

CHAPTER I

POPULATION LEVELS AND TRENDS

INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides an overview of the size and the main changes in the population of concern to UNHCR during 2003.

In the UNHCR statistics, **refugees** include persons recognized under the *1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees*, its 1967 Protocol, the *1969 OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa*, those recognized in accordance with the UNHCR Statute, persons allowed to stay for humanitarian reasons and persons granted temporary protection.

The UNHCR mandate covers all refugees, except Palestinian refugees residing in areas of operation of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). By the end of 2003, 4.1 million Palestinian refugees were living in Jordan (1.7 million), the Occupied Palestinian Territory (1.6 million), the Syrian Arab Republic (414,000) and Lebanon (395,000). These Palestinian refugees are not included in UNHCR's statistics. However, the 428,000 Palestinian refugees living outside the UNRWA areas of operation fall under the responsibility of UNHCR and are included in the 2003 Yearbook.

Asylum-seekers are persons who have applied for asylum or refugee status, but who have not yet received a final decision on their application. A distinction should be made between the number of asylum-seekers who

have submitted a request *during a certain period* ("asylum applications submitted") and the number of asylum-seekers whose asylum request has not yet been decided *at a certain date* ("backlog of undecided or pending cases").

Internally displaced persons or IDPs are often displaced for the same reasons as refugees. However, because IDPs have not crossed an international border, their legal situation as well as the international response to their plight differs significantly from that of refugees.

UNHCR statistics are limited to IDPs to whom UNHCR extends protection or assistance, generally pursuant to a special request by the United Nations Secretary-General or by a competent organ of the United Nations and with the agreement of the country concerned. As such, UNHCR statistics do not provide a comprehensive picture of global internal displacement.

In **returnee situations**, UNHCR seeks to reintegrate former refugees and IDPs as soon as possible by targeting both returnees as well as receiving communities. Partners are actively engaged to provide development assistance. For statistical purposes, only refugees and IDPs who have returned during the past 12 months are included in the population of concern to UNHCR. In practice, operations may assist returnees for longer periods, however.

In addition to protecting persons who are or have been recently displaced, UNHCR extends support to **stateless persons** by seeking to avoid and reduce statelessness. A stateless person is someone who is not considered as a national by any state under the operation of its law.

UNHCR has been entrusted by the General Assembly with fulfilling the functions under Article 11 of the *1961 Convention on the Reduction of*

Statelessness. As the agency designated to act as an intermediary between States and stateless persons, UNHCR provides expertise in the area of nationality and has been requested by its Executive Committee to promote accession to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention.

Statelessness may be an important reason for fleeing one's place of origin. However, most stateless persons have not fled their country of habitual residence. Because stateless persons who are not refugees are difficult to enumerate, reliable estimates on the scope of statelessness are not available. Groups for which estimates are available are included in the category of *Others of concern*.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

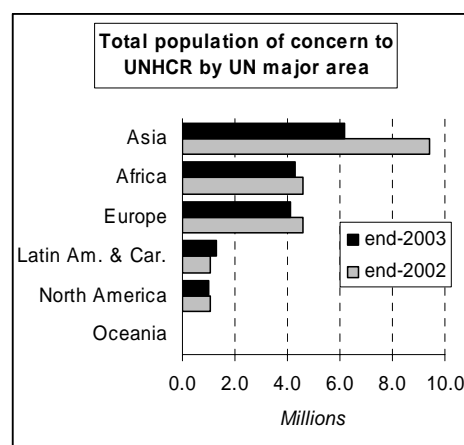
GLOBAL TRENDS

By the end of 2003, UNHCR extended protection or assistance to some 17.0 million refugees and *Others of concern* to the Office. This includes 9.7 million refugees; 882,000 asylum-seekers, 1.1 million refugees who had repatriated during the year; 4.2 million IDPs; 233,000 IDPs who had returned to their place of origin during the year and 905,000 *Others of concern*, many of whom are stateless (see *Table I.1 and Map 1*).

The total population of concern to UNHCR fell from 20.7 million persons at the end of 2002 to 17.0 by the end of 2003 (-18%). The global number of refugees fell by nine per cent, the asylum-seeker population decreased by 10 per cent and the number of refugees who returned during the year dropped by 55 per cent. UNHCR offices also reported 10 per cent fewer IDPs.

The decrease in the number of Afghan refugees who repatriated, from two million in 2002 to 646,000 in 2003 is

the main reason for the fall in the population of concern to UNHCR in 2003.



REGIONAL TRENDS

The UN major area Asia continues to host the largest population of concern to UNHCR (6.2 million), followed by Africa (4.3 million), Europe (4.1 million), Latin America and the Caribbean (1.3 million), North America (978,000) and Oceania (74,000) (see *Table A.1*).

During 2003, the total population of concern to UNHCR decreased most significantly in Asia (-34%), followed by Europe (-9%), North America (-8%), Africa (-7%) and Oceania (-6%). Latin America and the Caribbean was the only region where an increase in the total population of concern to UNHCR was reported (+26%), due to a rise in the number of IDPs in Colombia.

Although UNHCR's Europe Bureau covered the largest population of concern to UNHCR by the end of 2003 (5.2 million), many refugees in these countries are economically or socially integrated and do not receive assistance from the international community. The Bureau for Central Asia, South West Asia, North Africa and the Middle East (CASWANAME) hosted the second largest population of concern to UNHCR (4.1 million), followed by the Africa Bureau (4.0 million), the Americas Bureau

(2.3 million), and the Bureau for Asia and the Pacific (1.4 million) (see *Table A.1*).

The CASWANAME region recorded the largest fall in the population of concern to UNHCR during 2003 (-42%), followed by Asia and the Pacific (-17%), the Europe Bureau (-8%) and the Africa Bureau (-7%). Only the region covered by the Americas Bureau reported an increase in the population of concern (+9%).

Among the MDG regions, the developed regions recorded a modest decrease in the population of concern to UNHCR (-9%), the developing regions recorded a much stronger decline (-23%), although the largest fall was reported by the 50 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) (-39%).

By the end of 2003, the developing regions hosted 62 per cent of the global population of concern to UNHCR; the developed regions hosted 25 per cent, while the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) hosted the remaining 13 per cent. The LDCs hosted 26 per cent of the population of concern to UNHCR (see *Table A.1*).

REFUGEES

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM

During 2003, the refugee population fell by nine per cent to reach approximately 9.7 million persons by the end of the year. In two years' time, the global number of refugees dropped by 20 per cent. Between 1994 and 2003, the refugee population fell by almost 40 per cent (see *Table A.3*).

The decline in the global number of refugees during 2003 was reflected in all regions. In Asia, the refugee population fell by 13 per cent, Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean both reported a decrease of some six per cent, North America and Europe

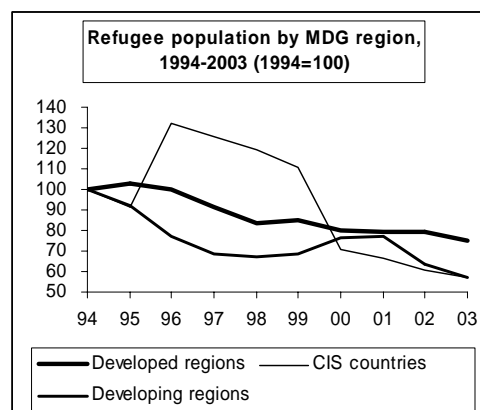
recorded a five per cent decline, whereas Oceania reported only a minor change (-1%).

Asia continues to host the largest refugee population (38%), followed by Africa (32%), Europe (23%), North America (6%), Oceania (1%), and Latin America and the Caribbean (0.4%) (see *Table A.3*).

The UNHCR CASWANAME and Africa Bureaux each covered 30 per cent of the refugee population by the end of 2003. The countries of the Europe Bureau host 25 per cent of all refugees, followed by the Bureau for Asia and the Pacific (9%) and the Americas (6%).

Most refugees are hosted by developing countries. In 2003, the developing regions hosted 6.5 million refugees or 67 per cent of the global refugee population. The developed regions hosted 2.8 million refugees (29%), whereas the remaining 340,000 refugees were hosted by the CIS countries (4%). The 50 LDCs hosted 26 per cent of all refugees at the end of 2003 (see *Table A.3*).

The largest fall in the refugee population during 2003 took place in the developing countries (-10%) and the LDCs (-10%). The developed regions recorded a modest five per cent decrease in the refugee population.



During the past 10 years, the refugee

population in the LDCs declined faster than in the other regions. From 1994-1998 to 1999-2003, the average refugee population in the 50 LDCs dropped by 32 per cent, almost double the global trend (-17%). The decline in the developed regions (-17%) exceeded slightly that of the developing regions (-15%). In the CIS countries, the refugee population fell by 36 per cent, whereas sub-Saharan Africa reported 31 per cent fewer refugees.

Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran continue to host the largest refugee population. By end-2003, these two countries provided asylum to 22 per cent of the global refugee population, according to UNHCR estimates (see *Table A.4 and Map 2*).

Among the 10 main asylum countries in 2003, eight experienced a fall in the annual refugee population, including the Islamic Rep. of Iran (-25%), and Serbia and Montenegro (-18%). An increase in the number of refugees was reported only by the United Kingdom (6%) and China (1%).

Main asylum countries, end-2003	
<i>See Table I.1 for details and footnotes</i>	
Country of asylum	No. of refugees
Pakistan	1,124,000
Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	985,000
Germany	960,000
United Rep. of Tanzania	650,000
United States	453,000
China	299,000
Serbia and Montenegro	291,000
United Kingdom	277,000
Saudi Arabia	241,000
Armenia	239,000

Most industrialized countries do not maintain a refugee register. For these countries, UNHCR estimates the size of the refugee population, based on the total number of refugees who arrived in recent years, either spontaneously as asylum-seekers or through resettlement. Estimates for European countries are based on

refugee arrivals over the past 10 years, whereas estimates for the non-European countries (Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States) are based on refugee arrivals over the past five years. These different time periods reflect the different pace of naturalization, the final step towards local integration of refugees.

The official refugee population figure in Germany (960,000) is based on the Central Aliens Register. However, using the above estimation method, a more internationally comparable refugee estimate for Germany would be 528,000 (see *Table C.23*).

ORIGIN

Most refugees are not only hosted by, but also originating from developing countries. By the end of 2003, refugees originating from the UN major area Asia accounted for almost half of the global refugee population (48%), Africa was the region of origin of 36 per cent of all refugees, while 11 per cent originated from Europe (see *Table A.5 and Map 4*).

During the past 10 years, all UNHCR Regional Bureaux reported a decrease in the number of refugees originating from the countries under their administration, except CASWANAME (+4%) and the Southern Africa Operation (+13%). Compared to the period 1994-1998, the largest decline during 1999-2003 was reported for refugees originating from West Africa (-48%), the Americas (-37%), Central Africa and the Great Lakes (-30%), and Europe (-20%) (see *Table A.5*). The reduction in the number of refugees originating from these regions is the result of achieving durable solutions in combination with averting new refugee outflows.

Trends within the developing regions differ quite substantially. The number of refugees originating from countries in sub-Saharan Africa during the

period 1999-2003 fell by 25 per cent, compared to 1994-1998, while the number of refugees from countries in Latin America and the Caribbean fell by 37 per cent. In contrast, the number of refugees increased from countries located in Eastern Asia (14%), South Asia (8%), Western Asia (7%) and Northern Africa (5%) (see *Table A.5*).

During the past 10 years, the decline in the refugee population was particularly noteworthy for refugees originating from the CIS countries (-36%). The number of refugees from the developed regions fell by 18 per cent, whereas progress towards reducing the number of refugees from developing regions was limited (-10%).

Afghanistan continues to be the main source of refugees. By the end of 2003, 2.1 million Afghan refugees, constituting 22 per cent of the total number of refugees, were hosted by 75 asylum countries. Due to continued voluntary repatriation primarily from Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, the number of Afghan refugees fell by 15 per cent during 2003 (see *Table A.6*).

Main origin of refugees, end-2003 <i>See Table A.6</i>	
Origin	No. of refugees
Afghanistan	2,136,000
Sudan	606,000
Burundi	532,000
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	453,000
Occupied Palestinian Territory	428,000
Somalia	402,000
Iraq	369,000
Viet Nam	363,000
Liberia	353,000
Angola	330,000

Among the main refugee nationalities during 2003, an increase was reported in the refugee population from Liberia (28%), Sudan (19%) and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (8%). In addition to the fall in the number of Afghan refugees (-15%), a reduction was also reported for

refugees originating from Angola (-24%), Iraq (-13%), Burundi (-7%) and Somalia (-7%).

During 2003, important decreases were also reported for refugees originating from Bosnia and Herzegovina (-26%), Croatia (-16%), Eritrea (-61%), Sierra Leone (-50%) and Timor-Leste (-100%) (see *Table A.6*).

NET REFUGEE MOVEMENTS

When the refugee population by region of asylum is compared with the refugee population by origin, an indication of "net refugee movements" is obtained. If a region hosts more refugees, regardless of their origin, than the number of refugees which are originating from it, regardless of their place of residence, the regional balance is positive. However, when the number of refugees originating from a region exceeds the number of refugees who have found asylum in that region, the region can be considered to have a negative balance.

During the period 1994-2003, Europe recorded the largest net refugee movement. On average, Europe hosted 2.8 million refugees more than the global number of refugees originating from Europe. North America recorded the second largest net refugee movement (1.4 million), followed by Oceania (147,000). Regions with a negative refugee balance are Asia (-1.3 million), Africa (-476,000), and Latin America and the Caribbean (-110,000).

Developing regions are a net source of refugees, while the developed regions are, on balance, net receivers. The differences are relatively modest, however. For Africa, the average number of refugees originating from countries in the region during 1994-2003 (4.3 million) was only six per cent higher than the number of refugees who found asylum in Africa

(4.1 million). For Asia, the net refugee loss is double that of Africa (14%).

The analysis of net refugee movements also confirms that most refugees move across short distances, finding asylum in their region of origin.

ASYLUM-SEEKERS

The backlog of undecided or pending cases is an important indicator for the efficiency of asylum procedures. An increase in pending cases indicates that the number of new applications exceeded the number of asylum decisions during the period, generally leading to an increase in the waiting period for asylum-seekers. Conversely, if more applications are decided than submitted, the backlog of undecided cases will be reduced and the processing speed of asylum claims is likely to decline. Despite improved reporting over the past few years, the global number of asylum-seekers is underestimated, because some countries are unable to provide the number of undecided asylum cases.

COUNTRY OF ASYLUM

By the end of 2003, some 882,000 asylum-seekers were waiting for a decision, 10 per cent fewer than at the end of 2002 (979,000). The backlog exceeded 10,000 in 12 asylum countries at the end of 2003. The largest number of undecided cases at various stages of the asylum procedure was reported by the United States (351,000), Germany (128,000)³, South Africa (84,000), the Netherlands (45,000), Canada (42,000), Sweden (35,000) and Austria (32,000) (see *Table I.1*).

ORIGIN

At the end of 2003, there were 20 asylum-seeker nationalities for which the backlog in asylum decisions

exceeded 10,000 cases. Almost one quarter of all undecided cases are those from asylum-seekers from El Salvador and Guatemala in the United States (see *Table III.2*).

The backlog of undecided cases increased significantly for nationals from Myanmar (415%), Zimbabwe (155%), Togo (95%), Côte d'Ivoire (94%), Bangladesh (71%) and Nigeria (61%) during 2003.

Countries of origin for which the backlog was significantly reduced in 2003 included Eritrea (-89%), Bosnia and Herzegovina (-63%), Republic of Moldova (-53%), Sudan (-50%), Slovakia (-49%), Afghanistan (-47%) and FYR Macedonia (-46%).

OTHERS OF CONCERN

In addition to refugees and asylum-seekers, the population of concern to UNHCR includes refugees who have repatriated during the year, IDPs, including those who have returned during the year, and *Others of concern*. Voluntary repatriation of refugees is discussed in Chapter II under Durable solutions.

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

Reliable data on IDPs are often difficult to obtain, due to lack of access or security, short-term movements and the perceived limited benefits of registration. In some situations, IDPs may be reluctant to register. Generally, internal movements are not subject to Government control and therefore intrinsically more difficult to monitor than movements across international borders.

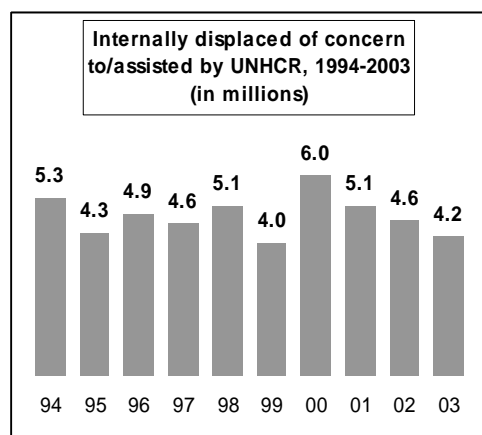
At the end of 2003, UNHCR country offices reported 4.2 million IDPs in 12 countries compared to 4.6 million IDPs in 16 countries one year earlier. In Angola and FYR Macedonia, UNHCR was no longer involved with IDPs, reflecting the improved

³ Including cases pending at the court level (see *Table I.1*, footnote 8.)

conditions in these countries. UNHCR programmes also ended for IDPs in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of Moldova.

During 2003, progress was also made in addressing IDP situations in other countries. An estimated 233,000 IDPs returned to their place of origin in Afghanistan (82,100), Bosnia and Herzegovina (40,300), Croatia (4,400), FYR Macedonia (6,800), the Russian Federation (19,700), Serbia and Montenegro (2,400) and Sri Lanka (76,700).

However, significantly higher levels of internal displacement were reported for Colombia (+294,000) and Liberia (+228,000) during 2003. A number of IDP situations are of a stable, protracted nature, including those in Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Russian Federation, and Serbia and Montenegro (see *Table I.1*).



STATELESS PERSONS AND OTHERS OF CONCERN

UNHCR extends protection and assistance to persons who it considers "of concern", but who do not fall into any of the above categories. Stateless persons who are not refugees constitute the largest group in this category. Stateless refugees are reported under the refugee category.

The problem of statelessness is difficult to quantify. The host country or

UNHCR may have difficulty in defining statelessness or stateless persons may not be registered or otherwise identified. Moreover, the legal status of potentially stateless persons may be disputed.

By the end of 2003, the category of *Others of concern* included some 905,000 persons, five per cent fewer than at the end of 2002. Many persons in this category were located in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). The Russian Federation counted 291,000 Involuntarily Relocating Persons (IRPs), or "forced migrants" as well as 100,000 Afghans in need of protection according to UNHCR.

Stateless persons are an important category among the *Others of concern* to UNHCR. They include Bedoons in Kuwait (80,000), stateless persons in Ukraine (79,000), Kazakhstan (18,600) and Belarus (13,800).

Finally, various groups are included which are deemed, for various reasons, of concern to UNHCR. They include local residents-at-risk in Kosovo (Serbia and Montenegro) (85,000), Colombians in Venezuela in need of protection (26,200), Iraqis in Kuwait (13,000), third country nationals in Liberia (15,000), Filipino muslims in Malaysia (57,200), some Bhutanese in Nepal (10,000) and rejected Eritrean asylum-seekers in Sudan (22,000).

I.1 Total population of concern to UNHCR, end-2003

See footnotes at the end of the table.

Country or territory of asylum (residence) ¹	Refugees ²	Asylum-seekers ³	Returned refugees ⁴	Others of concern			Total population of concern
				Internally displaced ⁵	Returned IDPs ⁶	Various ⁷	
Afghanistan	22	32	645,864	184,269	82,067	-	912,254
Albania	26	93	-	-	-	-	119
Algeria	169,033	2	14	-	-	-	169,049
Angola	13,382	1,006	132,977	-	-	-	147,365
Argentina	2,642	1,211	-	-	-	-	3,853
Armenia	239,289	36	-	-	-	-	239,325
Australia**	56,258	3,021	-	-	-	-	59,279
Austria*	16,109	32,285	-	-	-	-	48,394
Azerbaijan	326	8,805	-	575,609	-	430	585,170
Bahrein	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Bangladesh	19,792	8	-	-	-	-	19,800
Belarus	638	327	-	-	-	16,372	17,337
Belgium	12,595	22,604	-	-	-	-	35,199
Belize	861	8	-	-	-	-	869
Benin	5,034	814	-	-	-	-	5,848
Bolivia	527	1	3	-	-	-	531
Bosnia and Herzegovina	22,517	701	14,012	327,188	40,303	-	404,721
Botswana	2,838	1,079	-	-	-	-	3,917
Brazil	3,193	566	-	-	-	-	3,759
Bulgaria	4,068	756	-	-	-	-	4,824
Burkina Faso	466	499	-	-	-	-	965
Burundi	40,971	10,572	82,409	1,970	-	-	135,922
Cambodia	76	46	-	-	-	-	122
Cameroon	58,583	5,675	4	-	-	-	64,262
Canada**	133,094	41,575	-	-	-	-	174,669
Central African Rep.	44,753	3,419	4,857	-	-	-	53,029
Chad	146,400	165	598	-	-	-	147,163
Chile	466	49	7	-	-	-	522
China	299,354	43	-	-	-	-	299,397
Colombia	186	13	99	1,244,072	-	-	1,244,370
Congo	91,362	3,224	1,780	-	-	-	96,366
Costa Rica	13,508	77	-	-	-	-	13,585
Côte d'Ivoire	75,971	1,321	16,600	38,039	-	-	131,931
Croatia	4,387	57	9,866	12,566	4,403	-	31,279
Cuba	836	6	-	-	-	-	842
Cyprus	349	5,082	-	-	-	-	5,431
Czech Rep.	1,516	3,746	-	-	-	-	5,262
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	234,033	446	3,169	-	-	-	237,648
Denmark*	69,858	2,031	-	-	-	-	71,889
Djibouti	27,034	1,660	-	-	-	-	28,694
Ecuador	6,381	2,565	-	-	-	-	8,946
Egypt	88,749	5,409	-	-	-	-	94,158
El Salvador	246	3	12	-	-	-	261
Equatorial Guinea	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Eritrea	3,889	200	10,148	-	-	-	14,237
Estonia	12	3	-	-	-	-	15
Ethiopia	130,274	10	30	-	-	-	130,314
Finland*	10,843	-	-	-	-	-	10,843
France	130,838	22,900	-	-	-	-	153,738
FYR Macedonia	193	2,285	2,201	-	6,764	-	11,443
Gabon	14,005	5,118	-	-	-	-	19,123
Gambia	7,465	1	-	-	-	-	7,466
Georgia	3,864	-	117	260,215	377	32	264,605
Germany ⁸	960,395	25,656	-	-	-	-	986,051
Ghana	43,947	4,087	-	-	-	-	48,034
Greece	2,771	5,237	-	-	-	-	8,008
Guatemala	715	2	40	-	-	-	757
Guinea	184,341	2,544	-	-	-	-	186,885
Guinea-Bissau	7,551	79	-	-	-	-	7,630
Haiti	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Honduras	23	-	1	-	-	-	24
Hong Kong SAR, China	1,902	196	-	-	-	-	2,098
Hungary	7,023	775	-	-	-	-	7,798

I.1 Total population of concern to UNHCR, end-2003 (cont.)

See footnotes at the end of the table.

Country or territory of asylum (residence) ¹	Refugees ²	Asylum-seekers ³	Returned refugees ⁴	Others of concern			Total population of concern
				Internally displaced ⁵	Returned IDPs ⁶	Various ⁷	
Iceland*	239	13	-	-	-	-	252
India	164,757	535	-	-	-	-	165,292
Indonesia	233	68	-	-	-	16,697	16,998
Iraq ⁸	134,190	437	55,197	-	-	-	189,824
Ireland*	5,971	7,391	-	-	-	-	13,362
Islamic Rep. of Iran ¹⁰	984,896	1	3,850	-	-	-	988,747
Israel ⁹	4,179	703	-	-	-	-	4,882
Italy*	12,841	-	-	-	-	-	12,841
Japan	2,266	428	-	-	-	-	2,694
Jordan	1,196	6,734	-	-	-	-	7,930
Kazakhstan	15,831	3	-	-	-	18,594	34,428
Kenya	237,512	4,023	106	-	-	-	241,641
Kuwait	1,518	189	-	-	-	101,000	102,707
Kyrgyzstan	5,591	635	-	-	-	-	6,226
Latvia	17	-	-	-	-	-	17
Lebanon	2,522	531	-	-	-	-	3,053
Liberia	33,997	-	21,000	531,616	-	15,000	601,613
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	11,897	58	-	-	-	-	11,955
Liechtenstein*	149	92	-	-	-	-	241
Lithuania	403	96	-	-	-	-	499
Luxembourg	1,201	-	-	-	-	-	1,201
Malawi	3,202	8,848	-	-	-	-	12,050
Malaysia	7,424	9,205	-	-	-	62,053	78,682
Mali	10,009	715	-	-	-	-	10,724
Malta	895	56	-	-	-	-	951
Mauritania	475	55	-	-	-	29,500	30,030
Mexico	6,075	82	-	-	-	-	6,157
Morocco	2,121	177	-	-	-	-	2,298
Mozambique	311	9,225	-	-	-	-	9,536
Myanmar	-	-	3,231	-	-	-	3,231
Namibia	19,800	1,992	3	-	-	-	21,795
Nepal	123,667	235	-	-	-	10,704	134,606
Netherlands*	140,886	44,672	-	-	-	-	185,558
New Zealand**	5,807	1,028	-	-	-	-	6,835
Nicaragua	300	17	5	-	-	-	322
Niger	328	34	-	-	-	-	362
Nigeria	9,171	1,125	7	-	-	-	10,303
Norway*	46,109	-	-	-	-	-	46,109
Oman	-	24	3	-	-	-	27
Pakistan ¹⁰	1,124,298	5,356	2	-	-	-	1,129,656
Panama	1,445	103	120	-	-	301	1,969
Papua New Guinea	7,491	306	-	-	-	430	8,227
Paraguay	28	4	-	-	-	-	32
Peru	718	182	4	-	-	-	904
Philippines	108	38	-	-	-	1,691	1,837
Poland	1,836	1,521	-	-	-	-	3,357
Portugal*	418	-	-	-	-	-	418
Qatar	46	50	-	-	-	-	96
Rep. of Korea	25	139	-	-	-	-	164
Rep. of Moldova	102	140	-	-	-	-	242
Romania	2,011	312	-	-	-	-	2,323
Russian Federation	9,899	272	42	368,220	19,666	407,482	805,581
Rwanda	36,608	3,026	23,290	-	-	-	62,924
Saudi Arabia	240,835	93	-	-	-	-	240,928
Senegal	20,726	2,265	7	-	-	-	22,998
Serbia and Montenegro	291,403	32	9,439	256,891	2,438	85,000	645,203
Sierra Leone	61,194	141	33,255	-	-	-	94,590
Singapore	1	2	-	-	-	-	3
Slovakia	414	4,661	-	-	-	-	5,075
Slovenia	2,069	132	-	-	-	500	2,701
Somalia	368	196	10,261	-	-	-	10,825
South Africa	26,558	84,085	-	-	-	-	110,643
Spain*	5,898	-	-	-	-	-	5,898

I.1 Total population of concern to UNHCR, end-2003 (cont.)							
See footnotes at the end of the table.							
Country or territory of asylum (residence) ¹	Refugees ²	Asylum-seekers ³	Returned refugees ⁴	Others of concern			Total population of concern
				Internally displaced ⁵	Returned IDPs ⁶	Various ⁷	
Sri Lanka	30	6	5,023	386,104	76,722	-	467,885
Sudan	138,163	484	123	-	-	22,024	160,794
Swaziland	686	327	-	-	-	-	1,013
Sweden*	112,167	35,276	-	-	-	-	147,443
Switzerland	50,144	24,533	-	-	-	-	74,677
Syrian Arab Rep.	3,681	943	-	-	-	5,340	9,964
Tajikistan	3,306	439	265	-	-	-	4,010
Thailand	119,053	2,657	-	-	-	5	121,715
Timor-Leste	3	12	-	-	-	452	467
Togo	12,395	333	9	-	-	-	12,737
Tunisia	99	7	-	-	-	-	106
Turkey	2,490	3,453	35	-	-	-	5,978
Turkmenistan	13,511	4	-	-	-	-	13,515
Uganda	230,903	726	4,412	-	-	-	236,041
Ukraine	2,877	899	-	-	-	85,266	89,042
United Arab Emirates	160	63	-	-	-	-	223
United Kingdom*	276,522	23,900	-	-	-	-	300,422
United Rep. of Tanzania	649,770	163	7	-	-	-	649,940
United States**	452,548	350,884	-	-	-	-	803,432
Uruguay	91	9	-	-	-	-	100
Uzbekistan	44,682	971	-	-	-	-	45,653
Venezuela	58	2,291	-	-	-	26,192	28,541
Viet Nam	15,360	-	-	-	-	-	15,360
Yemen	61,881	596	113	-	-	-	62,590
Zambia	226,697	180	5	-	-	-	226,882
Zimbabwe	12,721	556	-	-	-	-	13,277
Various/unknown	-	-	72	-	-	-	72
Total	9,680,263	882,327	1,094,698	4,186,759	232,740	905,065	16,981,852

Notes

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

¹ Country or territory of asylum or residence.

² Persons recognized as refugees under the 1951 Convention or its 1967 Protocol, the 1969 OAU Convention or in accordance with the UNHCR Statute, persons allowed to stay for on humanitarian grounds and those granted temporary protection.

³ Persons whose application for asylum or refugee status is pending in the asylum procedure or who are otherwise registered as refugees. The total number of asylum-seekers is underestimated, due to a lack of data from a number of countries.

⁴ Refugees who have returned to their country of origin during the year.

⁵ Persons who are displaced within their country and to whom UNHCR extends protection or assistance, generally pursuant to a special request by a competent organ of the United Nations.

⁶ IDPs of concern to UNHCR who have returned to their place of origin during the year.

⁷ Including Involuntarily Relocating Persons (IRPs) in the Russian Federation (290,700), stateless persons in Belarus (13,800) and Ukraine (79,400), stateless ethnic Kazakhs in Kazakhstan (18,600), Afghan asylum-seekers in the Russian Federation (100,000, UNHCR estimate), stateless Bedoons in Kuwait (80,000), Malians and Sahrawis in Mauritania (29,500), Colombians in Venezuela (26,200), rejected Eritrean asylum-seekers in Sudan (22,000), former Filipino refugees in Malaysia (57,200), former refugees from Timor-Leste in Indonesia (16,200), and local residents-at-risk in Serbia and Montenegro (85,000).

⁸ In addition to the 25,656 asylum cases pending at the administrative level, some 102,427 claims were pending at the courts.

⁹ Refugees and asylum-seekers refers to end-2002.

¹⁰ Refugee population is an UNHCR estimate, to be reviewed in 2004.

* Refugee estimate provided by UNHCR, based on ten years of refugee arrivals and asylum-seeker recognition.

** Refugee estimate provided by UNHCR, based on five years of refugee arrivals and asylum-seeker recognition.