the current level of 50 per cent. How-

ever, the trend of adult refugees aged 60 years and above has remained stagnant at 4-5 per cent for each year since 2003 [see Table 4].

LOCATION

Information on the geographic location of refugees is classified into three main groups, urban, rural, and mixed/unknown. These broad groupings are further broken down by type of accommo-

TABLE 4 Demographic characteristics of refugees | 2003-2013 (% of total population)

Year	Women	<18 years	18-59 years	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%
2013	49%	50%	46%	4%

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.

(46) 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.

(47) Figures based on at least 50 per cent data coverage.

# Closure of Choucha camp in Tunisia

On 1 July, UNHCR completed the transfer of its services and activities for persons of concern out of the Choucha transit camp in southern Tunisia to nearby urban areas. At that time, over 600 refugees were living in Tunisia's southern cities of Ben Gardane and Medenine

UNHCR has been working to find solutions for the population in Choucha since the camp's opening in 2011, in response to the mass influx from Libya in early 2011. At the peak of the Libya crisis, when an estimated one million people had sought refuge in Tunisia, the camp was receiving up to 18,000 people a day. The majority repatriated voluntarily to their home countries, while departures to resettlement countries from Choucha under a global solidarity initiative began to accelerate in mid-2012. Under this initiative, a total of 3,176 refugees departed to resettlement countries, notably the United States of America. ●

dation, categorized as planned/managed camp, self-settled camp, collective centre, reception/transit camp, individual accommodation (private), or undefined if the accommodation type is unclear.<sup>(48)</sup>

UNHCR offices reported information on the type of accommodation for 9.5 million (81%) out of the 11.7 million refugees recorded at the end of 2013. More than half of this number was living in individual or private accommodations (58%), a higher figure than the year before (54%). This can be partly explained by the high number of Syrian refugees renting apartments in urban agglomerations across the Middle East. In addition, approximately one third (35%) of refugees were reported to be living in planned/managed camps, virtually identical to the year before. Far fewer refugees were living in self-settled camps (4%) or collective centres (3%), and in both cases these percentages declined slightly compared to 2012. Refugee children constituted on average more than half of the residents in camp-type accommodation,<sup>(49)</sup> whereas their proportion dropped to 46 per cent of those living in non-camp accommodation.<sup>(50)</sup>

As part of continuous efforts to improve data quality, UNHCR offices around the world were requested to specify with greater accuracy information on the accommodation type being used by persons of concern, in particular refugees. As a result, there was a remarkable change in the proportional distribution of refugees reported to be residing in urban areas. For instance, of those refugees living in urban areas, the proportion residing in collective centres grew exponentially, from 18 per cent in

2012 to 94 per cent in 2013. This number should be treated with caution though, considering it applies to 3,400 refugees only. The proportion of refugees residing in a planned/managed camp in an urban area increased from 0.4 per cent in 2012 to 7 per cent in 2013, a shift mainly caused by the high number of Syrian refugees residing in this type of accommodation in Turkey. During the same period, the proportion of refugees reported to be living in individual accommodation (private) in an urban area slightly declined, from 93 to 88 per cent [see Table 5].

Analysing location information by urban and rural classification reveals some interesting patterns. By the end of 2013, information on this geographic location was available for 9 million (77%) out of the global refugee population of 11.7 million. Of this 9 million, 56 per cent were reportedly residing in urban areas and 44 per cent in rural areas. These figures should be considered as indicative only, however, given that location data for 2.7 million refugees were either unknown or unclear. As in previous years, the overwhelming majority of refugee camps were located in rural areas, while self-settled camps too were predominantly found in rural areas. On the other hand, individual accommodations (private) were the typical residence for refugees in urban locations.

Regionally, the proportion of refugees residing in camps in sub-Saharan Africa has consistently increased over

the last three years, from 60 per cent in 2011 and 63 per cent in 2012 to 64 per cent in 2013. This increasing trend implies that the greater proportion of refugees in sub-Saharan Africa does not reside in urban areas, as most camps are located in rural areas. By year-end, 93 per cent of camps globally were located in rural areas, and most of these were found in sub-Saharan Africa or Asia. By comparison, 25 per cent of refugees in Asia reside in camps, while the majority of refugees in the Americas (96%) and Middle East and North Africa (76%) reside in individual accommodation types, predominantly in urban areas. ■

(48) For a definition of each category, see: <http://goo.gl/4oKn8>.

(49) This refers to planned/managed camp, self-settled camp, and reception/transit camp.

(50) This refers to individual accommodation (private) and collective centres.

TABLE 5 Accommodation of refugees | end-2012 and end-2013

Type of accommodation	No. of refugees		Distribution		% women		% children		% urban	
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012*	2013**
Planned/ managed camp	2,955,500	3,274,300	35.3%	34.6%	50%	51%	56%	56%	0.4%	7.1%
Self-settled camp	542,300	345,800	6.5%	3.7%	52%	53%	58%	60%	0.5%	1.0%
Collective centre	323,500	304,300	3.9%	3.2%	48%	48%	56%	35%	18.0%	93.9%
Individual accommodation (private)	4,551,900	5,510,900	54.3%	58.2%	46%	48%	39%	46%	93.4%	88.3%
Reception/ transit camp	2,100	33,900	0.0%	0.4%	53%	51%	60%	59%	8.3%	2.8%
Sub-total	8,375,300	9,469,200	100%	100%	48%	49%	46%	50%	53.4%	56.1%
Unknown	2,122,700	2,234,000								
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>10,498,000</b>	<b>11,703,200</b>								

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

\*\* Percentages are based on data available for 9.0 million refugees. Calculation excludes accommodation types which are unknown.





**Displaced people at a makeshift camp site at the international airport in Bangui, the Central African Republic.**

Tens of thousands of people have sought safety at the airport, having fled violence between anti-Balaka fighters and former Seleka rebels.



# 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,<sup>(51)</sup> and those enjoying temporary protection<sup>(52)</sup>. The refugee population also includes persons in refugee-like situations.<sup>(53)</sup>

**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 2013, irrespective of when those claims may have been lodged.

**Internally displaced persons** are persons or groups of persons 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.<sup>(54)</sup> 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 persons in an IDP-like situation.<sup>(55)</sup>

**Returned refugees (returnees)** are former refugees who have returned to their country of origin, either spontaneously or in an organized fashion, but are yet to be fully integrated. Such returns would normally take place only under conditions of safety and dignity. For the purposes of this report, only refugees who returned between January and December 2013 are included, though in practice operations may assist returnees for longer periods.

**Returned IDPs** refers to those IDPs who were beneficiaries of UNHCR's protection and assistance activities, and who returned to their area of origin or habitual residence between January and December 2013. In practice, however, operations may assist IDP returnees for longer periods.

**Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate** are defined

under international law as those 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 as those who 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 agency also performs a specific function, under Article II of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, in receiving claims from persons who may benefit from the statelessness safeguards contained in that Convention, and in assisting them and the States concerned to resolve these claims.

**Other groups or persons of concern** refers to individuals who do not necessarily fall directly into any of these groups but to whom UNHCR has extended its protection and/or assistance services, based on humanitarian or other special grounds.

<sup>(51)</sup> 'Complementary protection' refers to protection provided under national, regional, or international law to persons 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.

<sup>(52)</sup> 'Temporary protection' refers to arrangements developed to offer protection of a temporary nature, either until the situation in the country of origin improves and allows for a safe and dignified return or until individual refugee or complementary protection status determination can be carried out.

<sup>(53)</sup> This term is descriptive in nature. It includes groups of persons who are outside their country or territory of origin and who face protection risks similar to refugees but for whom refugee status has, for practical or other reasons, not been ascertained.

<sup>(54)</sup> 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.*

<sup>(55)</sup> This term is descriptive in nature. It includes groups of persons 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-2013

Country or territory of asylum/residence <sup>1</sup>	REFUGEES					Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Various <sup>9</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee-like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>						
Afghanistan	72	16,791	16,863	16,863	66	39,666	631,286	21,830	-	275,486	985,197
Albania	93	-	93	93	228	-	-	-	7,443	-	7,764
Algeria <sup>10</sup>	94,150	-	94,150	90,145	1,815	1	-	-	-	-	95,966
Angola	23,783	-	23,783	5,072	20,039	1,666	-	-	-	-	45,488
Argentina	3,362	-	3,362	119	916	-	-	-	-	-	4,278
Armenia	3,132	10,600	13,732	6,052	77	-	-	-	180	-	13,989
Aruba	1	-	1	1	5	-	-	-	1	-	7
Antigua and Barbuda	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Australia	34,503	-	34,503	-	13,559	-	-	-	-	-	48,062
Austria	55,598	-	55,598	-	22,745	-	-	-	604	-	78,947
Azerbaijan	1,380	-	1,380	1,380	278	-	609,029	-	3,585	-	614,272
Bahamas	15	-	15	14	12	-	-	-	-	-	27
Bahrain	294	-	294	294	52	-	-	-	-	-	346
Bangladesh <sup>11</sup>	31,145	200,000	231,145	35,645	9	-	-	-	-	-	231,154
Barbados	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Belarus	604	-	604	272	86	-	-	-	6,712	-	7,402
Belgium	25,633	-	25,633	-	11,483	-	-	-	2,466	-	39,582
Belize	21	-	21	6	63	-	-	-	-	-	84
Benin	194	-	194	194	108	-	-	-	-	-	302
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	748	-	748	161	6	-	-	-	-	-	754
Bonaire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bosnia and Herzegovina	6,926	-	6,926	290	42	130	84,500	18,949	792	52,437	163,776
Botswana	2,773	-	2,773	2,773	173	-	-	-	-	49	2,995
Brazil	5,196	-	5,196	891	4,634	-	-	-	2	12,318	22,150
British Virgin Islands	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,524	-	20,524
Bulgaria	4,320	-	4,320	2,462	4,560	-	-	-	-	-	8,880
Burkina Faso	29,234	-	29,234	28,915	791	-	-	-	-	-	30,025
Burundi	45,490	-	45,490	45,490	6,045	2,126	78,948	-	1,302	463	134,374
Cabo Verde	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	68	-	68	68	12	-	-	-	-	-	80
Cameroon	107,346	7,407	114,753	114,753	8,337	-	-	-	-	-	123,090
Canada	160,349	-	160,349	-	22,148	-	-	-	-	-	182,497
Cayman Islands	6	-	6	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	11
Central African Rep.	14,322	-	14,322	14,322	2,636	1	894,421	-	-	-	911,380
Chad	434,479	-	434,479	410,979	310	387	19,791	-	-	-	454,967
Chile	1,743	-	1,743	185	421	-	-	-	-	-	2,164
China <sup>12</sup>	301,047	-	301,047	144	380	-	-	-	-	-	301,427
- Hong Kong SAR, China	126	-	126	126	1,871	-	-	-	1	-	1,998
- Macao SAR, China	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Colombia	224	-	224	42	71	17	5,368,138	-	12	-	5,368,462
Comoros	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congo	51,037	-	51,037	51,037	2,651	29	-	-	-	1,055	54,772
Costa Rica	12,749	7,820	20,569	16,501	616	-	-	-	-	-	21,185
Côte d'Ivoire	2,980	-	2,980	2,980	607	20,028	24,000	21,000	700,000	132	768,747
Croatia	656	28	684	684	210	503	-	-	2,886	16,046	20,329
Cuba	384	-	384	257	1	-	-	-	-	-	385
Curaçao	15	-	15	15	46	-	-	-	-	-	61
Cyprus <sup>13</sup>	3,883	-	3,883	-	2,651	-	-	-	-	-	6,534
Czech Rep.	3,184	-	3,184	-	314	-	-	-	1,502	-	5,000
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	113,362	-	113,362	50,204	1,461	68,428	2,963,799	595,200	-	71,257	3,813,507
Denmark	13,170	-	13,170	-	1,639	-	-	-	4,263	-	19,072
Djibouti	20,015	-	20,015	20,015	3,795	-	-	-	-	-	23,810

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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-2013 (ctnd)**

Country or territory of asylum/residence <sup>1</sup>	REFUGEES					Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Various <sup>9</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee-like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>						
Dominica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dominican Rep. <sup>14</sup>	721	-	721	721	824	-	-	-	210,000	-	211,545
Ecuador <sup>15</sup>	54,789	68,344	123,133	54,789	12,454	1	-	-	-	-	135,588
Egypt	230,086	-	230,086	160,086	23,159	-	-	-	23	-	253,268
El Salvador	44	-	44	31	5	-	-	-	-	-	49
Equatorial Guinea	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eritrea	3,166	-	3,166	3,166	3	-	-	-	-	64	3,233
Estonia	70	-	70	-	25	-	-	-	91,281	-	91,376
Ethiopia	433,936	-	433,936	433,936	934	29	-	-	-	1,004	435,903
Fiji	5	-	5	5	9	-	-	-	-	-	14
Finland	11,252	-	11,252	-	1,532	-	-	-	2,122	-	14,906
France	232,487	-	232,487	-	51,732	-	-	-	1,247	-	285,466
Gabon	1,594	-	1,594	1,594	2,436	-	-	-	-	-	4,030
Gambia	9,563	-	9,563	9,560	-	-	-	-	-	212	9,775
Georgia	356	491	847	847	340	1	257,611	-	776	-	259,575
Germany <sup>16</sup>	187,567	-	187,567	-	135,581	-	-	-	11,709	-	334,857
Ghana	18,681	-	18,681	18,664	1,836	3	-	-	-	-	20,520
Greece	3,485	-	3,485	-	49,830	-	-	-	178	19,534	73,027
Grenada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Guatemala	160	-	160	19	15	-	-	-	-	-	175
Guinea	8,560	-	8,560	8,560	315	3	-	-	-	-	8,878
Guinea-Bissau	8,535	-	8,535	8,535	109	-	-	-	-	-	8,644
Guyana	11	-	11	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Haiti	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	13
Honduras	16	-	16	4	22	-	-	-	1	-	39
Hungary	2,440	-	2,440	-	1,886	-	-	-	113	-	4,439
Iceland	79	-	79	-	279	-	-	-	119	-	477
India	188,395	-	188,395	22,721	3,675	-	-	-	-	-	192,070
Indonesia	3,206	-	3,206	3,206	7,110	-	-	-	-	-	10,316
Iran, Islamic Rep. of	857,354	-	857,354	857,354	47	1	-	-	-	-	857,402
Iraq	246,298	-	246,298	246,298	5,991	60,881	954,128	63,270	120,000	-	1,450,568
Ireland	6,001	-	6,001	-	5,507	-	-	-	73	-	11,581
Israel <sup>17</sup>	103	48,222	48,325	4,656	7,889	-	-	-	14	-	56,228
Italy	78,061	-	78,061	-	13,653	-	-	-	350	-	92,064
Jamaica	21	-	21	21	1	-	-	-	-	-	22
Japan <sup>18</sup>	2,584	-	2,584	555	6,742	-	-	-	852	-	10,178
Jordan <sup>19</sup>	641,915	-	641,915	606,692	4,397	-	-	-	-	-	646,312
Kazakhstan	584	-	584	584	77	-	-	-	6,942	3,675	11,278
Kenya	534,938	-	534,938	534,938	52,285	-	-	-	20,000	-	607,223
Kuwait	635	-	635	635	1,030	-	-	-	93,000	-	94,665
Kyrgyzstan	466	-	466	466	378	-	-	-	11,425	-	12,269
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Latvia	160	-	160	-	194	-	-	-	267,789	-	268,143
Lebanon	856,546	-	856,546	856,546	2,274	-	-	-	-	3,706	862,526
Lesotho	30	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Liberia	53,245	8	53,253	53,253	54	84	-	-	1	1,540	54,932
Libya	25,561	-	25,561	25,561	6,608	-	53,579	5,350	-	-	91,098
Liechtenstein	97	-	97	-	17	-	-	-	2	-	116
Lithuania	916	-	916	-	74	-	-	-	3,892	-	4,882
Luxembourg	2,873	-	2,873	-	1,019	-	-	-	177	-	4,069
Madagascar	12	-	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	1	13
Malawi	5,796	-	5,796	5,796	11,139	-	-	-	-	-	16,935
Malaysia	96,868	645	97,513	97,507	43,039	-	-	-	40,000	80,000	260,552
Mali	14,316	-	14,316	13,832	293	14,281	254,822	42,253	-	-	325,965

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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-2013 (ctnd)**

Country or territory of asylum/residence <sup>1</sup>	REFUGEES					Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Various <sup>9</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee-like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>						
Malta	9,906	-	9,906	-	902	-	-	-	-	-	10,808
Mauritania	66,767	26,000	92,767	66,767	845	-	-	-	-	-	93,612
Mauritius	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mexico	1,831	-	1,831	286	1,352	-	-	-	13	-	3,196
Micronesia (Federated States of)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Monaco	34	-	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
Mongolia	9	-	9	9	4	-	-	-	16	-	29
Montenegro	8,476	-	8,476	8,476	195	-	-	-	3,341	8,093	20,105
Montserrat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Morocco	1,470	-	1,470	1,470	3,503	-	-	-	-	-	4,973
Mozambique	4,445	-	4,445	2,344	10,674	-	-	-	-	-	15,119
Myanmar <sup>20</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	3,009	372,000	27,383	810,000	-	1,212,392
Namibia	2,332	-	2,332	2,332	1,162	28	-	-	-	1,660	5,182
Nauru <sup>17</sup>	-	-	-	-	534	-	-	-	-	-	534
Nepal <sup>21</sup>	46,305	-	46,305	31,305	236	-	-	-	-	425	46,966
Netherlands <sup>22</sup>	74,707	-	74,707	-	10,420	-	-	-	1,951	-	87,078
New Zealand	1,403	-	1,403	-	308	-	-	-	-	-	1,711
Nicaragua	189	-	189	88	17	-	-	-	1	-	207
Niger	57,661	-	57,661	57,661	84	-	-	-	-	35,166	92,911
Nigeria	1,694	-	1,694	1,694	815	17	-	-	-	-	2,526
Norway	46,106	-	46,106	-	6,344	-	-	-	1,975	-	54,425
Oman	138	-	138	138	79	-	-	-	-	-	217
Pakistan	1,616,507	-	1,616,507	1,616,507	5,386	4	747,498	90,637	-	-	2,460,032
Palau	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Panama	2,665	15,000	17,665	231	630	-	-	-	2	-	18,297
Papua New Guinea <sup>15</sup>	4,797	4,581	9,378	-	404	-	-	-	-	-	9,782
Paraguay	136	-	136	13	1	-	-	-	-	-	137
Peru	1,162	-	1,162	78	507	-	-	-	-	-	1,669
Philippines	182	-	182	35	79	-	117,369	211,607	6,015	68	335,320
Poland	16,438	-	16,438	-	2,151	-	-	-	10,825	-	29,414
Portugal	598	-	598	-	206	-	-	-	553	-	1,357
Qatar	130	-	130	130	11	-	-	-	1,200	-	1,341
Rep. of Korea	547	-	547	139	2,397	-	-	-	194	-	3,138
Rep. of Moldova	250	-	250	250	87	-	-	-	2,029	-	2,366
Romania	1,770	-	1,770	161	150	-	-	-	297	-	2,217
Russian Federation	3,458	-	3,458	3,458	1,240	-	-	-	178,000	7,259	189,957
Rwanda	73,349	-	73,349	73,349	214	7,803	-	-	-	124	81,490
Saint Kitts and Nevis	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Saint Lucia	5	-	5	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	6
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sao Tome and Principe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saudi Arabia	532	27	559	559	99	-	-	-	70,000	-	70,658
Senegal	14,247	-	14,247	14,247	2,481	-	-	-	-	-	16,728
Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999))	57,083	-	57,083	7,816	400	168	227,495	780	4,195	777	290,898
Sierra Leone	2,817	-	2,817	1,583	38	-	-	-	-	-	2,855
Singapore	3	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Sint Maarten	3	-	3	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	4
Slovakia	701	-	701	-	200	-	-	-	1,523	138	2,562
Slovenia	213	-	213	-	21	-	-	-	4	-	238
Solomon Islands	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Somalia	2,425	-	2,425	2,425	9,876	36,100	1,133,000	104,706	-	69	1,286,176
South Africa <sup>23</sup>	65,881	-	65,881	13,147	232,211	-	-	-	-	-	298,092

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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-2013 (ctnd)**

Country or territory of asylum/residence <sup>1</sup>	REFUGEES					Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Various <sup>9</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee-like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>						
South Sudan <sup>24</sup>	229,587	-	229,587	229,587	39	394	331,097	-	-	-	561,117
Spain	4,637	-	4,637	-	4,344	-	-	-	270	-	9,251
Sri Lanka <sup>25</sup>	145	-	145	145	1,607	920	42,191	40,691	-	-	85,554
State of Palestine	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5
Sudan <sup>26</sup>	124,328	35,529	159,857	99,663	10,808	16,954	1,873,300	19,471	-	3,259	2,083,649
Suriname	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swaziland	507	-	507	163	535	-	-	-	-	3	1,045
Sweden	114,175	-	114,175	-	27,724	-	-	-	20,450	-	162,349
Switzerland	52,464	-	52,464	-	22,130	-	-	-	79	-	74,673
Syrian Arab Rep. <sup>27</sup>	149,292	-	149,292	31,390	2,495	140,761	6,520,800	-	160,000	-	6,973,348
Tajikistan	2,048	-	2,048	1,947	2,271	-	-	-	1,364	-	5,683
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	687	295	982	982	1,092	-	-	-	819	-	2,893
Thailand <sup>28</sup>	78,970	57,529	136,499	78,970	4,712	-	-	-	506,197	216	647,624
Timor-Leste	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Togo	20,613	-	20,613	12,150	429	112	-	-	-	-	21,154
Tonga	3	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Trinidad and Tobago	20	-	20	4	42	-	-	-	-	-	62
Tunisia	730	-	730	730	364	3	-	-	-	-	1,097
Turcs and Caicos Islands	4	-	4	4	6	-	-	-	-	-	10
Turkey <sup>29</sup>	609,938	-	609,938	609,938	52,467	-	-	-	780	306	663,491
Turkmenistan	45	-	45	45	-	-	-	-	8,320	-	8,365
Uganda	220,555	-	220,555	220,555	24,221	4	-	-	-	50,000	294,780
Ukraine	2,968	-	2,968	516	5,478	-	-	-	33,271	-	41,717
United Arab Emirates	603	-	603	603	77	-	-	-	-	-	680
United Kingdom	126,055	-	126,055	-	23,070	-	-	-	205	-	149,330
United Rep. of Tanzania	102,099	-	102,099	79,872	407	-	-	-	-	162,256	264,762
United States <sup>30</sup>	263,662	-	263,662	-	84,343	-	-	-	-	-	348,005
Uruguay	203	-	203	99	42	-	-	-	-	-	245
Uzbekistan	141	-	141	141	-	-	-	-	-	-	141
Vanuatu	2	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	4,340	200,000	204,340	23,269	1,073	-	-	-	-	-	205,413
Viet Nam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,000	-	11,000
Yemen	241,288	-	241,288	241,288	8,197	4	306,614	93,055	-	-	649,158
Zambia	23,594	-	23,594	23,594	2,220	-	-	-	-	27,205	53,019
Zimbabwe	6,389	-	6,389	6,389	480	2	60,139	-	-	97	67,107
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,003,862</b>	<b>699,317</b>	<b>11,703,179</b>	<b>8,519,364</b>	<b>1,171,762</b>	<b>414,554</b>	<b>23,925,555</b>	<b>1,356,182</b>	<b>3,469,250</b>	<b>836,100</b>	<b>42,876,582</b>

UNHCR-BUREAUX	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee-like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>	Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Various <sup>9</sup>	Total population of concern
- Central Africa-Great Lakes	508,599	7,407	516,006	430,621	24,187	78,387	3,937,168	595,200	1,302	235,155	5,387,405
- East and Horn of Africa	2,003,429	35,529	2,038,958	1,955,264	102,271	53,868	3,357,188	124,177	20,000	54,396	5,750,858
- Southern Africa	135,542	-	135,542	61,622	278,633	1,696	60,139	-	-	29,015	505,025
- Western Africa	242,340	8	242,348	231,828	7,960	34,528	278,822	63,253	700,001	37,050	1,363,962
<b>Total Africa</b>	<b>2,889,910</b>	<b>42,944</b>	<b>2,932,854</b>	<b>2,679,335</b>	<b>413,051</b>	<b>168,479</b>	<b>7,633,317</b>	<b>782,630</b>	<b>721,303</b>	<b>355,616</b>	<b>13,007,250</b>
Asia and Pacific	3,267,531	279,546	3,547,077	2,764,496	94,924	43,600	1,910,344	392,148	1,422,850	359,870	7,770,813
Middle East and North Africa	2,556,538	74,249	2,630,787	2,333,988	68,885	201,655	7,835,121	161,675	444,237	3,706	11,346,066
Europe	1,775,087	11,414	1,786,501	643,677	464,603	802	1,178,635	19,729	670,828	104,590	4,225,688
Americas	514,796	291,164	805,960	97,868	130,299	18	5,368,138	-	210,032	12,318	6,526,765
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,003,862</b>	<b>699,317</b>	<b>11,703,179</b>	<b>8,519,364</b>	<b>1,171,762</b>	<b>414,554</b>	<b>23,925,555</b>	<b>1,356,182</b>	<b>3,469,250</b>	<b>836,100</b>	<b>42,876,582</b>

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See notes on page 44.

**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-2013 (ctnd)

Country or territory of asylum/residence <sup>1</sup>	REFUGEES					Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Various <sup>9</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee-like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>						
<b>UN MAJOR REGIONS</b>											
Africa	3,308,674	68,944	3,377,618	3,024,094	449,345	168,483	7,686,896	787,980	721,326	355,616	13,547,264
Asia	5,983,280	334,305	6,317,585	5,371,931	168,510	245,252	10,558,526	548,473	1,872,385	363,882	20,074,613
Europe	1,156,398	323	1,156,721	25,460	408,790	801	311,995	19,729	665,507	104,284	2,667,827
Latin America and the Caribbean	90,785	291,164	381,949	97,868	23,808	18	5,368,138	-	210,032	12,318	5,996,263
Northern America	424,011	-	424,011	-	106,491	-	-	-	-	-	530,502
Oceania	40,714	4,581	45,295	77	14,818	-	-	-	-	-	60,113
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,003,862</b>	<b>699,317</b>	<b>11,703,179</b>	<b>8,519,364</b>	<b>1,171,762</b>	<b>414,554</b>	<b>23,925,555</b>	<b>1,356,182</b>	<b>3,469,250</b>	<b>836,100</b>	<b>42,876,582</b>

**Notes**

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 many 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.

**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.

**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** The total figure includes 200,000 persons originating from Myanmar in a refugee-like situation. The Government of Bangladesh estimates the population to be between 300,000 and 500,000.

**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** The figure for stateless persons is based on an official survey released in May 2013 by the National Bureau for Statistics and refers to the estimated number of individuals resident in the country who belong to the first generation born on Dominican territory to Haitian migrant parents. No population data is currently available on subsequent generations born in the Dominican Republic.

**15** Figure for asylum-seekers refers to mid-2013 in the absence of updated information available.

**16** Refugee figures in Germany were reduced due to an alignment of the definitions used to count refugees. As a result, only those with a particular protection status are now included in the statistics reported by UNHCR. Persons potentially of concern to UNHCR but who cannot be identified as such based on the nature of their recorded status are no longer taken into account for statistical purposes. This figure is consistent with the one used by the Government of Germany when responding to Parliament regarding queries over the number of refugees and persons benefiting from protection status in Germany.

**17** All figures refer to mid-2013 in the absence of updated information available.

**18** Figures are UNHCR estimates.

**19** Refugee figure for Iraqis in Jordan is a Government estimate. UNHCR has registered and is assisting 20,300 Iraqis at the end of 2013.

**20** IDP figure in Myanmar includes 35,000 people who are in an IDP-like situation.

**21** Various studies estimate that a large number of individuals lack citizenship certificates in Nepal. While these individuals are not all necessarily stateless, UNHCR has been working closely with the Government of Nepal and partners to address this situation.

**22** Data for asylum-seekers refers to the end of 2011 (no updated information available).

**23** Asylum-seekers (pending cases) refers to an estimated 86,600 undecided cases at first instance at the end of 2013 and 145,400 undecided cases on appeal at the end of 2012.

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

**25** The statistics of the remaining IDPs at the end of 2013, while provided by the Government authorities at the district level, are being reviewed by the central authorities. Once this review has been concluded, the statistics will be changed accordingly.

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

**27** Refugee figure for Iraqis in the Syrian Arab Republic is a Government estimate. UNHCR has registered and is assisting 28,300 Iraqis at the end of 2013.

**28** The reported figure for persons in a refugee-like situation refers to 57,500 unregistered persons originating from Myanmar living in the refugee camps.

**29** Refugee figure for Syrians in Turkey is a Government estimate.

**30** The refugee figure for the United States of America is currently under review, which may lead to an adjustment in future reports.

**Source:** UNHCR/Governments.



**TABLE 2** Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by origin | end-2013

Origin <sup>1</sup>	REFUGEES					Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Various <sup>9</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee-like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>						
Afghanistan	2,556,556	-	2,556,556	2,451,906	75,294	39,666	631,286	21,830	-	275,817	3,600,449
Albania	10,084	-	10,084	6	9,765	-	-	-	-	1,013	20,862
Algeria	3,662	-	3,662	78	4,268	1	-	-	-	10	7,941
Andorra	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Angola	10,297	-	10,297	1,068	1,448	1,666	-	-	-	96,786	110,197
Antigua and Barbuda	49	-	49	-	29	-	-	-	-	-	78
Argentina	388	-	388	5	84	-	-	-	-	-	472
Armenia	12,021	-	12,021	77	5,368	-	-	-	-	11	17,400
Aruba	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Australia	28	-	28	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	40
Austria	10	-	10	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	19
Azerbaijan	10,813	-	10,813	1,677	3,622	-	609,029	-	-	1	623,465
Bahamas	210	-	210	-	27	-	-	-	-	-	237
Bahrain	275	-	275	1	91	-	-	-	-	7	373
Bangladesh	9,836	3	9,839	100	22,128	-	-	-	-	5	31,972
Barbados	67	-	67	-	48	-	-	-	-	-	115
Belarus	4,444	-	4,444	17	890	-	-	-	-	1	5,335
Belgium	78	-	78	-	31	-	-	-	-	-	109
Belize	40	-	40	-	55	-	-	-	-	-	95
Benin	305	-	305	2	517	-	-	-	-	-	822
Bermuda	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Bhutan	31,567	-	31,567	30,993	167	-	-	-	-	-	31,734
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	601	-	601	15	214	-	-	-	-	-	815
Bosnia and Herzegovina	26,777	34	26,811	3,545	4,148	130	84,500	18,949	-	55,235	189,773
Botswana	168	-	168	-	107	-	-	-	-	-	275
Brazil	986	-	986	3	569	-	-	-	-	-	1,555
Brunei Darussalam	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Bulgaria	1,880	-	1,880	14	178	-	-	-	-	1	2,059
Burkina Faso	1,684	4	1,688	12	942	-	-	-	-	-	2,630
Burundi	72,652	-	72,652	40,834	14,274	2,126	78,948	-	-	162,259	330,259
Cabo Verde	27	-	27	1	22	-	-	-	-	-	49
Cambodia	13,714	34	13,748	177	234	-	-	-	-	-	13,982
Cameroon	11,442	-	11,442	695	4,186	-	-	-	-	-	15,628
Canada	100	-	100	-	30	-	-	-	-	6	136
Cayman Islands	6	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Central African Rep.	249,042	3,823	252,865	211,925	7,475	1	894,421	-	-	-	1,154,762
Chad	15,241	33,403	48,644	17,120	3,857	387	19,791	-	-	-	72,679
Chile	596	-	596	7	70	-	-	-	-	-	666
China	195,137	-	195,137	304	24,782	-	-	-	-	-	219,919
- Hong Kong SAR, China	25	-	25	-	54	-	-	-	-	-	79
- Macao SAR, China	1	-	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	6
Colombia	108,035	288,600	396,635	91,223	16,734	17	5,368,138	-	-	-	5,781,524
Comoros	515	-	515	1	327	-	-	-	-	-	842
Congo, Republic of	11,751	-	11,751	1,417	3,302	29	-	-	-	-	15,082
Cook Islands	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Costa Rica	462	-	462	-	461	-	-	-	-	-	923
Côte d'Ivoire	85,726	3	85,729	73,846	11,727	20,028	24,000	21,000	-	-	162,484
Croatia <sup>10</sup>	49,760	-	49,760	6,240	976	503	-	-	-	16,892	68,131
Cuba	6,428	1,000	7,428	1,163	1,127	-	-	-	-	-	8,555
Curaçao	35	-	35	-	59	-	-	-	-	-	94
Cyprus <sup>11</sup>	10	-	10	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	12
Czech Rep.	991	-	991	-	118	-	-	-	-	-	1,109
Dem. People's Rep. of Korea	1,166	-	1,166	76	952	-	-	-	-	-	2,118

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**TABLE 2** Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by origin | end-2013 (ctnd)

Origin <sup>1</sup>	REFUGEES					Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Various <sup>9</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee-like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>						
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	499,333	208	499,541	442,050	64,043	68,428	2,963,799	595,200	-	87	4,191,098
Denmark	10	-	10	-	7	-	-	-	-	1	18
Djibouti	762	-	762	82	406	-	-	-	-	1	1,169
Dominica	43	-	43	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	62
Dominican Rep.	306	-	306	14	850	-	-	-	-	-	1,156
Ecuador	707	-	707	18	2,343	1	-	-	-	-	3,051
Egypt	12,834	-	12,834	198	9,438	-	-	-	-	19	22,291
El Salvador	9,638	-	9,638	321	11,281	-	-	-	-	-	20,919
Equatorial Guinea	200	-	200	21	75	-	-	-	-	-	275
Eritrea	273,034	34,988	308,022	178,521	30,038	-	-	-	-	69	338,129
Estonia	352	-	352	1	27	-	-	-	-	-	379
Ethiopia	77,118	-	77,118	44,028	48,661	29	-	-	-	3,242	129,050
Faeroe Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fiji	1,112	-	1,112	2	460	-	-	-	-	-	1,572
Finland	8	-	8	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	13
France	98	-	98	-	55	-	-	-	-	1	154
French Guiana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
French Polynesia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gabon	177	-	177	3	106	-	-	-	-	-	283
Gambia	3,434	-	3,434	24	3,826	-	-	-	-	-	7,260
Georgia	6,772	-	6,772	837	11,571	1	257,611	-	-	-	275,955
Germany	175	-	175	2	79	-	-	-	-	2	256
Ghana	21,376	2	21,378	9,312	5,583	3	-	-	-	-	26,964
Gibraltar	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Greece	92	-	92	-	106	-	-	-	-	-	198
Grenada	330	-	330	-	42	-	-	-	-	-	372
Guatemala	6,615	-	6,615	93	8,442	-	-	-	-	-	15,057
Guinea	14,594	-	14,594	176	11,631	3	-	-	-	-	26,228
Guinea-Bissau	1,236	-	1,236	10	1,213	-	-	-	-	-	2,449
Guyana	800	-	800	-	140	-	-	-	-	-	940
Haiti	38,660	-	38,660	866	5,172	-	-	-	-	12,318	56,150
Holy See (the)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Honduras	3,301	-	3,301	155	5,293	-	-	-	-	-	8,594
Hungary	1,220	-	1,220	2	1,960	-	-	-	-	3	3,183
Iceland	2	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	5
India	11,042	-	11,042	18	11,879	-	-	-	-	411	23,332
Indonesia	9,640	5,146	14,786	711	1,129	-	-	-	-	1	15,916
Iran, Islamic Rep. of	75,043	-	75,043	12,307	28,803	1	-	-	-	28	103,875
Iraq <sup>12</sup>	401,417	-	401,417	125,007	43,142	60,881	954,128	63,270	-	17	1,522,855
Ireland	9	-	9	-	37	-	-	-	-	-	46
Israel	1,043	-	1,043	16	299	-	-	-	-	-	1,342
Italy	66	-	66	-	79	-	-	-	-	-	145
Jamaica	1,503	-	1,503	10	639	-	-	-	-	-	2,142
Japan	157	-	157	-	53	-	-	-	-	-	210
Jordan	1,632	-	1,632	82	944	-	-	-	-	74	2,650
Kazakhstan	2,136	-	2,136	12	1,143	-	-	-	-	-	3,279
Kenya	8,589	-	8,589	4,127	2,156	-	-	-	-	-	10,745
Kiribati	20	-	20	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	22
Kuwait	977	-	977	43	190	-	-	-	-	-	1,167
Kyrgyzstan	2,311	-	2,311	297	1,287	-	-	-	-	-	3,598
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	7,744	1	7,745	3	50	-	-	-	-	-	7,795
Latvia	233	-	233	2	75	-	-	-	-	-	308
Lebanon	3,824	-	3,824	83	2,741	-	-	-	-	-	6,565

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**TABLE 2** Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by origin | end-2013 (ctnd)

Origin <sup>1</sup>	REFUGEES					Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Various <sup>9</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee-like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>						
Lesotho	15	-	15	-	681	-	-	-	-	-	696
Liberia	17,549	27	17,576	11,458	1,991	84	-	-	-	213	19,864
Libya	3,322	-	3,322	25	2,091	-	53,579	5,350	-	3	64,345
Liechtenstein	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lithuania	220	-	220	2	81	-	-	-	-	-	301
Luxembourg	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Madagascar	296	-	296	-	172	-	-	-	-	2	470
Malawi	326	-	326	5	4,254	-	-	-	-	-	4,580
Malaysia	485	-	485	-	283	-	-	-	-	-	768
Maldives	31	-	31	5	25	-	-	-	-	1	57
Mali	152,864	-	152,864	144,224	6,541	14,281	254,822	42,253	-	-	470,761
Malta	6	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Marshall Islands	3	-	3	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	8
Martinique	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mauritania	34,257	-	34,257	26,693	3,860	-	-	-	-	1	38,118
Mauritius	81	-	81	-	125	-	-	-	-	-	206
Mexico	9,396	-	9,396	15	12,267	-	-	-	-	-	21,663
Micronesia (Federated States of)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Monaco	3	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4
Mongolia	2,064	-	2,064	7	1,276	-	-	-	-	-	3,340
Montenegro	597	-	597	3	580	-	-	-	-	10	1,187
Montserrat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Morocco	1,318	-	1,318	31	2,874	-	-	-	-	15	4,207
Mozambique	56	-	56	5	1,433	-	-	-	-	-	1,489
Myanmar <sup>13</sup>	222,055	257,553	479,608	218,178	45,038	3,009	372,000	27,383	-	216	927,254
Namibia	1,142	-	1,142	978	288	28	-	-	-	-	1,458
Nauru	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nepal	8,110	2	8,112	34	3,792	-	-	-	-	-	11,904
Netherlands	64	-	64	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	94
New Caledonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Zealand	17	-	17	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	25
Nicaragua	1,538	-	1,538	668	515	-	-	-	-	-	2,053
Niger	733	-	733	10	432	-	-	-	-	35,166	36,331
Nigeria	25,953	5,711	31,664	16,593	22,322	17	-	-	-	-	54,003
Niue	14	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Norway	13	-	13	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	18
Oman	26	-	26	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	31
Pakistan	32,074	16,793	48,867	17,898	46,517	4	747,498	90,637	-	1	933,524
Palau	1	-	1	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	7
Palestinian <sup>14</sup>	96,044	-	96,044	16,730	3,348	5	-	-	-	3,360	102,757
Panama	105	-	105	20	28	-	-	-	-	-	133
Papua New Guinea	221	-	221	-	149	-	-	-	-	-	370
Paraguay	95	-	95	7	30	-	-	-	-	-	125
Peru	4,765	-	4,765	409	704	-	-	-	-	-	5,469
Philippines	719	7	726	18	889	-	117,369	211,607	-	80,030	410,621
Pitcairn	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poland	1,429	-	1,429	6	279	-	-	-	-	1	1,709
Portugal	32	-	32	7	44	-	-	-	-	-	76
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Qatar	17	-	17	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	22
Rep. of Korea	500	-	500	-	216	-	-	-	-	-	716
Rep. of Moldova	2,207	-	2,207	15	878	-	-	-	-	-	3,085
Romania	2,329	-	2,329	70	1,156	-	-	-	-	1	3,486

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**TABLE 2** Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by origin | end-2013 (ctnd)

Origin <sup>1</sup>	REFUGEES					Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Various <sup>9</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee-like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>						
Russian Federation	74,357	-	74,357	1,121	25,961	-	-	-	-	9,595	109,913
Rwanda	83,937	-	83,937	41,940	8,481	7,803	-	-	-	3,992	104,213
Saint Kitts and Nevis	15	-	15	-	26	-	-	-	-	-	41
Saint Lucia	710	-	710	-	260	-	-	-	-	-	970
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	1,535	-	1,535	-	226	-	-	-	-	-	1,761
Samoa	1	-	1	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	10
San Marino	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sao Tome and Principe	31	-	31	31	2	-	-	-	-	-	33
Saudi Arabia	584	-	584	23	212	-	-	-	-	10	806
Senegal	19,884	-	19,884	17,489	4,641	-	-	-	-	-	24,525
Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999))	48,404	289	48,693	8,386	22,637	168	227,495	780	-	4,196	303,969
Seychelles	26	-	26	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	31
Sierra Leone	5,320	-	5,320	939	2,413	-	-	-	-	1,540	9,273
Singapore	65	-	65	-	34	-	-	-	-	-	99
Slovakia	323	-	323	-	397	-	-	-	-	-	720
Slovenia	28	-	28	-	14	-	-	-	-	2	44
Solomon Islands	61	-	61	7	11	-	-	-	-	-	72
Somalia	1,121,738	-	1,121,738	1,004,514	35,472	36,100	1,133,000	104,706	-	1,055	2,432,071
South Africa	423	-	423	6	362	-	-	-	-	-	785
South Sudan <sup>15</sup>	114,370	97	114,467	114,348	30,698	394	331,097	-	-	-	476,656
Spain	56	-	56	4	75	-	-	-	-	-	131
Sri Lanka <sup>16</sup>	123,087	1	123,088	2,400	16,158	920	42,191	40,691	-	7	223,055
Sudan <sup>17</sup>	636,405	12,926	649,331	606,455	28,705	16,954	1,873,300	19,471	-	1	2,587,762
Suriname	17	-	17	-	21	-	-	-	-	-	38
Swaziland	109	-	109	2	145	-	-	-	-	1	255
Sweden	17	-	17	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	26
Switzerland	15	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Syrian Arab Rep.	2,457,278	11,091	2,468,369	2,393,384	41,038	140,761	6,520,800	-	-	9,400	9,180,368
Tajikistan	661	-	661	54	604	-	-	-	-	-	1,265
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	1,633	-	1,633	5	6,691	-	-	-	-	7	8,331
Thailand	217	5	222	8	174	-	-	-	-	-	396
Tibetan	15,065	-	15,065	-	7	-	-	-	-	14	15,086
Timor-Leste	10	-	10	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	19
Togo	10,346	1	10,347	3,578	1,527	112	-	-	-	-	11,986
Tonga	18	-	18	-	63	-	-	-	-	-	81
Trinidad and Tobago	336	-	336	-	128	-	-	-	-	-	464
Tunisia	1,371	-	1,371	34	1,791	3	-	-	-	5	3,170
Turkey	66,607	-	66,607	15,550	10,556	-	-	-	-	10	77,173
Turkmenistan	517	-	517	15	323	-	-	-	-	-	840
Turks and Caicos Islands	15	-	15	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	20
Tuvalu	2	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	4
Uganda	8,177	-	8,177	3,755	3,587	4	-	-	-	50,000	61,768
Ukraine	5,172	-	5,172	32	1,634	-	-	-	-	6	6,812
United Arab Emirates	90	-	90	5	46	-	-	-	-	1	137
United Kingdom	142	-	142	2	70	-	-	-	-	-	212
United Rep. of Tanzania	1,040	-	1,040	112	1,011	-	-	-	-	-	2,051
United States <sup>18</sup>	4,761	-	4,761	15	298	-	-	-	-	8	5,067
Uruguay	146	-	146	7	24	-	-	-	-	-	170
U.S. Virgin Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Uzbekistan	4,965	-	4,965	354	1,786	-	-	-	-	1	6,752
Vanuatu	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

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**TABLE 2** Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by origin | end-2013 (ctnd)

Origin <sup>1</sup>	REFUGEES					Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Various <sup>9</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee-like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>						
Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	8,395	-	8,395	263	1,153	-	-	-	-	-	9,548
Viet Nam <sup>19</sup>	314,104	1	314,105	207	2,002	-	-	-	-	68	316,175
Western Sahara <sup>20</sup>	90,504	26,000	116,504	90,243	411	-	-	-	-	-	116,915
Yemen	2,428	-	2,428	441	1,881	4	306,614	93,055	-	6	403,988
Zambia	232	-	232	5	292	-	-	-	-	-	524
Zimbabwe	19,681	-	19,681	1,281	43,422	2	60,139	-	-	97	123,341
Stateless	20,223	-	20,223	385	5,654	-	-	-	3,469,250	-	3,495,127
Various	107,691	1,564	109,255	3,931	165,065	-	-	-	-	12,740	287,060
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,003,862</b>	<b>699,317</b>	<b>11,703,179</b>	<b>8,519,364</b>	<b>1,171,762</b>	<b>414,554</b>	<b>23,925,555</b>	<b>1,356,182</b>	<b>3,469,250</b>	<b>836,100</b>	<b>42,876,582</b>

UNHCR-BUREAUX											
- Central Africa-Great Lakes	929,605	4,031	933,636	739,028	102,955	78,387	3,937,168	595,200	-	166,338	5,813,684
- East and Horn of Africa	2,255,434	81,414	2,336,848	1,972,950	183,580	53,868	3,357,188	124,177	-	54,368	6,110,029
- Southern Africa	33,367	-	33,367	3,351	53,061	1,696	60,139	-	-	96,886	245,149
- Western Africa	361,031	5,748	366,779	277,674	75,328	34,528	278,822	63,253	-	36,919	855,629
<b>Total Africa</b>	<b>3,579,437</b>	<b>91,193</b>	<b>3,670,630</b>	<b>2,993,003</b>	<b>414,924</b>	<b>168,479</b>	<b>7,633,317</b>	<b>782,630</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>354,511</b>	<b>13,024,491</b>
Asia and Pacific	3,642,305	279,546	3,921,851	2,736,079	287,820	43,600	1,910,344	392,148	-	356,600	6,912,363
Middle East and North Africa	3,112,903	37,091	3,149,994	2,653,120	118,675	201,655	7,835,121	161,675	-	12,928	11,480,048
Europe	329,568	323	329,891	37,561	110,210	802	1,178,635	19,729	-	86,989	1,726,256
Americas	211,735	289,600	501,335	95,285	69,414	18	5,368,138	-	-	12,332	5,951,237
Various/Stateless	127,914	1,564	129,478	4,316	170,719	-	-	-	3,469,250	12,740	3,782,187
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,003,862</b>	<b>699,317</b>	<b>11,703,179</b>	<b>8,519,364</b>	<b>1,171,762</b>	<b>414,554</b>	<b>23,925,555</b>	<b>1,356,182</b>	<b>3,469,250</b>	<b>836,100</b>	<b>42,876,582</b>

UN MAJOR REGIONS											
Africa	3,726,705	117,193	3,843,898	3,110,305	439,657	168,483	7,686,896	787,980	-	354,564	13,281,478
Asia	6,702,663	290,637	6,993,300	5,290,039	412,154	245,252	10,558,526	548,473	-	369,497	19,127,202
Europe	233,345	323	233,668	19,416	79,091	801	311,995	19,729	-	86,967	732,251
Latin America and the Caribbean	206,874	289,600	496,474	95,270	69,085	18	5,368,138	-	-	12,318	5,946,033
Northern America	4,861	-	4,861	15	329	-	-	-	-	14	5,204
Oceania	1,500	-	1,500	3	727	-	-	-	-	-	2,227
Various/Stateless	127,914	1,564	129,478	4,316	170,719	-	-	-	3,469,250	12,740	3,782,187
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,003,862</b>	<b>699,317</b>	<b>11,703,179</b>	<b>8,519,364</b>	<b>1,171,762</b>	<b>414,554</b>	<b>23,925,555</b>	<b>1,356,182</b>	<b>3,469,250</b>	<b>836,100</b>	<b>42,876,582</b>

See notes on page 50.



## Notes

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 many 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.

**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.

**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 has recommended on 4 April 2014 to start the process of cessation of refugee status for refugees from Croatia displaced during the 1991-95 conflict. The Office suggests that cessation enters into effect latest by the end of 2017.

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

**12** Refugee figures for Iraqis in Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic are Government estimates. UNHCR has registered and is assisting 48,600 Iraqis in both countries at year-end.

**13** IDP figure in Myanmar includes 35,000 people who are in an IDP-like situation.

**14** Refers to Palestinian refugees under the UNHCR mandate only.

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

**16** The statistics of the remaining IDPs at the end of 2013, while provided by the Government authorities at the district level, are being reviewed by the central authorities. Once this review has been concluded, the statistics will be changed accordingly.

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

**18** 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.

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

**20** 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:** Internally displaced people camp at the military airport on the outskirts  
of Bangui, Central African Republic.

LAIF / J. GRARUP

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