



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

MID-YEAR TRENDS 2017





IRAQ. PEOPLE FLEEING FIGHTING IN THE OLD CITY OF MOSUL.

A mother sprinkles water on her young child while fighting continues unabated in Mosul in June 2017. Of the more than 875,000 people who fled Mosul since October 2016, nearly 700,000 were from the western part of the city. Over 679,000 people remain displaced, the majority residing in camps near the Mosul. © UNHCR/CENGİZ YAR

Introduction

During the first half of 2017, there was a sustained increase in the number of people who were forcibly displaced. While the Syrian conflict continued to displace many, most new displacements were due to conflicts in sub-Saharan Africa. It should be noted that the impact of the large influx of refugees from Myanmar to Bangladesh is not reflected in the data in this report since it mostly occurred in the second half of 2017. Therefore, numbers are expected to rise significantly by the end of the year.

This report analyses displacement trends in the first half of 2017, based on statistics collected by governments and UNHCR, supplemented by data from non-governmental organizations where required. Unless otherwise specified, data are limited to events occurring up to 30 June 2017. The statistics included in this report should be considered provisional and subject to change, especially with regard to asylum trends.

Between January and June 2017, at least 1.9 million people were newly displaced outside their own borders as refugees and asylum-seekers, and

4.6 million people were newly displaced within their own countries as internally displaced people (IDPs), leading to a total of at least 6.5 million new displacements. This is more than double the number of new displacements estimated in the first half of 2016, when there were 3.2 million. As mentioned above, this figure does not yet include the new displacements from and within Myanmar, which happened mainly in the second half of the year. ■



PAKISTAN. A SCHOOL FOR GIRLS IN AN AFGHAN REFUGEE VILLAGE.

Young Afghan refugee girls do their daily class work at the Community Girls School in Kot Chandana village in the province Punjab in Pakistan. The winner of UNHCR's 2015 Nansen Refugee Award, Aqeela Asifi, has been running the school since 1992.

Refugees

The number of refugees under UNHCR's mandate continued its upward trend in the first half of 2017, surpassing the 18 million mark and reaching 18.5 million refugees for the first time. Between January and June 2017, the world refugee population¹ increased by 1.3 million, or 7 per cent, as compared with the 2016 year-end total.

The ongoing crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic (Syria) accounted for a significant proportion of the mid-2017 refugee population but also continued to contribute a significant proportion of newly displaced refugees. Almost one third of the total increase in refugees in the first half of the year was due to an increase in Syrian refugees bringing the number to a total just shy of 6 million, with most of the increase in Turkey. In addition, the continuing civil war in South Sudan caused the new displacement of over half a million South Sudanese refugees, mostly to Uganda and Sudan, in the first half of 2017. Other countries where armed conflict and human rights abuses led

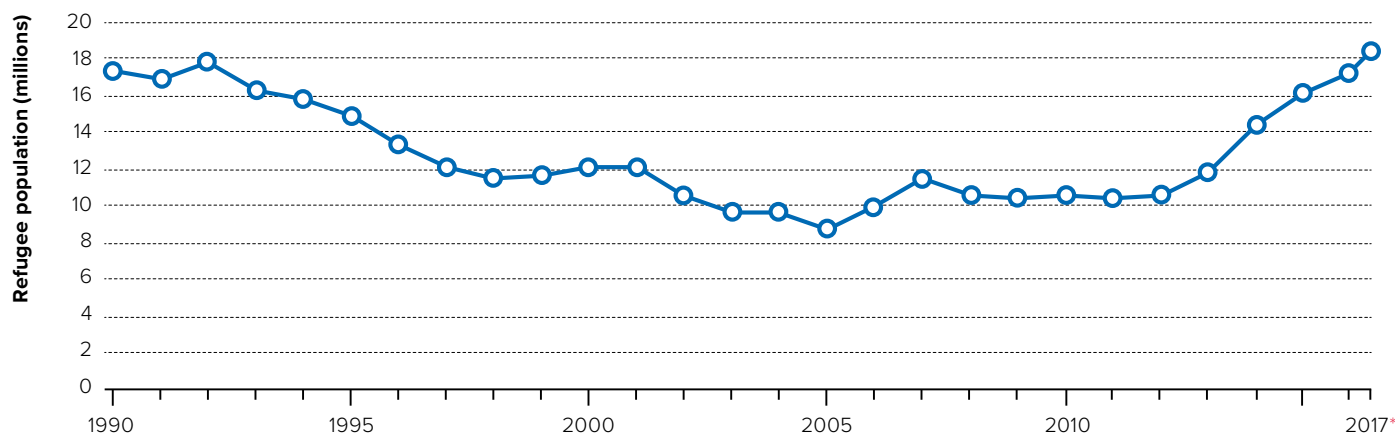
to significant increases in new refugees were Afghanistan, Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Iraq, Myanmar and Somalia, [Map 1].

Meanwhile, partially offsetting these increases were the refugees who returned to their countries of origin in the first half of 2017. Among the most noteworthy were returns of refugees to Afghanistan, Burundi, Central African Republic, Nigeria and Somalia.

¹ For the purposes of this report, unless otherwise stated, the term 'refugees' refers to refugees under UNHCR's mandate and does not include Palestinian refugees registered with UNRWA.

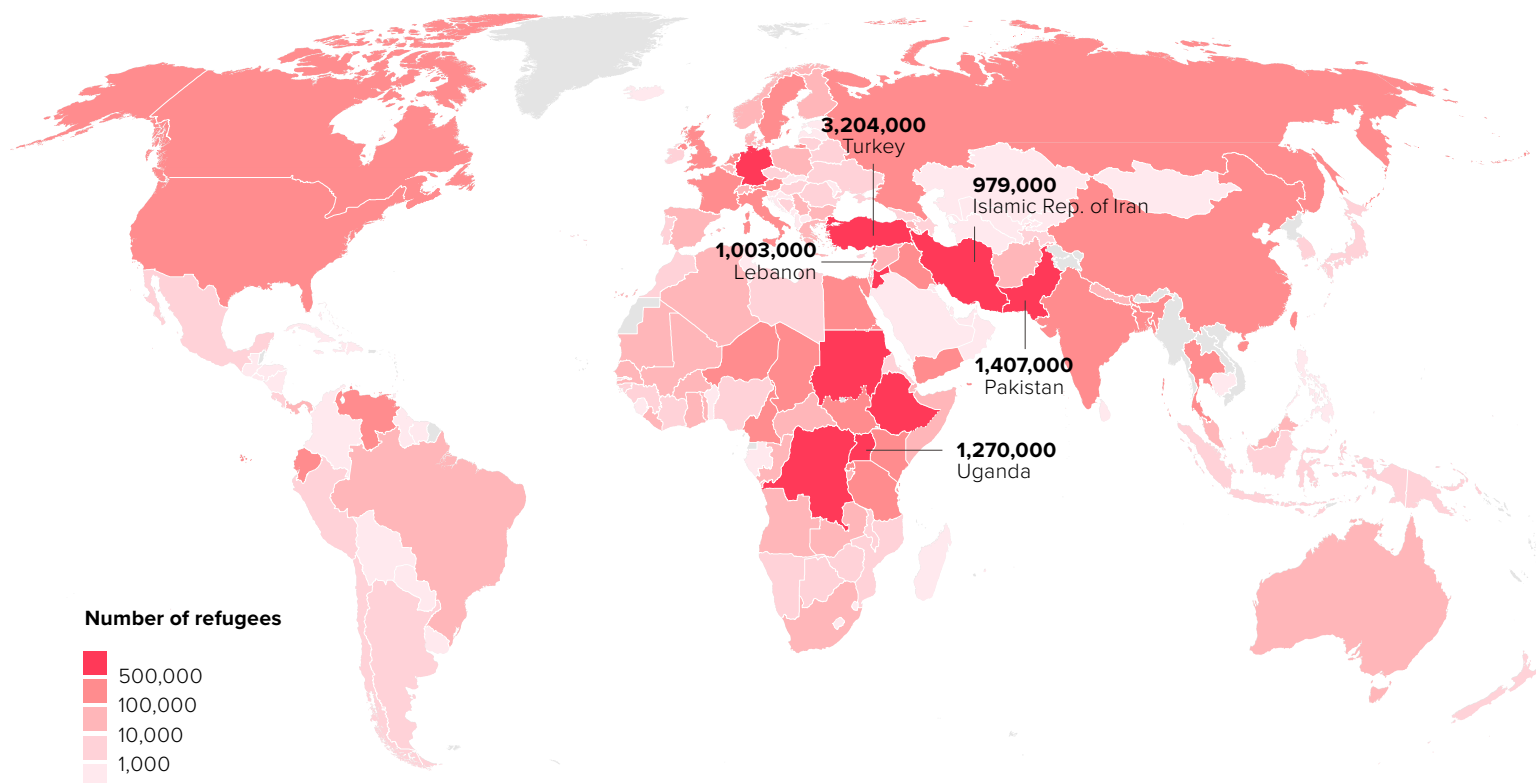
Fig. 1 Refugee population under UNHCR's mandate | 1990-2017*

* 1990-2016 (end-year); 2017 (mid-year)



Map 1 Refugees, including persons in a refugee-like situation | mid-2017

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



As a result of these trends, Turkey alone hosted 3.2 million refugees and the rest of Europe about 2.5 million. Sub-Saharan Africa hosted 5.7 million refugees with 3.8 million in East Africa, followed by Asia and Pacific (3.6 million) and the Middle East and North Africa (2.7 million). Additionally, the Americas hosted 705,000 refugees at mid-2017 [Table 1].

BY ORIGIN

Almost 6 million refugees originated from Syria, which remained the largest source country of refugees at mid-2017 and accounted for almost one third of the world’s total refugee population [Figure 2]. Compared with the end of 2016, Syrian

Table 1 Refugee populations by UNHCR regions | 2017

UNHCR regions	Start-2017			Mid-2017			Change (total)	
	Refugees	People in refugee-like situations	Total refugees	Refugees	People in refugee-like situations	Total refugees	Absolute	%
- Central Africa and Great Lakes	1,355,200	26,700	1,381,900	1,345,600	94,100	1,439,700	57,800	4.2%
- East and Horn of Africa	3,290,400	-	3,290,400	3,792,800	-	3,792,800	502,400	15.3%
- Southern Africa	162,100	-	162,100	196,300	-	196,300	34,200	21.1%
- West Africa	300,600	-	300,600	293,200	-	293,200	-7,400	-2.5%
Total Africa*	5,108,300	26,700	5,135,100	5,627,900	94,100	5,721,900	586,800	11.4%
Americas	471,200	221,500	692,700	483,400	221,200	704,600	11,900	1.7%
Asia and Pacific	3,177,800	300,000	3,477,800	3,264,700	329,700	3,594,400	116,600	3.4%
Europe	5,152,700	47,300	5,200,000	5,706,800	36,500	5,743,300	543,300	10.4%
thereof: Turkey	2,869,400	-	2,869,400	3,203,800	-	3,203,800	334,400	11.7%
Middle East and North Africa	2,623,500	56,000	2,679,600	2,648,300	61,400	2,709,600	30,000	1.1%
Total	16,533,600	651,600	17,185,200	17,731,100	742,700	18,473,900	1,288,700	7.5%

* Note: Excluding North Africa.

refugees increased by 8 per cent by mid-year. The vast majority of newly displaced Syrians were registered in Turkey (336,500), bringing the total hosted in that country to close to 3.2 million. Additionally, 72,600 Syrians were granted asylum in Germany during the first six months of the year with a total of 458,900 Syrian refugees in Germany at mid-2017, almost double the number as compared with mid-2016. A very large number of Syrian refugees remained living in Lebanon (995,800) and Jordan (654,600), even though in both of these countries the total number of departures through resettlement or return in the first half of 2017 was quite similar to that of new arrivals, leaving the overall refugee population size almost unchanged. A significant population of Syrian refugees was also present in Iraq (242,600) and Egypt (122,800).

In relative terms, by far the largest net increase was in the refugee population originating from South Sudan, which grew by 37 per cent, adding 520,900 new displacements to the total number of South Sudanese refugees. Most of the newly displaced South Sudanese (341,800) found protection in Uganda, bringing the total of South Sudanese refugees registered in that country to 981,200.² A sizable South Sudanese refugee population was also present in Sudan (407,000), Ethiopia (380,800) and Kenya (105,800).

The Afghan refugee population grew slightly to 2.6 million people by mid-2017, mainly due to natural increase. Most Afghan refugees continue to be hosted in Pakistan (1.4 million) and the Islamic Republic of Iran (950,400).

Somalia was the fourth-largest source country of refugees in the world. The number of Somali refugees declined slightly since the start of the year and dipped below the one million mark at 989,600. Kenya (289,600), Yemen (256,100) and Ethiopia (251,200) remained the main host countries of Somali refugees.

The number of Sudanese refugees increased slightly from 650,400 at the beginning of the year to 680,100

at mid-2017. The majority of refugees from Sudan were hosted in Chad (319,100) and South Sudan (253,500).

The other main countries from which significant numbers of refugees originated at mid-2017 included the Democratic Republic of the Congo (579,800), Myanmar (524,100), the Central African Republic (500,500), Eritrea (474,400) and Burundi (431,400). In Myanmar, 31,000 refugees were reported to have fled to Bangladesh in the first half of 2017. This figure does not include the estimated 600,000 additional Rohingya refugees who fled the country due to the violence in Rakhine state which erupted after 25 August 2017.³

BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM

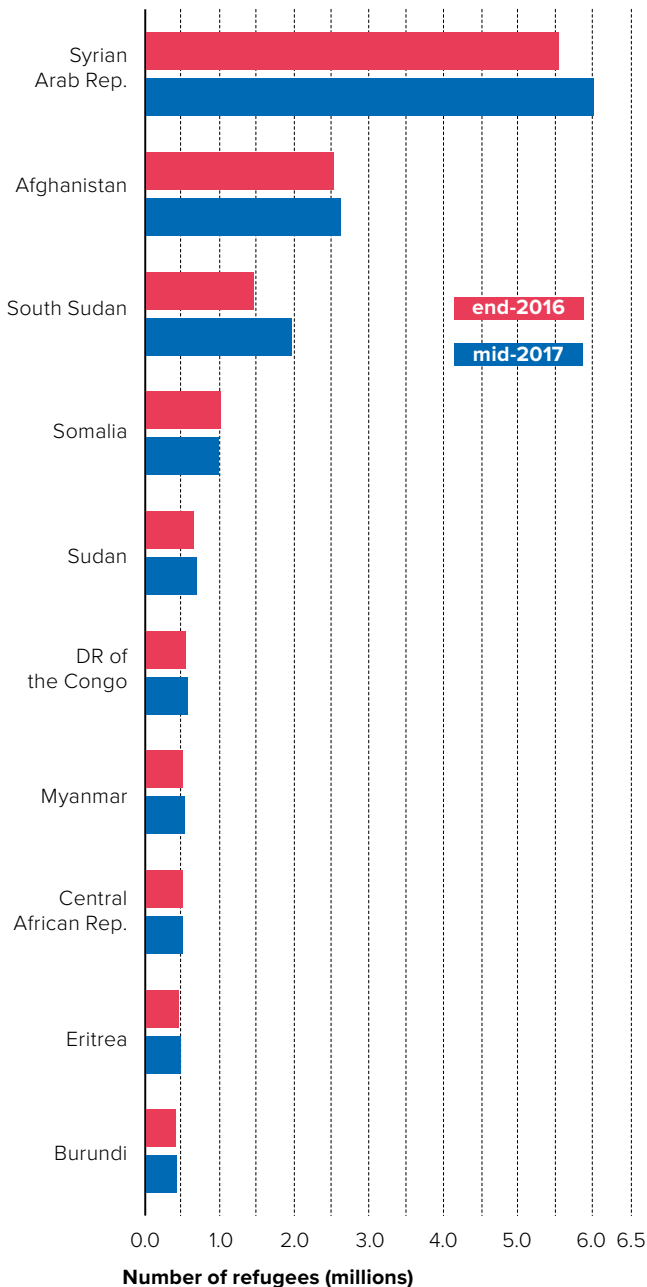
As of 30 June 2017, Turkey continued to host the world's largest number of refugees, with a registered refugee population increasing by 12 per cent, from 2.9 million at end-2016 to 3.2 million at mid-2017 [Figure 3]. Almost the sheer totality (98.5 per cent) of the refugee population in Turkey was comprised of Syrians, while a limited number of Iraqis (33,500) also found protection there. As indicated in the previous section, the influx of Syrian refugees into Turkey – which began in 2011 with the onset of the violence and civil war in Syria – continued in the first half of the year.

Pakistan hosted the second-largest number of refugees worldwide in mid-2017, with 1.4 million, almost all of whom originated from Afghanistan. This number rose slightly (4 per cent) in the first half of 2017 as compared the end of 2016, mainly due to new births, partially offset by 34,400 repatriating to Afghanistan.

² Based on estimates provided by the Government of Uganda

³ Provisional figure as of 31 December 2017 estimated from UNHCR ongoing family counting exercise. For more updated operational figures on the Myanmar situation and UNHCR refugee response in Bangladesh, see: http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/myanmar_refugees

Fig. 2 Major source countries of refugees I (end-2016 - mid-2017)



The largest percentage increase in the size of refugee population by country of asylum occurred in Uganda, where due to the group recognitions of newly arrived refugees from South Sudan (341,800), the number of refugees in the first half of 2017 rose by 35 per cent to almost 1.3 million.⁴ In addition to 981,200 South Sudanese, as of 30 June 2017 Uganda also hosted 206,800 refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Refugees from Burundi (34,400), Somalia (24,300) and Rwanda (13,900) were also hosted by Uganda.

Refugee populations have remained large in Lebanon and Jordan due to the ongoing Syrian crisis. However, as previously mentioned, the number of refugees registered with UNHCR in these countries was practically unchanged as compared the end of 2016, varying by about one percentage point only. The total number of refugees in Lebanon remained just slightly over 1 million, while in Jordan it was close to 700,000, nearly all from Syria. However, in addition to Syrians, these two countries also hosted 6,200 and 34,000 refugees from Iraq, respectively.

The number of refugees in the Islamic Republic of Iran was also stable at 978,700, with respect to the beginning of 2017. This figure included 950,400 Afghans and 28,300 Iraqis. As such, the Islamic Republic of Iran remained among the top five refugee-hosting country worldwide at mid-2017.

The sixth-largest refugee-hosting country as of 30 June 2017 was Germany whose refugee population grew by 29 per cent, reaching a total of 864,700 people. This was due to a high number of new positive decisions (196,800) granting protection to individuals who had already arrived in the country as asylum-seekers in previous years. Most of the decisions taken in the first half of 2017 granted protection to asylum-seekers from Syria (72,600), Afghanistan (40,700) and Iraq (30,600). Syrians made up the majority of refugees hosted by Germany

⁴ Based on estimates from the Government of Uganda

(458,900), followed by Iraqis (118,500), Afghans (82,200) and Eritreans (41,300).

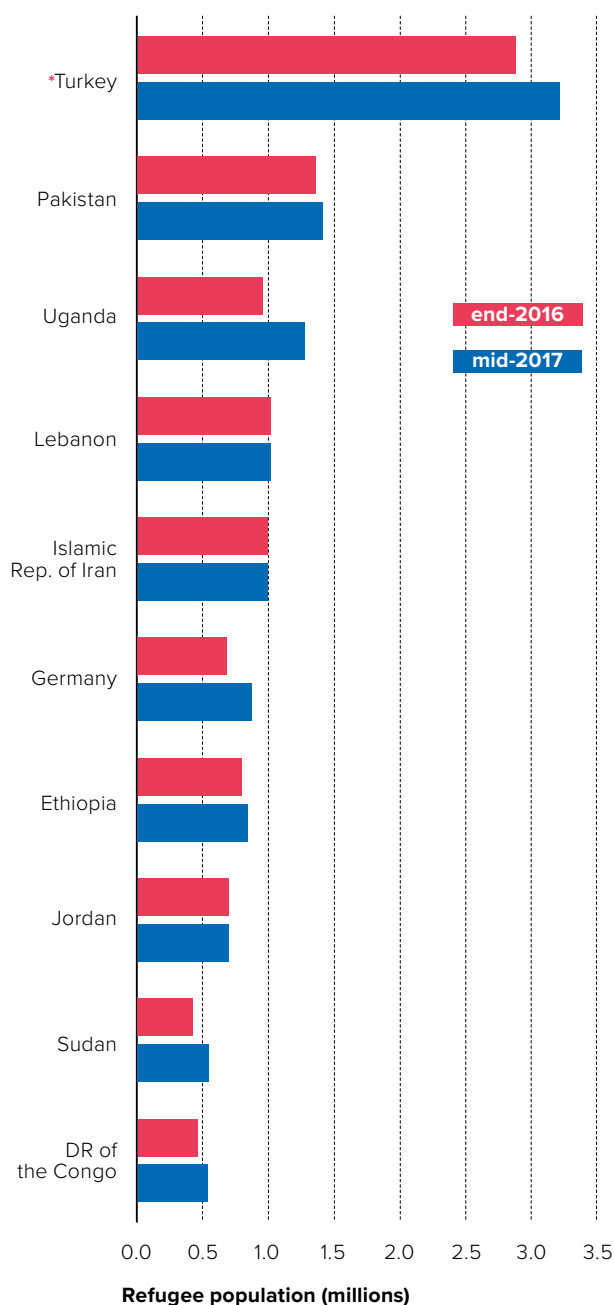
Germany marks the only exception in an ongoing pattern that shows developing nations hosting by far the largest share of the world's refugees. Germany was the only developed country appearing among the top 10 countries of asylum worldwide, and together with France (321,100) and the United States (279,400), one of just three high-income countries in the top 20 host countries. Among other developed nations, only Sweden (235,900), Italy (157,800), United Kingdom (121,300), Austria (104,400) and Canada (101,300) hosted refugee populations larger than 100,000. However, these numbers pale in comparison to the number of refugees hosted by some of the least developed countries, which already face huge structural impediments to sustainable development and lack sufficient resources and capacity to respond to the challenges posed by a large refugee population. Despite this, resettlement options that could help ease the burden of developing countries, while providing protection and durable solutions to the most vulnerable of refugees, also decreased in the first half of 2017.

The refugee population in Ethiopia grew by 6 per cent in the first half of 2017, reaching a total of 841,300 by mid-2017. Ethiopia provided asylum to refugees fleeing several conflicts in the region, but the largest number originated from South Sudan (380,800), from which it received an additional influx of 39,300 refugees between January and June 2017. The country also hosted significant numbers of refugees from Somalia (251,200), Eritrea (161,900) and Sudan (41,800).

The refugee population in Sudan increased by 28 per cent, reaching 538,800 by mid-year. This was mainly due to the worsening of the conflict in South Sudan, from which it received an additional 109,800 refugees, bringing the total hosted refugees from South Sudan to 407,000. Additionally, Sudan still

Fig. 3 Major refugee-hosting countries I (end-2016 - mid-2017)

* Syrian refugee figure is a Government estimate.





hosted a sizable population of Eritrean refugees (106,800).

Refugees in the Democratic Republic of the Congo also grew significantly (18 per cent), standing at 533,700 at mid-2017 due to new arrivals from the Central African Republic (60,300), South Sudan (14,100) and Burundi (7,300). In the country there were at the end of June a total of 245,100 refugees from Rwanda, 162,700 from the Central African Republic, and 80,800 from South Sudan.

Altogether, the top 10 refugee-hosting countries combined – which include four of the world's least-developed countries – hosted over 11.3 million refugees at mid-2017. That translates into 61 per cent of all refugees under UNHCR's mandate.

NEW REFUGEE ARRIVALS

More than 1.1 million people fled their homes to another country during the first half of 2017, the overwhelming majority of whom sought protection in neighbouring countries or elsewhere in their immediate region [Figure 4].

**BANGLADESH. REFUGEES FROM MYANMAR CROSS NAF RIVER.**

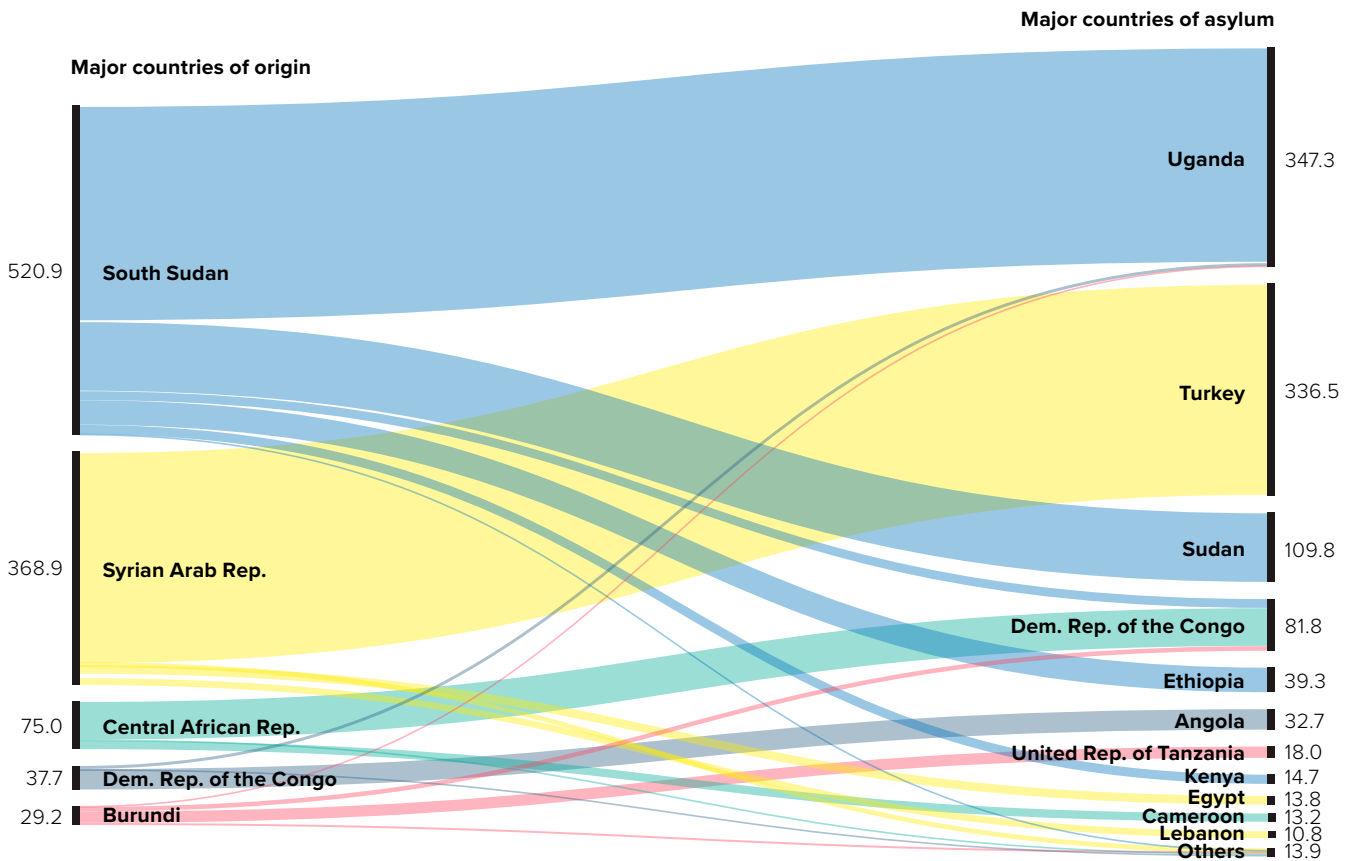
After being forced from their homes by violence and persecution, refugees from Myanmar built makeshift rafts with bamboo and jerry cans and crossed into Myanmar to seek safety. With an estimated 600,000 refugees fleeing to Bangladesh from late August to December 2017, UNHCR and partners redoubled their efforts to provide emergency assistance, including shelter, in and around camps near Cox's Bazar.

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Fig. 4 Major Refugee Influxes during first half of 2017

(No. of refugees in thousands)

More than 1.1 million people fled their homes to another country during the first half of 2017, the overwhelming majority of whom sought protection in neighbouring countries or elsewhere in their immediate region



This number is more than double the amount of arrivals in the same period of 2016, and reverses the downward trend in the number of new refugee arrivals that had begun after the especially high year of 2014. In the first six months of 2017, 737,800 refugees were registered as a result of group recognition, as well as 373,700 who were granted some temporary form of protection. An additional 380,600 persons were granted refugee status following an individual refugee status determination procedure during the reporting period (see *Asylum-seekers chapter*).

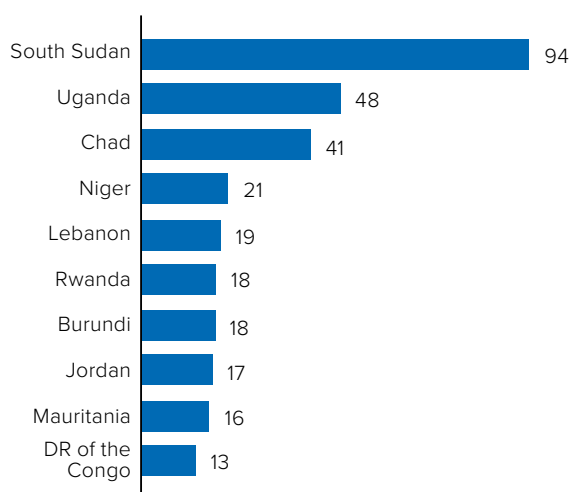
The armed conflict in South Sudan was the main cause of refugee displacement in the first half of 2017, with 520,900 new refugees fleeing throughout the region, and being granted protection in the neighbouring countries of Uganda (341,800), Sudan (109,800), Ethiopia (39,300), Kenya (14,700), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (14,100) and the Central African Republic (1,200).

The conflict in Syria also continued to cause people to flee their country, with 368,900 newly displaced Syrians receiving protection in the neighbouring countries of Turkey (336,500), Lebanon (10,800) and Jordan (7,200). An additional 13,800 Syrians were granted protection in Egypt.

The civil war in the Central African Republic has continued to displace refugees to the neighbouring countries, with 60,300 people registered as refugees in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as Cameroon (13,200) and Chad (1,400).

The majority of the rest of the new displacements were due to armed conflict and human rights abuses in Central and Eastern Africa – most notably in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Somalia and Sudan, as well as Central African Republic and South Sudan. A total of 32,700 newly arrived refugees from the Democratic Republic of the

Fig. 5 Number of refugees per one million US dollars GDP | mid-2017



Congo found protection in Angola, while 18,000 newly arrived Burundians were recognized in the United Republic of Tanzania (Tanzania). Additionally, 14,700 Eritreans fled to Ethiopia and were registered as refugees. In Asia, the arrival in the first half of the year of 31,000 Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh from Myanmar was particularly noteworthy, with operational data showing greatly increased arrivals in the second half of the year, as well as 29,000 Pakistani refugees in Afghanistan.

CONTRIBUTIONS OF HOST COUNTRIES

In order to evaluate the contributions of host countries with respect to sharing the responsibility of hosting refugees, two main indicators – one economic and the other non-economic – can be used as proxies.

The economic indicator allows the number of refugees to be compared to the overall size of a country's economy, measured by the Gross Domestic Product.⁵ Comparing the overall size of a host country's economy to the size of its refugee population can be used as a proxy of the economic burden that the refugee population is placing on the locally available resources. Based on this indicator, eight of the top 10 countries with the greatest number of refugees relative to economy size are in sub-Saharan Africa, and all of them are least-developed countries, highlighting the contribution

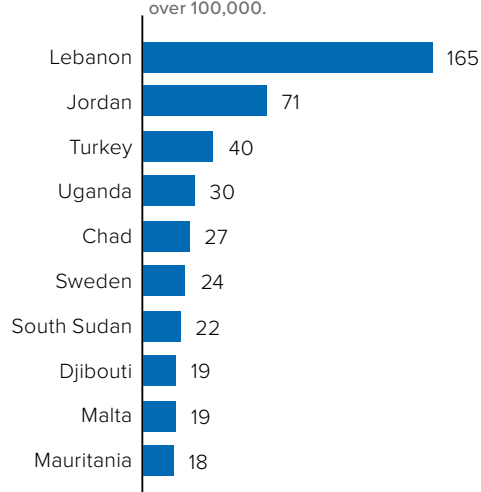
⁵ Gross Domestic Product data in US dollars at current prices are taken from International Monetary Fund country estimates for 2017, published in the *World Economic Outlook, October 2017*. See: <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2017/02/weodata/index.aspx>

⁶ See: http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/cdp/ldc/ldc_list.pdf for a list of least-developed countries.

⁷ See: <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49regin.htm#ftnc> for a list of countries included under each region.

Fig. 6 Number of refugees per 1,000 inhabitants | mid-2017*

* Only considers countries with national populations over 100,000.



of countries with the fewest economic resources to hosting refugees.⁶ All of the top 10 countries are located in developing regions.⁷ The only non-African countries, Jordan and Lebanon, are middle-income countries but the large refugee populations which they hosted means that their size relative to economy was still high. Due to the relatively small size of its economy, South Sudan hosted by far the greatest number of refugees relative to economy size with 94 refugees per million dollars of GDP, followed by Uganda, which has recently experienced a large influx of refugees [Figure 5].

The picture changes slightly when using the non-economic indicator, which evaluates the number of refugees hosted by each country relative to its national population size.⁸ This is also an important measure as a high number of refugees as a percentage of the host population has social and demographic implications. Using this criterion, the impact of the Syrian crisis can clearly be seen on the middle-income countries of Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey – the three top countries under this metric. Based on this indicator, five of the top 10 refugee-hosting countries were in least-developed countries (all in Sub-Saharan Africa),⁹ three were in middle-income countries, while two were in high-income countries (Sweden and Malta) [Figure 6].¹⁰ ■

⁸ National population data are from United Nations, Population Division, *World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision*, New York, 2017. For the purpose of this analysis, the 2017 population projections have been used. See: <https://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/>

⁹ See: <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49regin.htm#ftnc> for a list of countries included under each region.

¹⁰ The Small Island Developing State of Nauru, with an estimated refugee population of 500 refugees on a host population of just 10,000 people, would result in one of the highest overall number of hosted refugees relative to its national population, but is excluded from this ranking due to its small size.



SERBIA. REFUGEES TRAPPED IN TRANSIT.

Hazrat, a 16-year old Afghan refugee, struggles to keep warm in freezing conditions in Belgrade. Some 1,200 homeless refugees are exposed to temperatures below minus 20 degrees Celsius. Among them are some 300 unaccompanied minors. While there were reports of mistreatment and refugees being pushed back from Serbia, some 7,000 refugees, or 85 per cent of those stranded in Belgrade, were provided with heated government shelters as of late January 2017.

Asylum-Seekers

In the first half of 2017 there were 920,500 individual asylum applications registered in 160 countries or territories. This is a decline from 2016, when just over 1 million individual asylum applications were registered. An estimated 11 per cent of these claims were registered at ‘second instance’, including those with courts and other appellate bodies. UNHCR offices registered 109,900 individual asylum applications out of the provisional total, around 12 per cent.

NEW INDIVIDUAL ASYLUM APPLICATIONS REGISTERED

A total of 824,400 new asylum applications were submitted in the first half of the year from individuals of at least 192 nationalities in 158 asylum countries or territories, a decline from the similar period last year when 964,200 new asylum claims were registered.

In contrast to the previous couple of years, the United States of America received the highest number of new asylum applications worldwide during the reporting period, with 174,900 new asylum applications.¹¹ This is an increase of some 56 per cent compared with applications received in the first half of 2016 (112,400) and a more than doubling those received in the first half of 2015 (78,200) [Figure 7].

About half of these claims are from Mexico and countries in Central America, a similar proportion to that seen in previous years. However, the number of applicants from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela increased significantly compared to the same period the previous year, more than doubling from 7,500 in

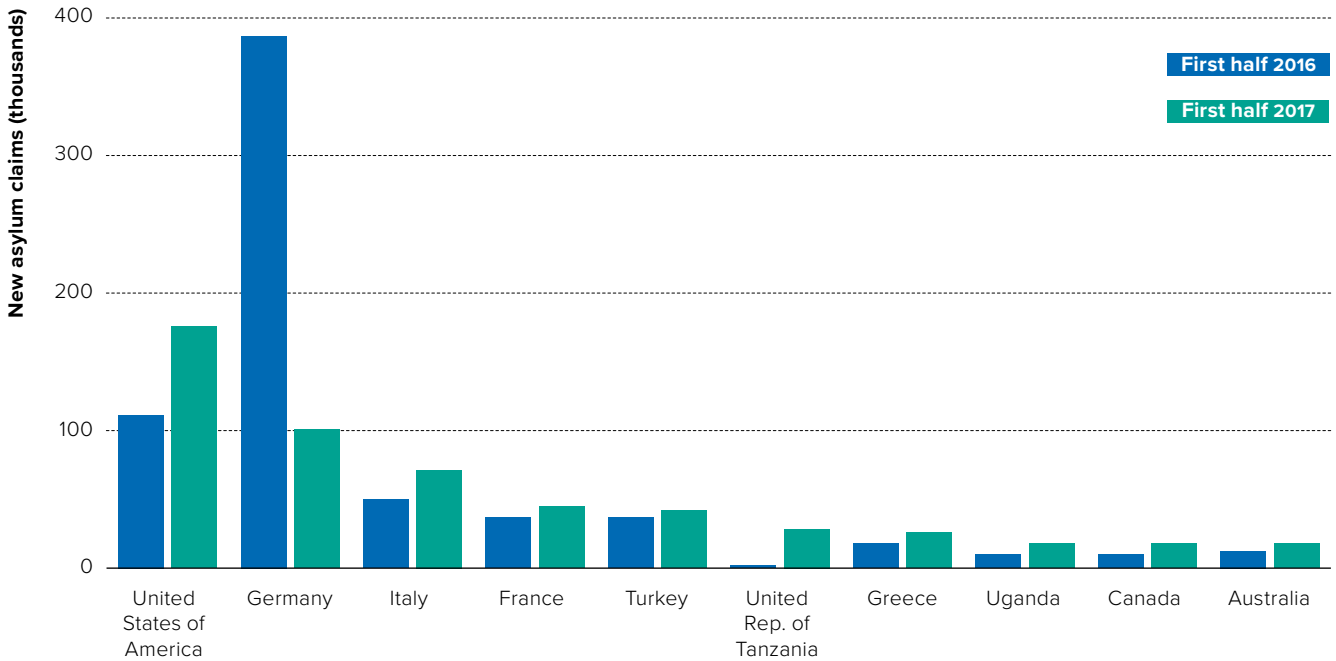
ASYLUM STATISTICS IN EUROPE: A WORD OF CAUTION

The asylum figures for Europe quoted in this report should be treated with caution. The statistical picture of the number of people seeking international protection in Europe is partially distorted because of reported instances of individuals being registered as an asylum-seeker multiple times across the continent. The actual number of individuals lodging asylum applications in Europe is thus likely to be lower than described in this section. ●

the first six months of 2016 to 15,600 in the first half of 2017, an even more stark increase when compared with the first half of 2015 when there were only 2,700

¹¹ Estimated number of individuals based on the number of new cases (76,500) and multiplied by 1.518 to reflect the average number of individuals per case (Source: US Department of Homeland Security), and the number of new defensive asylum requests lodged with the Executive Office of Immigration Review (58,900 individuals).

Fig. 7 Main destination countries for new asylum-seekers | first half 2016 and first half 2017



applications. Due to this rise, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela became the third most common country of origin for asylum-seekers in the United States of America after El Salvador (24,200) and Guatemala (16,900). This was followed by Mexico (14,400), Honduras (13,400), China (10,100) and Haiti (4,700).

Germany registered the second-highest number of new asylum claims in the first half of 2017 with 101,000 recorded. This was a significant decline from the first half of 2016 when 387,700 claims were registered and is also lower than the numbers seen in the first half of 2015 (159,900).

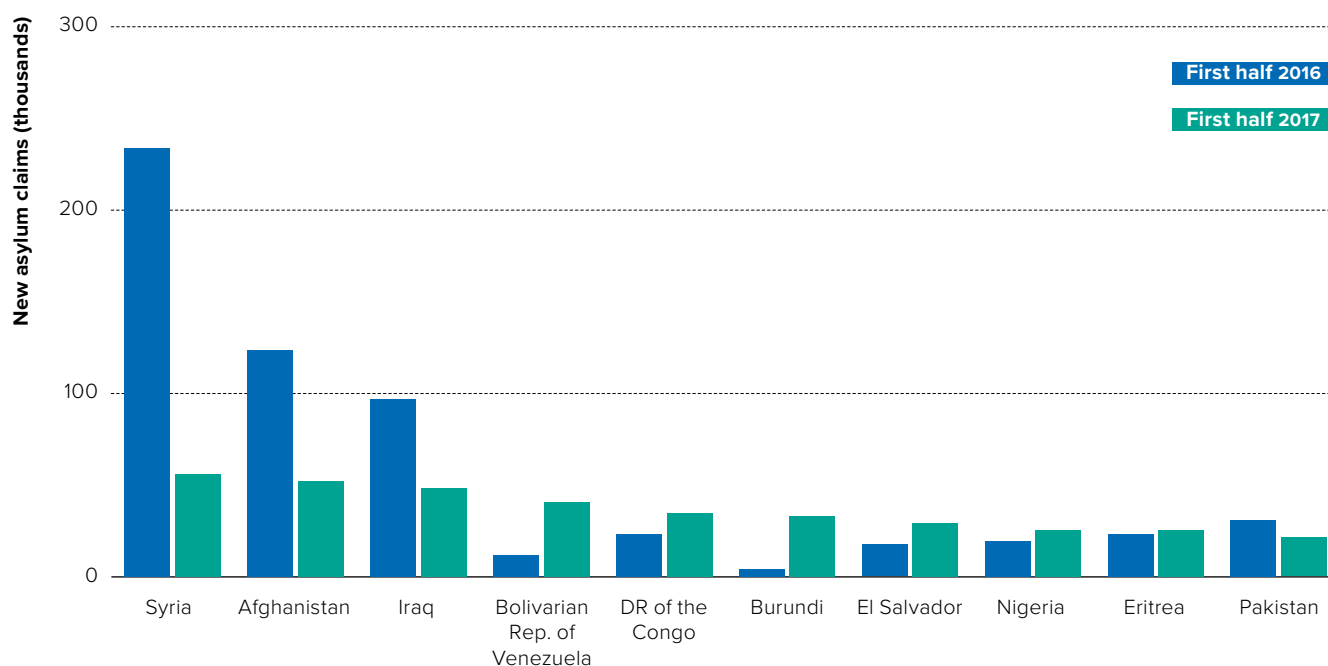
Syrians still accounted for the largest number of applicants in Germany, but numbers dropped sharply from 170,600 applications by mid-2016 to 23,600 by mid-2017, accounting for some 23 per cent of all applications. As with the previous year, nationals of Afghanistan and Iraq were the most common applicants after Syrians and have also experienced a large drop in numbers of applications, with 9,600 and 10,000 applications respectively, compared with 60,400 and 56,100 in the first half of 2016. Applications were also received from Eritreans (6,300), Iranians (4,700) and Nigerians (3,600).

As in 2016, Italy was the third-largest single recipient of new asylum claims during the first six months of

2017 and has continued to experience an increase in the number of claims from 30,100 in the first half of 2015 to 49,100 in the first half of 2016 to 71,200 in the first half of 2017. However, this increase was not seen in the reported sea arrivals to Italy and it is likely that there is now improved registration upon arrival as well as increased controls at land borders in northern Italy leading to more people registering their asylum applications in Italy and remaining in the country. As in the last couple of years, the most common nationality was Nigerian, with 14,700 applications, which is nearly double those in the same period for 2016 (7,900). This was followed by Bangladesh (6,800), the Gambia (5,400), Pakistan (5,300), Cote d'Ivoire (5,100) and Senegal (5,100). Altogether, nationals of West African countries accounted for 62 per cent of all applications.

France was the fourth-largest recipient of new asylum applications with 43,300 applications in the first half of 2017, an increase from the 35,800 received in the same period in 2016. The largest number of applications for asylum were received from Albanians (6,100). This was followed by Afghans (3,100), Haitians (2,700), Sudanese (2,600) and Syrians (2,200).

There were 42,200 new individual applications for asylum in Turkey by mid-2017, making Turkey the

Fig. 8 Main source countries for new asylum-seekers | first half 2016 and first half 2017

fifth-largest recipient. However, these individual applications were in addition to the 336,500 Syrians who were registered by the Government of Turkey during the first half of the year under the Government's Temporary Protection Regime. During the first half of 2017, UNHCR registered more than 42,200 new individual asylum applications, compared with 36,400 over the same period the year before. Similar to 2016, Afghans made up more than half of the applications, with 21,900 claims, followed by Iraqis (14,100) and Iranians (4,100). These three countries accounted for 95 per cent of asylum applications in Turkey in this time period.

Other countries receiving large numbers of asylum applicants were Tanzania (29,100 new claims),¹² Greece (27,100), Uganda (18,800), Canada (18,500) and Australia (17,500).

UNHCR's offices registered 103,900 new individual applications for refugee status in the first half of 2017, with a further 5,900 on appeal or for review. As in the same time period the previous year, the largest number of new requests were received in Turkey (42,200), followed by Egypt (15,700), Malaysia (11,000) and Jordan (6,900). These four operations

¹² The number of individual asylum applications increased after the lifting of the prima facie approach for individuals arriving from Burundi.

accounted for 74 per cent of all new claims submitted to UNHCR in the first six months of 2017.

BY ORIGIN

As in previous years, Syrians continued to constitute the largest group of asylum-seekers due to the continuing conflict in Syria [Figure 8]. Worldwide, 56,600 new applications from Syrians were registered during the first six months of 2017, which is a quarter of the 233,600 received over the same period a year earlier. Again, similar to 2016, the largest recipient of claims was Germany, with 23,600 claims in the first six months of 2017, but this was a sharp decline compared with the 170,600 applications received in the first half of 2016. Greece received the second-largest number of new claims from Syrians (7,700), followed by Austria (4,000) and France (2,200).

Overall, provisional data indicated that global protection rates for Syrians were nearly 100 per cent, reflecting the continuing need for international protection for those fleeing this now protracted conflict.

Again, similar to the corresponding period in previous years, the second-largest nationality for asylum-seekers in the first half of 2017 was Afghanistan with 52,400 new claims. Similar to

GREECE. REFUGEE FAMILIES STRUGGLING TO SURVIVE ON THE ISLAND OF SAMOS.

Due to overcrowding in the island's reception centre in Vathy, Abdullah, Amal and their children camp in an olive grove in a nearby area. Hundreds of others have also been forced to sleep in tents and makeshift shelters. In October 2017, with increased arrivals by sea during the summer months, conditions in reception centres on the islands of Lesbos and Samos deteriorated, leading to further overcrowding. © UNHCR/YORGOS KYVERNITIS



claims from Syrians this represents a significant decline from the same period in 2016, when there were 124,000 claims. However, in contrast to the previous year, Turkey became the most common country of asylum for new Afghan applications, with 21,900 applications. In Germany, the second-most common country of asylum, there were 9,600 applications, which is a sharp decrease from the 60,400 applications recorded in the first half of 2016 and more similar to the numbers seen in 2015 (8,900). Other countries which registered significant numbers of claims in the first half of 2017 were Greece (3,800), France (3,100) and India (2,000). Hungary received only 800 new claims, in contrast to the first half of 2016 when more than 8,000 claims were registered.

Iraq remained the third-largest country of origin for new asylum applicants but, following the pattern of Syrians and Afghans, significant declines were witnessed in the number of applications. In the first half of 2017, 49,100 new applications were submitted, compared with 98,100 in the same period in 2016. Turkey received the most claims with 14,100, followed by Germany (10,000), Syria (5,700) and Jordan (3,300). The main reason for the decrease in claims was the decrease in Germany which reported 56,100 in the first half of 2016.

As conditions in their country are reported to deteriorate, the number of asylum claims from Venezuelans increased sharply from the same period in 2016, making the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela the fourth-largest country of origin. Altogether there



were 40,800 asylum applications in the first half of 2017 compared with 11,900 in the first half of 2016. The largest recipient of these claims was the United States of America with 15,600. Other countries which received significant numbers of claims were Brazil (7,900), Peru (5,700) and Spain (5,100).

Other significant countries of origin for asylum-seekers were the Democratic Republic of the Congo (35,300), Burundi (33,200),¹³ El Salvador (29,200), Nigeria (26,400), Eritrea (25,200) and Pakistan (22,800).

While the number of asylum-seekers has declined since mid-2016, from over 3.4 million to just under 3.0 million at mid-2017, most of this decline was caused by a sharp reduction in the asylum-seeker population in South Africa, which reported an estimated 1.1 million

asylum-seekers at mid-2016 and reported 215,900 at mid-2017, mainly due to updated statistical information on the number of cases that could be administratively closed due to abandonment of the claim. The United States of America had the largest asylum-seeker population at the middle of the year with 692,100 people, an increase of some 136,500. Germany had the next-highest asylum-seeker population with 459,500,¹⁴ a decline of 127,800 from the end of 2016, mainly due to the processing of the large number of applications received in 2016. Other countries with large numbers of asylum-seekers at mid-2017 included Turkey (266,200), Italy (134,300), Sweden (67,100) and Austria (65,500). ■

¹³ The number of Burundian asylum applications has increased since the Tanzanian authorities lifted the prima facie approach to individuals arriving from Burundi.

¹⁴ Comprising cases pending at the first and second instance of the asylum procedure.



SOMALIA. FAMILIES AFFECTED BY PROLONGED DROUGHT.

Severe drought caused Saynab Hassan Haibe, an internally displaced person in Somaliland, to move her family of six from their home in the town of Haro-Sheikh to Wajaale district. They transported 300 sheep in large trucks, but these now number only 100, with many falling sick and dying. © UNHCR/MUSTAFA SAEED

Internally Displaced Persons

Updated information on the global number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) due to armed conflict, generalized violence, or human rights violations is only available for the end-year population.¹⁵ The IDP populations reported in this report are limited to IDPs, or those in an IDP-like situation, displaced due to conflict, to whom the agency extends protection or assistance. Hence, UNHCR's mid-year statistics do not provide a comprehensive picture of global internal displacement.¹⁶

During January–June 2017, the number of IDPs protected or assisted by UNHCR, including those in IDP-like situations,¹⁷ increased to an estimated 38.8 million, according to UNHCR offices in 30 countries. This compares to 36.2 million at the start of the year [Figure 9].¹⁸ However, this is likely to be an underestimate which will change when countries update figures for end-2017.

¹⁵ The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) estimated the global number of persons displaced by armed conflict, generalized violence, or human rights violations at the end of 2016 to be some 40.3 million. Source: IDMC, Internal displacement by country in 2016 (database), <http://www.internal-displacement.org/database/>; accessed on November 29, 2017.

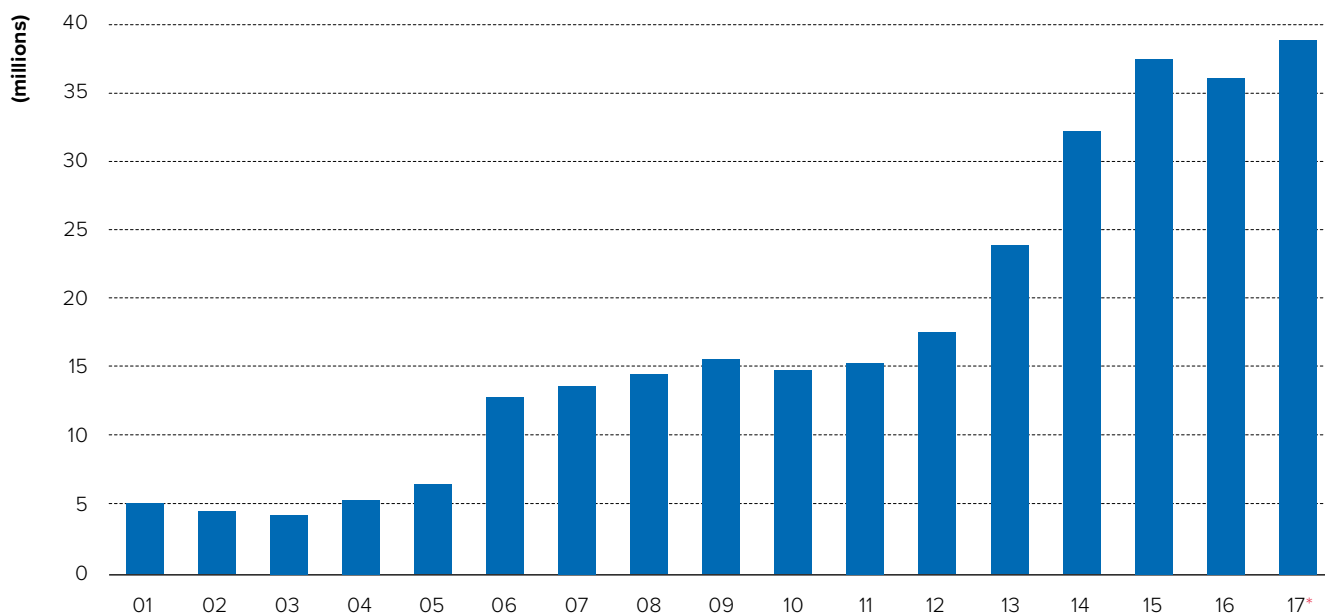
¹⁶ For detailed statistics on global internal displacement, see the IDMC website at www.internal-displacement.org.

¹⁷ As in Myanmar (150,000), Nigeria (143,800), and Ukraine (800,000).

¹⁸ In 2017 UNHCR revised the methodology of estimation of IDP population in Afghanistan, which resulted in notable change in number of IDPs in Afghanistan and globally.

Fig. 9 IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR | 2001-2017*

* 2001-2016 (end-year); 2017 (mid-year)



During the first half of the year, at least 4.6 million people were newly displaced by conflict and violence within their countries, compared with 1.7 million in the corresponding period of 2016 and 4.2 million in the corresponding period of 2015. The Democratic Republic of the Congo reported the largest number of newly displaced people (1,765,700), followed by Iraq (984,600), the Philippines (420,600), South Sudan (413,300), Yemen (352,000) and Afghanistan (194,600).

According to the Government of Colombia, 7.5 million individuals were registered as IDPs at mid-2017, with a small increase of 13,100 from the beginning of the year. Colombia continues to remain the country with the largest number of IDPs.¹⁹

The number of newly displaced persons within Syria was not available for the reporting period. However, with 6.3 million IDPs, Syria remained the country with the second-highest such number worldwide. Iraq reported that 984,600 people were newly displaced in the first half of the year, while 579,200 were able to return home, resulting in an overall IDP population of 4.0 million. Given the ongoing conflicts in Iraq and

Syria, however, it is likely that these numbers will change for reporting on the full year.

Other countries where UNHCR protected or assisted significant IDP populations included the Democratic Republic of the Congo (3.8 million), Sudan (2.3 million), Nigeria (2.0 million), Yemen (2.0 million), South Sudan (1.9 million), Ukraine (1.8 million), Afghanistan (1.6 million) and Somalia (1.6 million).

An estimated 2.4 million IDPs returned to their areas of origin during the first half of 2017, compared to 3.2 million in the corresponding period of 2016. Noteworthy IDP returns were reported by Yemen and Iraq, with 946,000 and 579,200 individuals, respectively. Other countries that reported a significant number of returned IDPs included Nigeria (242,700), Pakistan (176,400), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (155,700), the Philippines (143,200), the Central African Republic (72,900) and Libya (59,800). ■

¹⁹ The large number of registered IDPs in Colombia comes from the total cumulative figure from the Victims' Registry, which commenced in 1985.



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO. DISPLACED AND STRUGGLING TO SURVIVE.
Kadima, 28-years old, fled his village in Kasai Province after his wife and three of his children were killed by armed men. He slept in the forest with his surviving children and worked in a diamond mine to get by. He has now returned to his home town, where he makes bricks, earning less than a dollar a day. © UNHCR/JOHN WESSELS



KENYA. CITIZENSHIP BRINGS NEW HOPE TO THE MAKONDE.

Previously stateless, Julieta is one of several thousand in the Makonde community who has been granted identity papers and Kenyan citizenship.

© UNHCR/ROGER ARNOLD

Stateless Persons

The collection of accurate statistics on stateless people has been and continues to be a challenge. While the global stateless population is estimated to be some 10 million, this estimate is based on incomplete information and available data in this report are limited to some 3.2 million persons in 75 countries or territories. This figure has remained approximately constant since the end of 2016 and does not accurately account for the stateless population not included in the data nor the progress made in reducing the numbers of stateless people.

UNHCR continues to advocate for improved population data, inter alia through Action 10 of its Global Action Plan to End Statelessness by 2024. Methods such as registration linked to legal assistance have helped to improve available data, including in Malaysia and the Philippines. For example, mobile legal aid and registration teams helped identify stateless persons in remote areas of West Malaysia. Since 2014, 11,900 persons submitted nationality applications as a result of paralegal assistance provided to these communities and 1,800 persons have acquired nationality, among them 390 in the first six months of 2017. In Tajikistan, 4,700

persons of undetermined nationality had their nationality confirmed in the first half of 2017 through an ongoing registration exercise. Progress also continued to be made elsewhere to reduce the number of stateless persons through the acquisition or confirmation of nationality. In February 2017, following advocacy conducted by UNHCR and partners, the Government of Kenya officially recognized the Makonde tribe as the 43rd tribe in Kenya and distributed approximately 1,500 national ID cards to formerly stateless Makonde. ■



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. FORMER REFUGEE FROM KOSOVO* CHASES OLYMPIC DREAM.

*Besnik is a former refugee who recently attended the PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Winter Games as a special guest of the Kosovo alpine skiing team. After fleeing the war as a teenager, he was resettled to the United States, where he lives with his family and works as a superintendent for five residential buildings. "If it wasn't for the United States of America and the chances this country has offered me, I probably wouldn't be alive." *All references to Kosovo shall be understood in the context of United Nations Security Resolution 1244 (1999). © UNHCR/CHRISTOPHER REARDON*

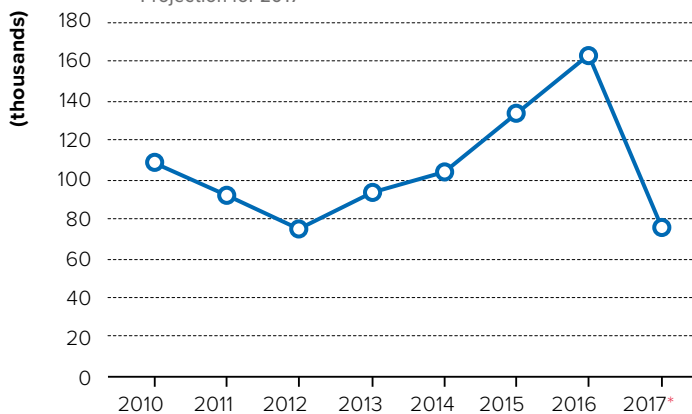
Resettlement

Resettlement plays a crucial role in UNHCR's protection response to forced displacement, and UNHCR has processed one million submissions for resettlement in the course of the last decade.

Fig. 10 UNHCR resettlement submissions

| 2010-2017

* Projection for 2017



In 2016, more than 163,200 individuals were submitted for resettlement, the highest number in 20 years. In 2017, however, the global resettlement landscape has been characterized by fluctuations in state quotas resulting in a global decrease in resettlement places. As such, during the first half of the year only 39,300 refugees were submitted for resettlement consideration to 31 resettlement states. UNHCR expects to submit around 75,000 refugees by the end of 2017. This is at par with 2012 levels but less than half of the submissions made in 2016 and as such represents a significant decrease in global resettlement opportunities [Figure 10].

In the context of a significant drop in the total number of resettlement submissions, the United States of America remained the largest recipient worldwide. It accounted for 13,400 or one third of all submissions made during the first six months of

²⁰ <http://www.unhcr.org/protection/resettlement/593a88f27/unhcr-projected-global-resettlement-needs-2018.html>

2017. The United Kingdom recorded close to 4,200 submissions, while Sweden and France received 3,300 submissions each. Member states of the European Union together received 19,700, or half of all UNHCR resettlement submissions during the reporting period.

With the number of Syrians in need of resettlement estimated at around half a million,²⁰ progress in meeting these needs remained limited in the absence of quotas provided by states. With 22,500 persons referred during the first six months of 2017, Syrian refugees remained nevertheless the largest group to be submitted to resettlement states, in particular to the United States of America (3,600) and France (3,200). The reduction in resettlement quotas not only limited the opportunities for the resettlement of Syrians but also the resettlement of other refugee groups. Syrians were followed by refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (4,700 submissions), Myanmar (3,500), Somalia (1,700) and Eritrea (1,300). These five countries of origin combined represented 86 per cent of all submissions during the reporting period.

Turkey continued to be the largest UNHCR resettlement operation globally. Some 9,800 individuals were referred to states during the first half of the year, 89 per cent of them Syrians. Turkey was followed by Lebanon and Jordan with 7,900 and 5,400 submissions, respectively.

During the first six months of the year, UNHCR assisted more than 38,300 refugees to depart for resettlement, notably from Turkey (9,100), Lebanon (6,700), Jordan (3,300) and Kenya (2,700). Syrians accounted on average for two out of five departures. ■



NIGERIA. REFUGEES FORCED TO RETURN HOME FROM CAMEROON.

After being forced to return to Nigeria after fleeing insurgent attacks and seeking safety in northern Cameroon, these returnees wait in line to receive life-saving assistance in a crowded camp in Banki, Nigeria. © UNHCR/ROMAIN DESCLOUS

Refugee Returns

While the number of returning refugees was low in comparison to the overall population, the numbers have greatly increased in the first half of 2017 compared with previous years. An estimated 380,900 refugees returned to their countries of origin in this period, compared with 552,200 for the whole of 2016 (mostly in the second half of the year). Among these returns, most were assisted by UNHCR (342,300).

The context in which some of these returns are happening is often complex with refugees returning to situations which are still fragile and unstable and sometimes they continue to be in a state of displacement.

After reconciling return of refugees reported by countries to which refugees returned and the departure of returning refugees from countries of asylum, refugees returned to a reported 29 countries. The majority of refugee returns were to Nigeria, with 205,400 refugees returning in the first half of the year, mainly from Niger (109,800) and

Cameroon (95,400).²¹ Large numbers of refugees also returned to Burundi (57,400)²², Afghanistan (34,900), Somalia (31,400) and Central African Republic (30,800). In addition to Niger (111,200) and Cameroon (101,300), the countries with the highest number of refugee departures were Pakistan (34,400), Kenya (28,800) and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (21,000). ■

²¹ This number is provisional and may be revised later

²² This number is provisional, with countries of asylum from which refugees have returned to Burundi not identified.

Refugees include individuals recognized under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, persons recognized under the 1969 Organization of African Unity (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,²³ and those enjoying temporary protection.²⁴ The refugee category also includes persons in a refugee-like situation.²⁵

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 as of 30 June 2016, 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 home or place 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.²⁶ For the purposes of UNHCR’s statistics, this population includes only conflict-generated IDPs to whom the Office extends protection and/or assistance. The IDP population also includes individuals in an IDP-like situation.²⁷

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 June 2016 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 June 2016. 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 to the protection of stateless persons. The agency also performs a specific function, under Article 11

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 both those individuals 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. ●

²³ ‘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.

²⁴ ‘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.

²⁵ This term is descriptive in nature. It includes groups of people who are outside their country or territory of origin and who face protection risks similar to refugees but for whom refugee status has, for practical or other reasons, not been ascertained.

²⁶ 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.

²⁷ This term is descriptive in nature. It includes groups 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.

Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by country/territory of asylum
 | mid-2017 (or latest available estimates)

All data are provisional and subject to change.

Country/ territory of asylum	REFUGEES					Returned refugees ²	IDPs protected/ assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations ⁶	Returned IDPs ⁷	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate ⁸	Others of concern to UNHCR ⁹	Total population of concern
	Refugees ²	People in refugee- like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee- like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum- seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
Afghanistan ¹⁰	87,119	-	87,119	87,119	205	34,854	1,618,995	-	-	448,032	2,189,205
Albania ¹¹	113	-	113	112	2,743	-	-	-	4,860	-	7,716
Algeria ¹²	94,248	-	94,248	90,243	5,986	-	-	-	-	-	100,234
Angola	48,232	-	48,232	32,805	30,192	-	-	-	-	-	78,424
Antigua and Barbuda	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Argentina	3,322	-	3,322	13	4,010	-	-	-	-	396	7,728
Armenia	3,349	14,573	17,922	7,098	71	-	-	-	613	-	18,606
Aruba	1	-	1	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	6
Australia ¹³	46,576	-	46,576	-	35,825	-	-	-	-	-	82,401
Austria	104,375	-	104,375	-	65,515	-	-	-	980	-	170,870
Azerbaijan	1,196	-	1,196	1,196	358	-	613,129	-	3,585	-	618,268
Bahamas	14	-	14	14	23	-	-	-	-	-	37
Bahrain	262	-	262	262	109	-	-	-	-	-	371
Bangladesh ¹⁴	33,424	274,000	307,424	33,424	104	2	-	-	-	-	307,530
Barbados	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
Belarus	1,930	-	1,930	581	112	-	-	-	5,915	-	7,957
Belgium ¹⁵	42,168	-	42,168	-	24,111	-	-	-	2,630	-	68,909
Belize	-	-	-	-	2,666	-	-	-	-	2,442	5,108
Benin	968	-	968	968	188	-	-	-	-	-	1,156
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	797	-	797	55	6	-	-	-	-	-	803
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5,265	-	5,265	5,265	92	-	98,574	-	53	52,437	156,421
Botswana	2,149	-	2,149	2,149	86	-	-	-	-	635	2,870
Brazil	10,129	-	10,129	2,067	53,949	-	-	-	4	43,871	107,953
British Virgin Islands	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,524	-	20,524
Bulgaria	18,678	-	18,678	18,678	8,995	-	-	-	67	-	27,740
Burkina Faso	34,033	-	34,033	34,033	176	-	-	-	-	-	34,209
Burundi ¹⁶	59,424	-	59,424	59,424	3,870	57,426	64,504	-	974	739	186,937
Cabo Verde	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	115	-	115
Cambodia	70	-	70	68	54	-	-	-	-	10	134
Cameroon	292,184	30,593	322,777	322,777	4,409	-	210,737	15,490	-	33	553,446
Canada	101,256	-	101,256	-	33,261	-	-	-	-	-	134,517
Cayman Islands	25	-	25	5	32	-	-	-	-	-	57
Central African Rep.	8,234	3,192	11,426	8,065	511	30,761	534,000	72,924	-	-	649,622
Chad	400,705	-	400,705	388,720	1,914	-	118,804	5,538	-	36,718	563,679
Chile	1,736	-	1,736	9	5,195	-	-	-	-	-	6,931
China ¹⁷	317,238	-	317,238	141	732	-	-	-	-	-	317,970
China, Hong Kong SAR	93	-	93	93	-	-	-	-	1	-	94
China, Macao SAR	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
Colombia	258	-	258	27	542	188	7,523,811	-	11	-	7,524,810
Congo, Republic of	47,436	-	47,436	47,436	6,903	-	81,000	-	-	3,398	138,737
Costa Rica	4,414	-	4,414	4,414	5,594	-	-	-	216	-	10,224
Côte d'Ivoire ¹⁸	1,468	-	1,468	1,468	342	5,288	-	-	693,000	55	700,153
Croatia	346	-	346	345	605	30	-	-	2,873	9,586	13,440
Cuba	325	-	325	202	20	-	-	-	-	-	345
Curaçao	62	-	62	61	107	-	-	-	-	-	169

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

I mid-2017 (or latest available estimates) (ctnd)

All data are provisional and subject to change.

Country/ territory of asylum ¹	REFUGEES					Returned refugees ²	IDPs protected/ assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations ⁶	Returned IDPs ⁷	Persons under UNHCR's mandate ⁸	Others of concern to UNHCR ⁹	Total population of concern
	Refugees ²	People in refugee- like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee- like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum- seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
Cyprus ¹⁹	9,238	-	9,238	142	3,812	-	-	-	-	6,000	19,050
Czechia	3,644	-	3,644	-	827	-	-	-	1,502	-	5,973
Dem. Rep. of the Congo ²⁰	473,376	60,280	533,656	365,321	1,218	22	3,842,887	155,664	-	-	4,533,447
Denmark	34,977	-	34,977	-	4,502	-	-	-	7,610	-	47,089
Djibouti	18,548	-	18,548	18,548	8,579	-	-	-	-	97	27,224
Dominican Rep. ²¹	592	-	592	592	835	-	-	-	-	-	1,427
Ecuador	60,516	42,094	102,610	-	19,006	-	-	-	-	-	121,616
Egypt	223,964	-	223,964	153,964	54,465	-	-	-	18	-	278,447
El Salvador	43	-	43	43	3	-	-	-	-	3,322	3,368
Equatorial Guinea	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eritrea	2,381	-	2,381	2,381	-	-	-	-	-	19	2,400
Estonia ²²	402	-	402	-	43	-	-	-	81,382	-	81,827
Ethiopia	841,285	-	841,285	841,285	1,929	-	-	-	-	536	843,750
Fiji	11	-	11	11	4	-	-	-	-	-	15
Finland	19,939	-	19,939	-	3,520	-	-	-	2,671	-	26,130
France	321,119	-	321,119	-	55,606	-	-	-	1,363	-	378,088
Gabon	957	-	957	957	105	3	-	-	-	-	1,065
Gambia	7,973	-	7,973	7,973	5	33	-	-	-	-	8,011
Georgia	1,515	652	2,167	298	344	-	275,676	-	595	-	278,782
Germany	864,686	-	864,686	-	459,503	-	-	-	12,957	-	1,337,146
Ghana	11,976	-	11,976	11,976	1,376	-	-	-	-	-	13,352
Greece	26,700	15,277	41,977	-	38,277	-	-	-	73	-	80,327
Grenada	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Guatemala	312	-	312	236	41	-	-	-	-	21,600	21,953
Guinea	5,105	-	5,105	5,105	105	1	-	-	-	-	5,211
Guinea-Bissau	9,323	-	9,323	9,323	27	-	-	-	-	-	9,350
Guyana	11	-	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Haiti ²³	5	-	5	5	22	-	-	-	2,710	-	2,737
Honduras	22	-	22	18	12	-	174,000	-	-	1,600	175,634
Hungary	5,069	-	5,069	585	754	-	-	-	137	-	5,960
Iceland	308	-	308	-	366	-	-	-	85	-	759
India	196,662	-	196,662	26,023	9,814	-	-	-	-	-	206,476
Indonesia	8,819	-	8,819	8,819	5,274	-	-	-	-	-	14,093
Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	978,698	-	978,698	978,698	84	3	-	-	-	-	978,785
Iraq ²⁴	273,516	-	273,516	273,516	12,680	507	4,009,736	579,158	48,200	3,340	4,927,137
Ireland	5,731	-	5,731	-	5,123	-	-	-	100	-	10,954
Israel	508	35,343	35,851	-	27,759	-	-	-	42	-	63,652
Italy	157,839	-	157,839	-	134,327	-	-	-	715	-	292,881
Jamaica	15	-	15	15	9	-	-	-	-	-	24
Japan ²⁵	2,530	-	2,530	388	24,679	-	-	-	626	-	27,835
Jordan ²⁶	692,240	-	692,240	692,240	40,876	-	-	-	-	-	733,116
Kazakhstan	622	-	622	622	191	-	-	-	7,209	-	8,022
Kenya	433,457	-	433,457	433,457	52,554	-	-	-	18,500	-	504,511
Kuwait	844	-	844	837	810	-	-	-	93,000	-	94,654
Kyrgyzstan	350	-	350	350	102	-	-	-	2,272	-	2,724
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by country/territory of asylum
 | mid-2017 (or latest available estimates) (ctnd)

All data are provisional and subject to change.

Country/ territory of asylum	REFUGEES					Returned refugees ²	IDPs protected/ assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations ⁶	Returned IDPs ⁷	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate ⁴	Others of concern to UNHCR ⁸	Total population of concern
	Refugees ²	People in refugee- like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee- like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum- seekers (pending cases) ⁵						
Latvia ²⁷	546	-	546	-	126	-	-	-	242,736	-	243,408
Lebanon	1,003,076	-	1,003,076	1,003,076	13,630	-	-	-	-	4,314	1,021,020
Lesotho	59	-	59	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	62
Liberia	13,380	-	13,380	13,380	22	-	-	-	-	374	13,776
Libya	9,450	-	9,450	9,450	32,430	-	240,188	59,831	-	-	341,899
Liechtenstein	177	-	177	-	113	-	-	-	-	-	290
Lithuania	1,283	-	1,283	-	144	-	-	-	3,251	-	4,678
Luxembourg ²⁸	2,046	-	2,046	-	2,213	-	-	-	83	-	4,342
Madagascar	43	-	43	43	46	-	-	-	-	-	89
Malawi	8,904	-	8,904	8,904	23,066	-	-	-	-	395	32,365
Malaysia ²⁹	94,971	932	95,903	95,903	51,764	-	-	-	10,558	80,000	238,225
Mali	17,586	-	17,586	17,586	373	2,775	51,961	11,159	-	-	83,854
Malta	8,314	-	8,314	3,600	1,307	-	-	-	-	-	9,621
Mauritania	53,029	26,000	79,029	53,029	706	-	-	-	-	-	79,735
Mauritius	3	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Mexico	7,186	-	7,186	727	6,653	-	-	-	13	-	13,852
Micronesia (Federated States of)	4	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Monaco ³⁰	27	-	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
Mongolia	8	-	8	-	3	-	-	-	14	5	30
Montenegro	919	-	919	679	57	-	-	-	486	11,519	12,981
Morocco	5,167	-	5,167	5,167	1,887	-	-	-	-	-	7,054
Mozambique	4,787	-	4,787	2,729	16,324	6,231	15,312	-	-	-	42,654
Myanmar ³¹	-	-	-	-	-	189	350,029	2,620	924,939	-	1,277,777
Namibia	1,972	-	1,972	1,972	1,860	8	-	-	-	69	3,909
Nauru	506	-	506	-	302	-	-	-	-	-	808
Nepal ³²	23,566	-	23,566	10,057	115	-	-	-	-	757	24,438
Netherlands ³³	101,744	-	101,744	-	10,411	-	-	-	1,951	-	114,106
New Zealand	1,467	-	1,467	-	324	-	-	-	-	-	1,791
Nicaragua	330	-	330	129	405	-	-	-	1	1	737
Niger	162,135	-	162,135	162,135	98	-	127,299	5,867	-	14,546	309,945
Nigeria	1,415	-	1,415	1,415	614	205,430	2,028,179	242,681	-	-	2,478,319
Norway	60,118	-	60,118	-	4,861	-	-	-	3,251	-	68,230
Oman	315	-	315	315	366	-	-	-	-	-	681
Pakistan	1,406,794	-	1,406,794	464,494	3,233	19	275,724	176,388	-	-	1,862,158
Palau	5	-	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Panama	2,373	15,000	17,373	128	5,627	-	-	-	2	-	23,002
Papua New Guinea	4,966	4,581	9,547	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	9,549
Paraguay	214	-	214	45	31	-	-	-	-	-	245
Peru	1,746	-	1,746	119	10,436	-	-	-	-	-	12,182
Philippines ³⁴	451	-	451	119	227	-	364,846	143,196	2,396	68	511,184
Poland	12,002	-	12,002	-	2,902	-	-	-	10,825	-	25,729
Portugal ³⁵	1,194	-	1,194	-	858	-	-	-	14	-	2,066
Qatar	188	-	188	183	125	-	-	-	1,200	-	1,513
Rep. of Korea	2,051	-	2,051	207	7,107	-	-	-	196	-	9,354
Rep. of Moldova	408	-	408	408	70	-	-	-	4,692	-	5,170
Romania	3,423	-	3,423	172	101	-	-	-	240	-	3,764
Russian Federation ³⁶	188,374	-	188,374	3,194	3,420	3	-	-	90,771	-	282,568
Rwanda	157,996	-	157,996	157,996	445	4,844	-	-	-	10,478	173,763

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

I mid-2017 (or latest available estimates) (ctnd)

All data are provisional and subject to change.

Country/ territory of asylum	REFUGEES					Returned refugees ²	IDPs protected/ assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations ⁶	Returned IDPs ⁷	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate ⁸	Others of concern to UNHCR ⁹	Total population of concern
	Refugees ²	People in refugee- like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee- like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum- seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
Saint Lucia	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Samoa	3	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Saudi Arabia	142	7	149	147	45	-	-	-	70,000	-	70,194
Senegal	14,565	-	14,565	14,565	3,313	-	-	-	-	-	17,878
Serbia and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)	27,904	5,800	33,704	10,872	205	95	217,486	134	2,663	-	254,287
Seychelles	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sierra Leone	693	-	693	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	694
Singapore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Sint Maarten (Dutch part)	5	-	5	5	6	-	-	-	-	-	11
Slovakia	984	-	984	-	27	-	-	-	1,523	5	2,539
Slovenia	551	-	551	-	326	-	-	-	4	-	881
Somalia	12,925	-	12,925	12,925	13,558	31,431	1,562,554	-	-	120	1,620,588
South Africa ³⁷	92,296	-	92,296	-	215,860	-	-	-	-	-	308,156
South Sudan	274,920	-	274,920	274,920	2,400	-	1,944,735	-	-	-	2,222,055
Spain	15,557	-	15,557	-	20,360	-	-	-	485	-	36,402
Sri Lanka	651	-	651	651	634	715	36,807	2,923	-	-	41,730
Sudan	538,797	-	538,797	497,740	17,839	6	2,307,339	-	-	3,817	2,867,798
Suriname	15	-	15	15	72	-	-	-	-	1	88
Swaziland	770	-	770	221	462	7	-	-	-	3	1,242
Sweden	235,853	-	235,853	-	67,140	-	-	-	36,036	-	339,029
Switzerland	88,066	-	88,066	-	26,648	-	-	-	64	-	114,778
Syrian Arab Rep. ³⁸	19,006	-	19,006	19,006	16,665	8	6,325,978	-	160,000	22,928	6,544,585
Tajikistan	2,612	-	2,612	1,813	474	-	-	-	15,047	-	18,133
Thailand ³⁹	54,389	50,143	104,532	104,532	3,360	-	-	-	485,446	123	593,461
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	441	151	592	592	22	-	-	-	598	-	1,212
Timor-Leste	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Togo	12,558	-	12,558	6,944	726	1	-	-	-	-	13,285
Trinidad and Tobago	206	-	206	206	488	-	-	-	-	13	707
Tunisia	601	-	601	601	34	-	-	-	-	3	638
Turkey ⁴⁰	3,203,785	-	3,203,785	3,203,785	266,177	-	-	-	117	-	3,470,079
Turkmenistan	22	-	22	22	-	-	-	-	3,390	-	3,412
Turks and Caicos Islands	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Uganda	1,269,758	-	1,269,758	1,269,758	39,940	-	-	-	-	180,000	1,489,698
Ukraine ⁴¹	3,253	-	3,253	536	6,282	-	1,800,000	-	35,463	-	1,844,998
United Arab Emirates	807	-	807	807	872	-	-	-	-	-	1,679
United Kingdom	121,280	-	121,280	-	31,353	-	-	-	85	-	152,718
United Rep. of Tanzania	306,025	-	306,025	306,025	37,139	-	-	-	-	168,785	511,949
United States of America	279,419	-	279,419	-	692,053	-	-	-	-	-	971,472
Uruguay	318	-	318	86	772	-	-	-	-	-	1,090
Uzbekistan ⁴²	22	-	22	22	-	-	-	-	86,425	-	86,447
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	7,753	164,125	171,878	6,282	933	-	-	-	-	-	172,811
Viet Nam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,000	-	11,000

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I mid-2017 (or latest available estimates) (ctnd)

All data are provisional and subject to change.

Country/ territory of asylum	REFUGEES					Returned refugees ²	IDPs protected/ assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations ⁶	Returned IDPs ⁷	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate ⁴	Others of concern to UNHCR ³	Total population of concern
	Refugees ²	People in refugee- like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee- like situations	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Asylum- seekers (pending cases) ⁵						
Yemen	270,905	-	270,905	121,173	9,306	-	1,980,510	946,044	-	15	3,206,780
Zambia	29,509	-	29,509	23,909	3,871	-	-	-	-	25,088	58,468
Zimbabwe ⁴³	7,567	-	7,567	7,567	1,297	11	-	-	-	2,095	10,970
Total	17,731,110	742,743	18,473,853	12,886,184	2,954,666	380,891	38,794,800	2,419,617	3,224,153	1,160,391	67,408,371

UNHCR-Bureaux											
- Central Africa- Great Lakes	1,345,632	94,065	1,439,697	1,268,001	54,600	93,056	4,733,128	244,078	974	183,433	6,748,966
- East and Horn of Africa	3,792,776	-	3,792,776	3,739,734	138,713	31,437	5,933,432	5,538	18,500	221,307	10,141,703
- Southern Africa	196,291	-	196,291	80,302	293,068	6,257	15,312	-	-	28,285	539,213
- Western Africa	293,178	-	293,178	286,871	7,366	213,528	2,207,439	259,707	693,115	14,975	3,689,308
Total Africa	5,627,877	94,065	5,721,942	5,374,908	493,747	344,278	12,889,311	509,323	712,589	448,000	21,119,190
Asia and Pacific	3,264,700	329,656	3,594,356	1,813,588	144,618	35,782	2,646,401	325,127	1,570,043	528,998	8,845,325
Middle East and North Africa	2,648,268	61,350	2,709,618	2,424,016	218,751	515	12,556,412	1,585,033	372,460	30,600	17,473,389
Europe	5,706,836	36,453	5,743,289	3,258,138	1,254,729	128	3,004,865	134	566,104	79,547	10,648,796
Americas	483,429	221,219	704,648	15,534	842,821	188	7,697,811	-	2,957	73,246	9,321,671
Total	17,731,110	742,743	18,473,853	12,886,184	2,954,666	380,891	38,794,800	2,419,617	3,224,153	1,160,391	67,408,371

UN major regions											
Africa	6,014,336	120,065	6,134,401	5,687,362	589,255	344,278	13,129,499	569,154	712,607	448,003	21,927,197
Asia	8,692,054	375,650	9,067,704	7,137,646	502,166	36,297	15,851,430	1,850,329	1,947,395	565,595	29,820,916
Europe	2,487,753	21,228	2,508,981	45,619	983,967	128	2,116,060	134	561,194	73,547	6,244,011
Latin America and the Caribbean	102,754	221,219	323,973	15,534	117,507	188	7,697,811	-	2,957	73,246	8,215,682
Northern America	380,675	-	380,675	-	725,314	-	-	-	-	-	1,105,989
Oceania	53,538	4,581	58,119	23	36,457	-	-	-	-	-	94,576
Total	17,731,110	742,743	18,473,853	12,886,184	2,954,666	380,891	38,794,800	2,419,617	3,224,153	1,160,391	67,408,371

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. Countries with population of 1 million or less that have zero (-) value for all columns are excluded from the table. All data are provisional and subject to change.

- 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 asylum-seeker 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. Where cases have been reported with an average number of persons, the number of cases reported has been multiplied by this average. This calculation has only been done to total numbers of asylum-seekers by country of asylum.
- 5 Refugees who have returned to their place of origin during the first half of 2017. 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 first half of 2017.
- 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 The number of IDPs in Afghanistan is decreased due to the revision of methodology.
- 11 The statelessness figure refers to a census from 2011 and has been adjusted to reflect the number of persons with undetermined nationality who had their nationality confirmed in 2011-mid 2017.
- 12 According to the Government of Algeria, there are an estimated 165,000 Sahrawi refugees in the Tindouf camps.
- 13 Australia’s figures for asylum-seekers are based on the number of applications lodged for protection visas.
- 14 The refugee population includes 274,000 persons originating from Myanmar in a refugee-like situation. The Government of Bangladesh estimates the population to be between 300,000 and 500,000.
- 15 All figures relate to the end of 2016.
- 16 This number is provisional, with countries of asylum from which refugees have returned to Burundi not identified.
- 17 The 300,000 Vietnamese refugees are well integrated and in practice receive protection from the Government of China.
- 18 The statelessness figure is based on a Government estimate of individuals who themselves or whose parents or grandparents migrated to Côte d’Ivoire before or just after independence and who did not establish their nationality at independence or before the nationality law changed in 1972. The estimate is derived in part from cases denied voter registration in 2010 because electoral authorities could not determine their nationality at the time. The estimation is adjusted to reflect the number of persons who acquired nationality through the special ‘acquisition of nationality by declaration’ procedure until mid-2017. The estimate does not include individuals of unknown parentage who were abandoned as children and who are not considered as nationals under Ivorian law.
- 19 UNHCR’s assistance activities for IDPs in Cyprus ended in 1999. Visit the website of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) for further information.
- 20 Refugee population includes 60,280 refugee-like from Central African Rep. who are new arrivals from January to June 2017.
- 21 UNHCR is currently working with the authorities and other actors to determine the size of the population that found an effective nationality solution under Law 169-14. Since the adoption of Law 169-14 in May 2014, important steps have been taken by the Dominican Republic to confirm Dominican nationality through the validation of birth certificates of individuals born in the country to two migrant parents. Thousands of individuals also are believed to have been issued their Dominican civil documents in 2016, although an official figure was not available for this report.
- 22 Almost all people recorded as being stateless have permanent residence and enjoy more rights than foreseen in the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.
- 23 Figure refers to individuals without a nationality who were born in the Dominican Republic prior to January 2010 and who were identified by UNHCR in Haiti since June 2015.
- 24 Pending a more accurate study into stateless in Iraq, the estimate of stateless persons in Iraq has been adjusted to reflect the reduction of statelessness in line with Law 26 of 2006, which allows stateless persons to apply for nationality in certain circumstances.
- 25 Figures are UNHCR estimates.
- 26 Includes 34,000 Iraqi refugees registered with UNHCR in Jordan. The Government estimated the number of Iraqis at 400,000 individuals at the end of March 2015. This includes refugees and other categories of Iraqis.
- 27 With respect to persons under UNHCR’s statelessness mandate, this figure includes persons of concern covered by two separate Latvian laws. 176 persons fall under the Republic of Latvia’s Law on Stateless Persons on 17 February 2004. 242,560 of the persons fall under Latvia’s 25 April 1995 Law on the Status of those Former USSR Citizens who are not Citizens of Latvia or Any Other State (“Non-citizens”). In the specific context of Latvia, the “Non-citizens” enjoy the right to reside in Latvia ex lege and a set of rights and obligations generally beyond the rights prescribed by the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, including protection from removal, and as such the “Non-citizens” may currently be considered persons to whom the Convention does not apply in accordance with Article 1.2(ii).
- 28 All figures relate to the end of 2016.
- 29 The updated statelessness figure is based on a registration and community legal assistance programme undertaken in West Malaysia by a local NGO with technical support from UNHCR, which began in 2014. During 2016, 874 persons of those registered acquired Malaysian nationality.
- 30 All figures relate to the end of 2016.
- 31 The figure of persons of concern under the statelessness mandate relates to stateless persons in Rakhine state and persons of undetermined nationality residing in other states in Myanmar.
The figure of stateless persons in Rakhine state has been estimated on the basis of the 2014 census report. It does not include an estimated 118,000 stateless IDPs, persons in an IDP-like situation who are also of concern under the statelessness mandate because they are already included within the figures on IDPs. In Rakhine State, the total number of stateless persons is estimated to be approximately one million. Revisions have been made to reduce the number of stateless persons due to departures to Bangladesh after October 2016. Outside of Rakhine state, the figure of those with undetermined nationality (25,939) is based on government data released on 27 December 2016 indicating the number of persons who hold an Identity Card for National Verification, whose citizenship has not yet been confirmed.
- 32 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.
- 33 All figures relate to the end of 2016.
- 34 The updated statelessness figure is based on a registration exercise covering 28 municipalities that has taken place between 2014 and 2016. 4,112 of the registered group were confirmed as Filipino, Indonesian or dual nationals during 2016.
- 35 All figures relate to the end of 2016.
- 36 The statelessness figure refers to the census figure from 2010 adjusted to reflect the number of stateless persons who acquired nationality in 2011-2016.
- 37 An adjustment to 2015 and 2016 end of year figures, in particular for the number of asylum applications pending on appeal and review, has resulted in a substantially lower figure for numbers of asylum seekers reported in South Africa.
- 38 Refugee figure for Iraqis and Stateless persons in the Syrian Arab Republic was a Government estimate. UNHCR has registered and is assisting 16,000 Iraqis at mid-2017.
- 39 The figure on the number of registered stateless persons has been updated by the Royal Thai Government. It includes an increase of 61,070 persons who are expected to form a large proportion of the group which will benefit from positive changes introduced to the nationality framework in December 2016. In addition it reflects decreases as a result of 8,814 stateless persons acquiring Thai nationality in 2016 and 8,377 cases that were de-registered because of death or duplicate registration.
- 40 Refugee figure for Syrians in Turkey was a Government estimate.
- 41 IDP figure in Ukraine includes 800,000 people who are in an IDP-like situation.
- 42 The statelessness figure refers to stateless persons with permanent residence reported by the Government in 2010. The figure has been adjusted to reflect the acquisition of nationality of 179 formerly stateless persons. Information on other categories of stateless persons is not available.
- 43 A study is being pursued to provide a revised estimate of statelessness figure.

Source: UNHCR/Governments.

Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by origin | mid-2017 (or latest available estimates)

All data are provisional and subject to change.

Origin ¹	REFUGEES					Returned refugees ⁵	IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations ⁶	Returned IDPs ⁷	Persons under UNHCR's statelessness mandate ⁸	Others of concern to UNHCR ⁹	Total population of concern
	Refugees ²	People in refugee-like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	of whom: UNHCR-assisted	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
Afghanistan	2,593,203	7,304	2,600,507	1,441,119	334,528	34,854	1,618,995	-	-	448,032	5,036,916
Albania	11,498	-	11,498	-	19,583	-	-	-	-	1	31,082
Algeria	3,895	-	3,895	70	5,301	-	-	-	-	8	9,204
Andorra	2	-	2	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	7
Angola	8,359	-	8,359	944	5,995	-	-	-	-	20,087	34,441
Anguilla	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Antigua and Barbuda	92	-	92	2	43	-	-	-	-	-	135
Argentina	121	-	121	-	300	-	-	-	-	-	421
Armenia	10,774	-	10,774	45	11,372	-	-	-	-	9	22,155
Aruba	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Australia	14	-	14	-	21	-	-	-	-	-	35
Austria	6	-	6	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	17
Azerbaijan	10,004	573	10,577	2,073	8,276	-	613,129	-	-	1	631,983
Bahamas	332	-	332	-	178	-	-	-	-	-	510
Bahrain	482	-	482	25	140	-	-	-	-	-	622
Bangladesh	15,180	7	15,187	93	29,238	2	-	-	-	15	44,442
Barbados	151	-	151	-	72	-	-	-	-	-	223
Belarus	3,734	-	3,734	9	2,340	-	-	-	-	-	6,074
Belgium	45	-	45	-	32	-	-	-	-	1	78
Belize	60	-	60	-	182	-	-	-	-	-	242
Benin	542	-	542	10	1,065	-	-	-	-	7	1,614
Bermuda	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Bhutan	10,064	-	10,064	9,527	324	-	-	-	-	-	10,388
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	530	-	530	14	490	-	-	-	-	-	1,020
Bosnia and Herzegovina	17,776	-	17,776	1,634	2,308	-	98,574	-	-	52,438	171,096
Botswana	274	-	274	-	125	-	-	-	-	1	400
Brazil	829	-	829	2	4,950	-	-	-	-	-	5,779
Brunei Darussalam	1	-	1	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	7
Bulgaria	758	-	758	1	301	-	-	-	-	1	1,060
Burkina Faso	2,516	-	2,516	8	4,698	-	-	-	-	1	7,215
Burundi ²¹	431,432	-	431,432	422,394	53,787	57,426	64,504	-	-	164,272	771,421
Cabo Verde	11	-	11	-	140	-	-	-	-	-	151
Cambodia	12,308	30	12,338	216	874	-	-	-	-	-	13,212
Cameroon	10,652	-	10,652	250	12,118	-	210,737	15,490	-	24	249,021
Canada	86	-	86	1	89	-	-	-	-	-	175
Cayman Islands	7	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Central African Rep.	440,204	60,280	500,484	437,174	10,935	30,761	534,000	72,924	-	21,194	1,170,298
Chad	14,768	2,970	17,738	11,793	2,401	-	118,804	5,538	-	16,723	161,204
Chile	493	-	493	9	296	-	-	-	-	-	789
China	206,395	-	206,395	281	78,972	-	-	-	-	2	285,369
China, Hong Kong SAR	12	-	12	-	38	-	-	-	-	-	50
China, Macao SAR	4	-	4	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	12
Colombia	90,211	219,525	309,736	8,968	15,366	188	7,523,811	-	-	-	7,849,101
Comoros	584	-	584	-	945	-	-	-	-	-	1,529
Congo, Republic of	13,411	-	13,411	1,138	3,903	-	81,000	-	-	98	98,412
Cook Islands	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Costa Rica	206	-	206	1	419	-	-	-	-	-	625
Côte d'Ivoire	42,210	-	42,210	29,064	20,395	5,288	-	-	-	33	67,926
Croatia ¹⁰	24,910	-	24,910	8,582	338	30	-	-	-	9,586	34,864
Cuba	5,011	1,000	6,011	533	8,515	-	-	-	-	-	14,526
Curaçao	35	-	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
Cyprus ¹¹	2	-	2	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	12

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	Refugees ²	People in refugee-like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	of whom: UNHCR-assisted	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
Czechia	1,279	-	1,279	-	337	-	-	-	-	-	1,616
Dem. People's Rep. of Korea	1,299	-	1,299	71	232	-	-	-	-	-	1,531
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	579,630	208	579,838	507,463	89,317	22	3,842,887	155,664	-	18,757	4,686,485
Denmark	2	-	2	-	23	-	-	-	-	1	26
Djibouti	1,594	-	1,594	91	1,189	-	-	-	-	2	2,785
Dominica	23	-	23	-	49	-	-	-	-	-	72
Dominican Rep.	378	-	378	3	2,562	-	-	-	-	-	2,940
Ecuador	1,158	-	1,158	11	16,258	-	-	-	-	-	17,416
Egypt	21,088	-	21,088	337	13,398	-	-	-	-	110	34,596
El Salvador	22,856	-	22,856	1,244	83,625	-	-	-	-	3,322	109,803
Equatorial Guinea	142	-	142	8	111	-	-	-	-	-	253
Eritrea	447,050	27,301	474,351	278,935	67,587	-	-	-	-	99	542,037
Estonia	302	-	302	-	49	-	-	-	-	-	351
Ethiopia	85,323	-	85,323	40,884	82,767	-	-	-	-	649	168,739
Fiji	770	-	770	1	508	-	-	-	-	-	1,278
Finland	4	-	4	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	9
France	56	-	56	-	143	-	-	-	-	-	199
French Guiana	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
Gabon	192	-	192	1	291	3	-	-	-	-	486
Gambia	13,023	-	13,023	86	20,266	33	-	-	-	-	33,322
Georgia	6,504	-	6,504	283	13,808	-	275,676	-	-	-	295,988
Germany	71	-	71	1	160	-	-	-	-	-	231
Ghana	16,274	-	16,274	4,097	12,328	-	-	-	-	4	28,606
Gibraltar	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Greece	103	-	103	-	86	-	-	-	-	1	190
Grenada	102	-	102	-	63	-	-	-	-	-	165
Guadeloupe	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Guatemala	14,700	-	14,700	89	59,656	-	-	-	-	-	74,356
Guinea	18,666	-	18,666	218	26,703	1	-	-	-	1	45,371
Guinea-Bissau	1,748	-	1,748	21	2,188	-	-	-	-	-	3,936
Guyana	271	-	271	3	380	-	-	-	-	-	651
Haiti	29,011	-	29,011	614	25,658	-	-	-	-	43,871	98,540
Honduras	12,384	-	12,384	463	46,921	-	174,000	-	-	1,600	234,905
Hungary	3,088	-	3,088	1	1,622	-	-	-	-	3	4,713
Iceland	1	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	4
India	7,571	-	7,571	15	31,136	-	-	-	-	250	38,957
Indonesia	7,375	5,403	12,778	846	3,011	-	-	-	-	3	15,792
Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	108,019	174	108,193	15,933	79,069	3	-	-	-	308	187,573
Iraq ¹²	345,018	4,263	349,281	134,377	254,821	507	4,009,736	579,158	-	25,190	5,218,693
Ireland	6	-	6	-	46	-	-	-	-	-	52
Israel	478	-	478	2	727	-	-	-	-	-	1,205
Italy	53	-	53	1	195	-	-	-	-	-	248
Jamaica	2,059	-	2,059	28	1,321	-	-	-	-	-	3,380
Japan	52	-	52	-	94	-	-	-	-	-	146
Jordan	2,039	-	2,039	141	2,817	-	-	-	-	123	4,979
Kazakhstan	2,390	-	2,390	19	2,813	-	-	-	-	-	5,203
Kenya	7,613	1	7,614	3,695	4,007	-	-	-	-	24	11,645
Kiribati	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Kuwait	1,051	-	1,051	28	774	-	-	-	-	-	1,825
Kyrgyzstan	2,663	-	2,663	232	2,441	-	-	-	-	-	5,104
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	7,143	-	7,143	1	201	-	-	-	-	-	7,344
Latvia	169	-	169	8	105	-	-	-	-	-	274

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	Refugees ²	People in refugee-like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	of whom: UNHCR-assisted	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
Lebanon	5,183	1	5,184	136	8,765	-	-	-	-	-	13,949
Lesotho	13	-	13	-	706	-	-	-	-	-	719
Liberia	6,238	7	6,245	2,633	3,022	-	-	-	-	43	9,310
Libya	10,059	-	10,059	1,175	5,772	-	240,188	59,831	-	6	315,856
Lithuania	69	-	69	1	86	-	-	-	-	-	155
Luxembourg	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Madagascar	296	-	296	1	59	-	-	-	-	3	358
Malawi	441	-	441	2	3,730	-	-	-	-	-	4,171
Malaysia	505	-	505	-	6,261	-	-	-	-	-	6,766
Maldives	62	-	62	13	32	-	-	-	-	-	94
Mali	159,369	-	159,369	140,912	10,677	2,775	51,961	11,159	-	56	235,997
Malta	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Marshall Islands	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Mauritania	36,390	-	36,390	29,041	7,212	-	-	-	-	4	43,606
Mauritius	124	-	124	-	227	-	-	-	-	-	351
Mexico	10,849	-	10,849	20	76,707	-	-	-	-	-	87,556
Monaco	3	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4
Mongolia	2,255	-	2,255	-	3,716	-	-	-	-	5	5,976
Montenegro	717	-	717	4	838	-	-	-	-	-	1,555
Morocco	2,656	-	2,656	54	6,487	-	-	-	-	10	9,153
Mozambique	51	-	51	4	5,898	6,231	15,312	-	-	-	27,492
Myanmar ¹³	199,894	324,158	524,052	242,524	47,085	189	350,029	2,620	-	124	924,099
Namibia	1,370	-	1,370	929	150	8	-	-	-	49	1,577
Nepal	8,439	4	8,443	27	10,048	-	-	-	-	502	18,993
Netherlands	39	-	39	-	50	-	-	-	-	-	89
New Zealand	28	-	28	-	22	-	-	-	-	1	51
Nicaragua	1,443	-	1,443	523	2,393	-	-	-	-	-	3,836
Niger	1,287	-	1,287	461	1,034	-	127,299	5,867	-	14,546	150,033
Nigeria	205,550	30,593	236,143	205,422	72,334	205,430	2,028,179	242,681	-	21	2,784,788
Niue	19	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Norfolk Island	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Norway	10	-	10	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	24
Oman	37	-	37	5	47	-	-	-	-	-	84
Pakistan	136,517	10	136,527	91,835	66,405	19	275,724	176,388	-	9	655,072
Palau	3	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	6
Palestinian ¹⁴	98,909	-	98,909	16,436	6,544	-	-	-	-	1,948	107,401
Panama	39	-	39	3	107	-	-	-	-	-	146
Papua New Guinea	418	-	418	-	283	-	-	-	-	-	701
Paraguay	72	-	72	-	133	-	-	-	-	-	205
Peru	2,546	-	2,546	43	2,801	-	-	-	-	-	5,347
Philippines	425	15	440	29	4,205	-	364,846	143,196	-	80,048	592,735
Poland	1,133	-	1,133	-	692	-	-	-	-	-	1,825
Portugal	18	-	18	1	120	-	-	-	-	-	138
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Qatar	33	-	33	1	29	-	-	-	-	-	62
Rep. of Korea	242	-	242	1	662	-	-	-	-	-	904
Rep. of Moldova	2,316	1	2,317	21	4,858	-	-	-	-	1	7,176
Romania	1,193	-	1,193	1	3,091	-	-	-	-	2	4,286
Russian Federation	62,115	-	62,115	629	36,154	3	-	-	-	2	98,274
Rwanda	283,586	-	283,586	166,553	11,014	4,844	-	-	-	6,851	306,295
Saint Kitts and Nevis	49	-	49	-	23	-	-	-	-	-	72
Saint Lucia	990	-	990	-	206	-	-	-	-	-	1,196
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	1,316	-	1,316	2	138	-	-	-	-	-	1,454

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	Refugees ²	People in refugee-like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	of whom: UNHCR-assisted	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Samoa	1	-	1	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	11
San Marino	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Sao Tome and Principe	26	-	26	26	13	-	-	-	-	-	39
Saudi Arabia	1,102	-	1,102	38	1,137	-	-	-	-	9	2,248
Senegal	24,102	-	24,102	16,205	18,150	-	-	-	-	-	42,252
Serbia and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)	35,165	151	35,316	1,344	16,624	95	217,486	134	-	-	269,655
Seychelles	12	-	12	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	16
Sierra Leone	4,385	-	4,385	489	5,301	-	-	-	-	374	10,060
Singapore	48	-	48	2	63	-	-	-	-	-	111
Slovakia	855	-	855	-	649	-	-	-	-	-	1,504
Slovenia	21	-	21	2	16	-	-	-	-	-	37
Solomon Islands	73	-	73	-	81	-	-	-	-	-	154
Somalia	989,513	48	989,561	700,568	57,148	31,431	1,562,554	-	-	206	2,640,900
South Africa	454	-	454	8	1,347	-	-	-	-	6	1,807
South Sudan ¹⁵	1,961,749	68	1,961,817	1,920,426	5,362	-	1,944,735	-	-	-	3,911,914
Spain	35	-	35	-	156	-	-	-	-	-	191
Sri Lanka	116,922	-	116,922	1,654	15,899	715	36,807	2,923	-	7	173,273
Sudan ¹⁶	672,069	8,030	680,099	631,845	48,647	6	2,307,339	-	-	146	3,036,237
Suriname	17	-	17	-	40	-	-	-	-	1	58
Swaziland	230	-	230	1	156	7	-	-	-	2	395
Sweden	17	-	17	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	29
Switzerland	6	-	6	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	15
Syrian Arab Rep.	5,957,647	22,623	5,980,270	5,213,713	150,059	8	6,325,978	-	-	8,782	12,465,097
Tajikistan	1,109	-	1,109	52	3,295	-	-	-	-	-	4,404
Thailand	155	12	167	27	984	-	-	-	-	-	1,151
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	1,715	-	1,715	5	5,621	-	-	-	-	-	7,336
Tibetan	13,534	-	13,534	5	4	-	-	-	-	5	13,543
Timor-Leste	17	1	18	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	21
Togo	8,168	-	8,168	3,499	2,947	1	-	-	-	-	11,116
Tonga	29	-	29	-	78	-	-	-	-	-	107
Trinidad and Tobago	296	-	296	-	286	-	-	-	-	11	593
Tunisia	1,781	-	1,781	53	1,956	-	-	-	-	7	3,744
Turkey	58,642	-	58,642	15,821	25,738	-	-	-	-	58	84,438
Turkmenistan	383	-	383	21	1,119	-	-	-	-	-	1,502
Turks and Caicos Islands	16	-	16	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	19
Tuvalu	2	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
Uganda	6,323	-	6,323	878	6,049	-	-	-	-	180,003	192,375
Ukraine ¹⁷	200,043	289	200,332	1,235	39,256	-	1,800,000	-	-	4	2,039,592
United Arab Emirates	137	-	137	8	178	-	-	-	-	-	315
United Kingdom	80	5	85	5	139	-	-	-	-	1	225
United Rep. of Tanzania	631	-	631	28	1,257	-	-	-	-	15	1,903
United States of America ¹⁸	300	7	307	12	650	-	-	-	-	7	964
Uruguay	22	-	22	-	143	-	-	-	-	-	165
Uzbekistan	3,643	-	3,643	240	3,278	-	-	-	-	2	6,923
Vanuatu	2	-	2	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	6
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	8,039	-	8,039	396	80,590	-	-	-	-	-	88,629
Viet Nam ¹⁹	329,410	1	329,411	374	4,885	-	-	-	-	68	334,364

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	Refugees ²	People in refugee-like situations ³	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations	of whom: UNHCR-assisted	Asylum-seekers (pending cases) ⁴						
Wallis and Futuna Islands	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Western Sahara ²⁰	90,682	26,000	116,682	90,074	1,254	-	-	-	-	-	117,936
Yemen	21,735	-	21,735	16,934	20,559	-	1,980,510	946,044	-	15	2,968,863
Zambia	267	-	267	5	332	-	-	-	-	1	600
Zimbabwe	17,792	-	17,792	780	43,432	11	-	-	-	172	61,407
Stateless	51,451	-	51,451	1,159	9,211	-	-	-	3,224,153	-	3,284,815
Various/unknown	147,941	1,680	149,621	2,578	233,931	-	-	-	-	39,406	422,958
Total	17,731,110	742,743	18,473,853	12,886,184	2,954,666	380,891	38,794,800	2,419,617	3,224,153	1,160,391	67,408,371

UNHCR-Bureaux											
- Central Africa-Great Lakes	1,759,906	60,488	1,820,394	1,535,035	182,746	93,056	4,733,128	244,078	-	211,211	7,284,613
- East and Horn of Africa	4,186,002	38,418	4,224,420	3,589,115	275,157	31,437	5,933,432	5,538	-	197,852	10,667,836
- Southern Africa	30,267	-	30,267	2,674	63,106	6,257	15,312	-	-	20,321	135,263
- Western Africa	504,089	30,600	534,689	403,125	201,248	213,528	2,207,439	259,707	-	15,086	3,431,697
Total Africa	6,480,264	129,506	6,609,770	5,529,949	722,257	344,278	12,889,311	509,323	-	444,470	21,519,409
Asia and Pacific	3,788,604	337,119	4,125,723	1,805,159	731,941	35,782	2,646,401	325,127	-	529,381	8,394,355
Middle East and North Africa	6,600,402	52,887	6,653,289	5,502,648	487,977	515	12,556,412	1,585,033	-	36,212	21,319,438
Europe	455,345	1,019	456,364	31,707	195,283	128	3,004,865	134	-	62,110	3,718,884
Americas	207,103	220,532	427,635	12,984	431,623	188	7,697,811	-	-	48,812	8,606,069
Various/Stateless	199,392	1,680	201,072	3,737	243,142	-	-	-	3,224,153	39,406	3,707,773
Total	17,731,110	742,743	18,473,853	12,886,184	2,954,666	380,891	38,794,800	2,419,617	3,224,153	1,160,391	67,408,371

UN major regions											
Africa	6,646,815	155,506	6,802,321	5,650,753	763,637	344,278	13,129,499	569,154	-	444,615	22,053,504
Asia	10,307,016	364,579	10,671,595	7,205,224	1,236,730	36,297	15,851,430	1,850,329	-	565,515	30,211,896
Europe	369,419	446	369,865	13,485	136,079	128	2,116,060	134	-	62,042	2,684,308
Latin America and the Caribbean	206,717	220,525	427,242	12,971	430,882	188	7,697,811	-	-	48,805	8,604,928
Northern America	386	7	393	13	741	-	-	-	-	7	1,141
Oceania	1,365	-	1,365	1	1,012	-	-	-	-	1	2,378
Various/Stateless	199,392	1,680	201,072	3,737	243,142	-	-	-	3,224,153	39,406	3,707,773
Total	17,731,110	742,743	18,473,853	12,886,184	2,954,666	380,891	38,794,800	2,419,617	3,224,153	1,160,391	67,408,371

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. Countries with population of 1 million or less that have zero (-) value for all columns are excluded from the table. All data are provisional and subject to change.

- 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 asylum-seeker 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. Where cases have been reported with an average number of persons, the number of cases reported has been multiplied by this average and used to calculate the total number of asylum-seekers. For reporting by country of origin, a mix of persons and cases was used as reported by the country of asylum because it is not known how this average multiplication factor is distributed by country of origin.
- 5** Refugees who have returned to their place of origin during the first half of 2017. 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 first half of 2017.
- 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 figure for Iraqis in the Syrian Arab Republic was a Government estimate. UNHCR has registered and is assisting 16,000 Iraqis at the end of 2016. The refugee population in Jordan includes 34,000 Iraqis registered with UNHCR. The Government of Jordan estimated the number of Iraqis at 400,000 individuals at the end of March 2015. This includes refugees and other categories of Iraqis.
- 13** The refugee population in Bangladesh includes 274,000 persons in refugee-like situation from Myanmar. IDP figure in Myanmar includes 120,000 persons in an IDP-like situation.
- 14** Refers to Palestinian refugees under the UNHCR mandate only.
- 15** An unknown number of refugees and asylum-seekers from South Sudan may be included under Sudan (in absence of separate statistics for both countries).
- 16** Figures for refugees and asylum-seekers may include citizens of South Sudan (in absence of separate statistics for both countries).
- 17** IDP figure in Ukraine includes 800,000 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.
- 21** This number is provisional, with countries of asylum from which refugees have returned to Burundi not identified.

Source: UNHCR/Governments.

MID-YEAR TRENDS 2017

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FRONT COVER:

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA.

A funding gap, which resulted in lack of shelter, has had a considerable impact in the lives of vulnerable refugees. Akima fled Burundi for western United Republic of Tanzania in December 2016 and continues to live in emergency shelter made of plastic sheeting in Nduta camp.

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global displacement is available on UNHCR's
statistics website:
<http://www.unhcr.org/statistics>

