



**UNHCR**  
The UN Refugee Agency

# MID-YEAR TRENDS 2019





## INTRODUCTION

**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO.** *Newly arrived South Sudanese refugees cross a wooden bridge on the way to their new home at the refugee settlement in Biringi, Ituri province.*

© UNHCR/SIEGFRIED MODOLA





# Introduction

**Conflict, persecution, generalized violence and violations of human rights led to the levels of forced displacement remaining high in the first half of 2019. The first half of the year saw continued new displacements. This was mainly due to the ongoing crisis in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, where the total displaced increased from under 3.1 million at the beginning of 2019 to over 4.1 million in just six months.**

Conflicts in sub-Saharan Africa, including Cameroon, Central African Republic, Eritrea, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Sudan, have also led to an increased number of refugees. Conflicts in this region have likewise resulted in significant new internal displacement, such as in Cameroon, Ethiopia and Somalia. While few new refugee arrivals from the Syrian Arab Republic (Syria) were registered, there was a high level of new internal displacement. Additionally, significant new internal displacements were reported in Somalia, Nigeria, DRC and South Sudan, resulting in the already critically high number of internally displaced people further increasing. In Ukraine, although no new displacements were reported, the number of internally displaced people remained high. At the same time, the level of returns of displaced people has remained low, leading to an increase in displaced populations.

This report analyses displacement trends for the first half of 2019. The figures in this report were collected from governments and UNHCR offices around the world and supplemented, where required, by data from non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Unless otherwise specified, the figures relate solely to events occurring up to 30 June 2019. The statistics included in this report should be considered provisional and subject to change, especially as regards asylum trends.

At 30 June 2019, UNHCR reported a total population of concern of 79.4 million people. This included 20.2 million refugees under UNHCR's mandate, 3.7 million asylum-seekers,<sup>1</sup> 531,000 returned refugees, 43.9 million internally displaced people (IDPs), 2.3 million returned IDPs and 3.9 million stateless people. ■

<sup>1</sup> For the USA, this pertains to the end-2018 figure provided by Executive Office for Immigration Review for outstanding asylum claims.

**PAKISTAN.** Afghan refugee Sulaiman Khoyami, 23, receives his certificate in automobile engineering in Islamabad. Born in Kārte Naw near Kabul, Sulaiman was just 18-months-old when he arrived in Pakistan after his parents were killed in a suicide attack.

© UNHCR / ANDREW MCCONNELL



## Refugees

In the first half of 2019, the number of refugees under UNHCR's mandate fell slightly to 20.2 million, a decrease of 128,600 people [Figure 1]. However, it is believed that the majority of this reported decrease can be attributed to reporting challenges in some of the largest refugee hosting countries. Once reporting is complete, it is estimated that there will be little change in the overall number of refugees from the start of the year. The relative stability in the overall population masks a high level of movement, with over half a million returns and nearly a quarter of million new arrivals.

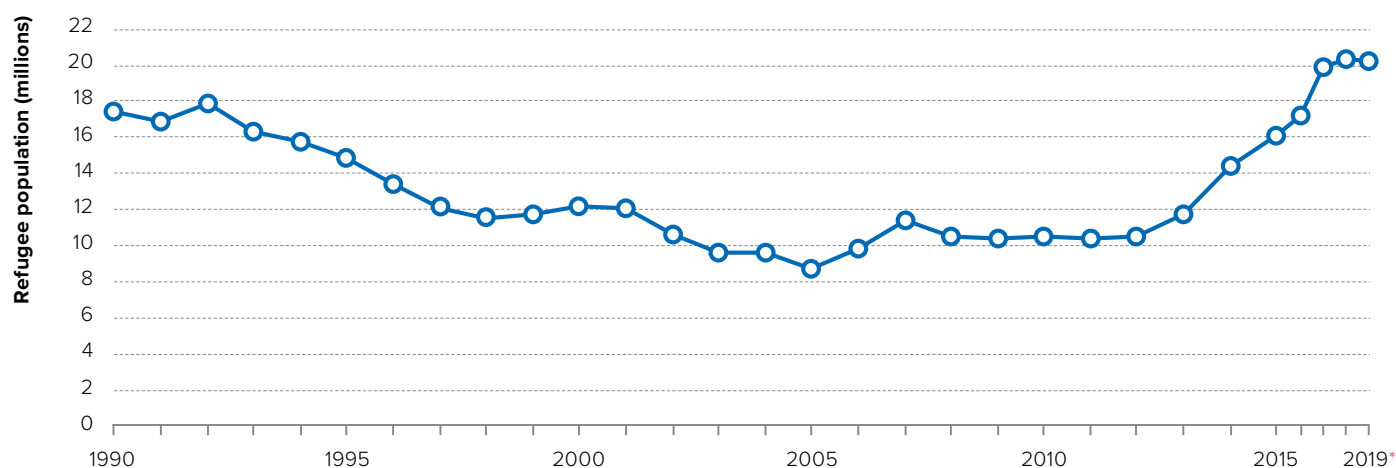
By mid-2019, Turkey was continuing to host over 3.6 million refugees, while the rest of Europe hosted about 2.9 million. There were 6.2 million hosted by sub-Saharan Africa, mostly divided between countries in East and Horn of Africa (4.2 million) and Central Africa and the Great Lakes (1.5 million). The Asia and Pacific region hosted 4.2 million refugees, followed by the Middle East and North Africa (2.6 million) and the Americas (641,100) [Table 1].

### By Origin

Despite a small decline, Syria continued to be the country of origin for the largest number of refugees in the middle of 2019 [Figure 2]. There were 6.6 million refugees from Syria, accounting for about one-third of the global refugee population. Most of the decline in the Syrian refugee population occurred in countries in the Middle East and North Africa, mainly due to

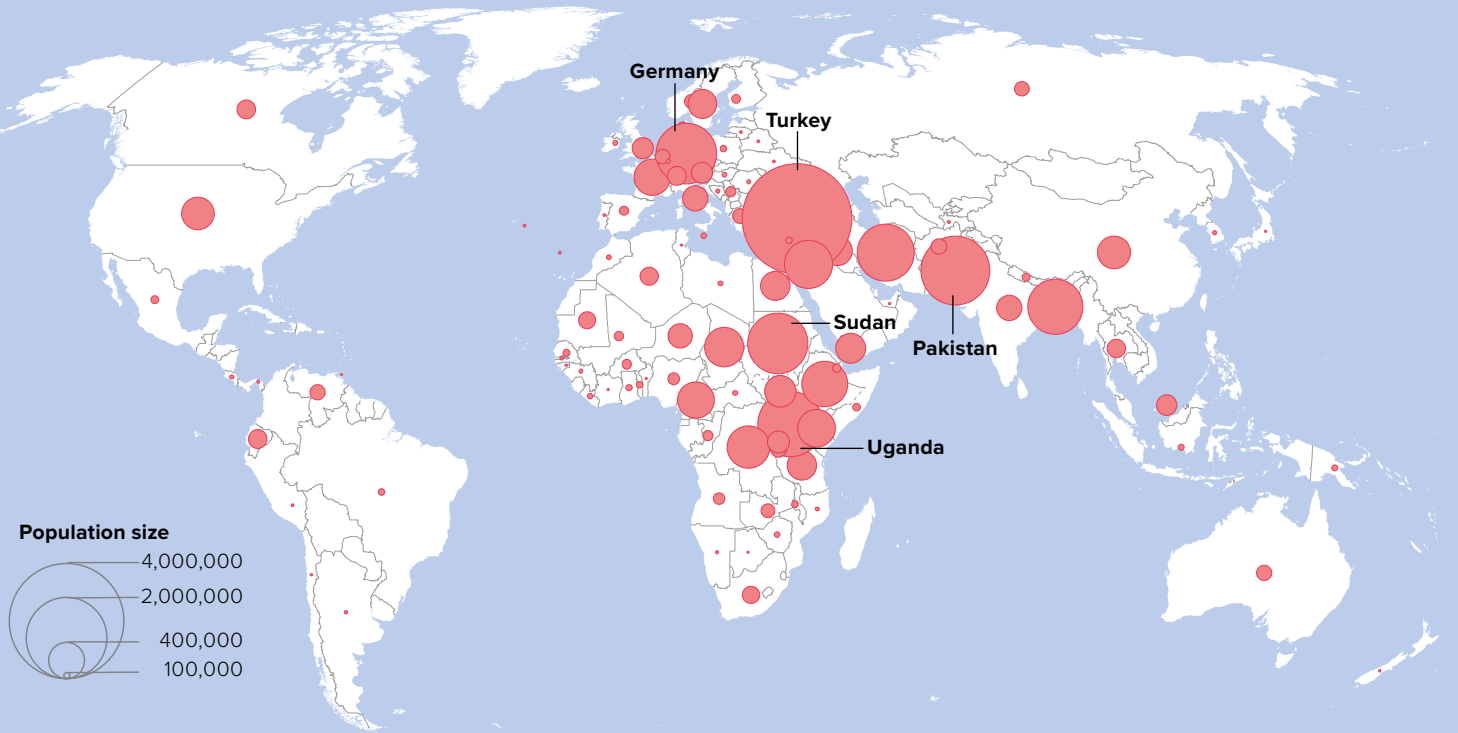
**Fig. 1** Refugee population under UNHCR's mandate | 1990-2019\*

\* 1990-2018 (end-year); 2019 (mid-year)



**Map 1** Refugees, including persons in a refugee-like situation | mid-2019

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



spontaneous returns and verification exercises<sup>2</sup>, while the number increased in European countries due to new recognitions from earlier arrivals. There was little reported change in the Syrians with temporary protection in Turkey, who continued to be the largest refugee population in the world at 3.6 million. Lebanon has hosted 924,400 Syrian refugees by mid-2019, a decrease from the end of 2018 (944,200), mostly due to verification exercises, with a smaller number resettled to third countries. There was also a decline in the Syrian refugee population in Jordan to 661,700 by the middle of 2019 from 676,300 six months prior. As with Lebanon, the reductions were mostly due to the result of verification exercises with smaller numbers of resettled refugees. In Germany, there were 550,500 Syrian refugees at the middle of 2019, an increase from the 532,000 reported at end-2018. This included 22,000 new recognitions of Syrians in the first six months of 2019. Other countries with a sizeable

<sup>2</sup> Verifications are a time-bound registration activity conducted in a specific area and/or for a specific population and consist of verifying and updating individual registration records and collecting additional information, as necessary.

refugee population from Syria included Iraq (228,000), Egypt (131,400), Sweden (110,500), Sudan (93,500), Austria (50,500), the Netherlands (32,600) and Greece (23,400).

As in previous years, the number of Afghan refugees continued to grow slowly, increasing by just under 1 per cent and remaining at 2.7 million people at the middle of the year. The majority of Afghan refugees continued to be hosted by Pakistan (1.4 million) and the Islamic Republic of Iran (951,100), with large numbers also in Germany (134,700), Austria (34,600), Sweden (28,300) and France (21,400).

There were 2.2 million South Sudanese displaced outside their country at mid-2019, reflecting the ongoing conflict preventing sustainable returns, and making them the third largest refugee population. As at the end of 2018, Sudan continued to host the largest number, with 856,000 South Sudanese refugees. Other countries hosting significant numbers of South Sudanese were mainly in neighbouring countries



**Table 1** Refugee populations by UNHCR regions | 30 June 2019

UNHCR regions	Refugees*		Change (total)		% of world's refugees, mid-2019
	Start-2019	Mid-2019	Absolute	%	
- Central Africa and Great Lakes	1,449,400	1,454,000	4,600	0.3	7
- East and Horn of Africa	4,348,800	4,203,300	-145,500	-3.3	21
- Southern Africa	211,000	217,200	6,200	2.9	1
- West Africa	326,300	333,600	7,300	2.2	2
<b>Total Africa**</b>	<b>6,335,500</b>	<b>6,208,100</b>	<b>-127,400</b>	<b>-2.0</b>	<b>31</b>
Americas	643,300	641,100	-2,200	-0.3	3
Asia and Pacific	4,214,600	4,237,900	23,300	0.6	21
Europe	6,474,600	6,497,800	23,200	0.4	32
Middle East and North Africa	2,692,700	2,647,100	-45,600	-1.7	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,360,700</b>	<b>20,231,900</b>	<b>-128,600</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	

\* Including people in refugee-like situations.

\*\* Excluding North Africa.

and included Uganda (833,400), Ethiopia (313,100), Kenya (118,000) and DRC (102,000).

Myanmar remained the fourth-largest source country of refugees in the world. The population remained relatively stable, with the number increasing by about 7,000 in the first half of 2019 to reach 1.2 million. Most refugees from Myanmar were hosted by Bangladesh (911,700). Other countries hosting significant numbers of refugees from Myanmar were in the neighbouring region and included Malaysia (118,200), Thailand (95,700) and India (18,400).

The number of Somali refugees declined by 12 per cent in the first half of 2019, falling from 949,700 to 836,400. Most of the decline was in Ethiopia, where the population fell by 80,700 to 176,500. The largest Somali refugee population was hosted in Kenya by mid-2019, with 251,100, followed by Yemen which, despite the ongoing conflict there, continued to host 247,200 Somali refugees.

Other countries from which significant numbers of refugees originated at mid-2019 included DRC (765,400), Sudan (733,000), the Central African Republic (603,600), Eritrea (436,200) and Burundi (391,300).

## By Country of Asylum

Turkey continued to host the world's largest number of refugees at the middle of 2019, with a registered refugee population of Syrians under temporary protection of some 3.6 million [Figure 3].

The second-largest host for refugees was Pakistan, with 1.4 million. As in previous years, nearly all these refugees originated from Afghanistan with the numbers rising slowly, mainly due to new births with no new arrivals reported.

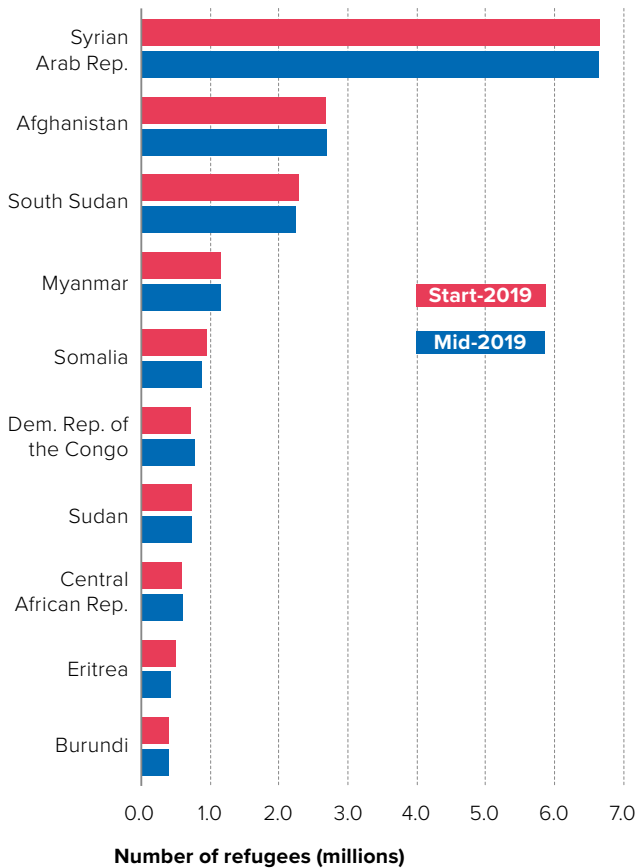
Uganda was the third-largest host. There were 1.3 million refugees by the middle of the year, an increase of over 101,000 people since the end of 2018. The majority of these refugees were from South Sudan, with 833,400 people. At 30 June 2019, Uganda was also hosting 347,700 refugees from the DRC, along with refugees from Burundi (38,800), Somalia (23,300) and Rwanda (14,700).

The numbers of refugees in Germany continued to increase, with the country continuing to be the fourth-largest host for refugees at the middle of 2019. The population stood at just over 1.1 million, an increase of 42,400 in the first half of 2019. About half of this population was from Syria (550,500). Other refugees originated mainly from Iraq (139,400), Afghanistan (134,700), Eritrea (57,100), the Islamic Republic of Iran (42,500), Turkey (26,300) and Somalia (24,900).

Sudan hosted the fifth-largest refugee population, which increased slightly, by 8,800, to reach 1.1 million. The majority originated from South Sudan (856,000) with significant numbers also from Eritrea (115,300) and Syria (93,500).

The number of refugees reported by the Islamic Republic of Iran was 979,400, the same as at the end of 2018, the country hosting the sixth-largest

**Fig. 2 Major source countries of refugees**



refugee population. Almost all the refugees continued to be from Afghanistan (951,100) and Iraq (28,300).

The Syrian crisis continued to affect Lebanon, where the number of refugees remained high at 930,200, the vast majority from Syria (924,400). This reflected a decline since the beginning of the year, when the population was 949,700, mostly due to the inactivation of cases during verification exercises.

Bangladesh hosted 911,700 refugees, almost entirely from Myanmar. This represents a small increase of 5,100 from the end of 2018.

Jordan was hosting 700,800 refugees by mid-2019. As with other countries in the region, the vast majority were from Syria (661,700), a small decrease on the 676,300 reported at the beginning of 2019. Other countries of origin for refugees in Jordan included Iraq (34,500) and Sudan (2,900).

The refugee population in Ethiopia decreased sharply in the first half of 2019 to 627,000, down from 903,200 at the beginning of the year. Most of the reported decrease (322,900) was due to a large and comprehensive verification exercise; however, part of this figure consisted of people who left refugee camps and might still be living in the country. At the same time, there were 46,900 new registrations, mainly from Eritrea. At 30 June 2019, about half of refugees in Ethiopia were from South Sudan (313,100). Ethiopia also provided asylum to refugees from Somalia (176,500), Eritrea (92,900), and Sudan (38,300).

Altogether, the top 10 refugee-hosting countries combined – which includes four of the world’s least-developed countries – hosted over 12.6 million refugees at mid-2019. That translates into about 62 per cent of all refugees under UNHCR’s mandate, similar to previous years.

### New Refugee Arrivals

In the first half of 2019, 239,800 new refugee arrivals were reported. The number of new arrivals was significantly lower than the 555,800 reported in the corresponding period in 2018 and less than a quarter of the 1.1 million reported in the first half of 2017. This figure relates to refugees recognized on a prima facie basis (217,000) as well as those newly registered and granted temporary protection (22,800). Most of these new refugees sought protection in neighbouring countries or elsewhere in the immediate region. An additional 233,300 persons were granted refugee status or a complementary form of protection following individual refugee status determination during the reporting period [see the [Asylum seekers chapter](#)].



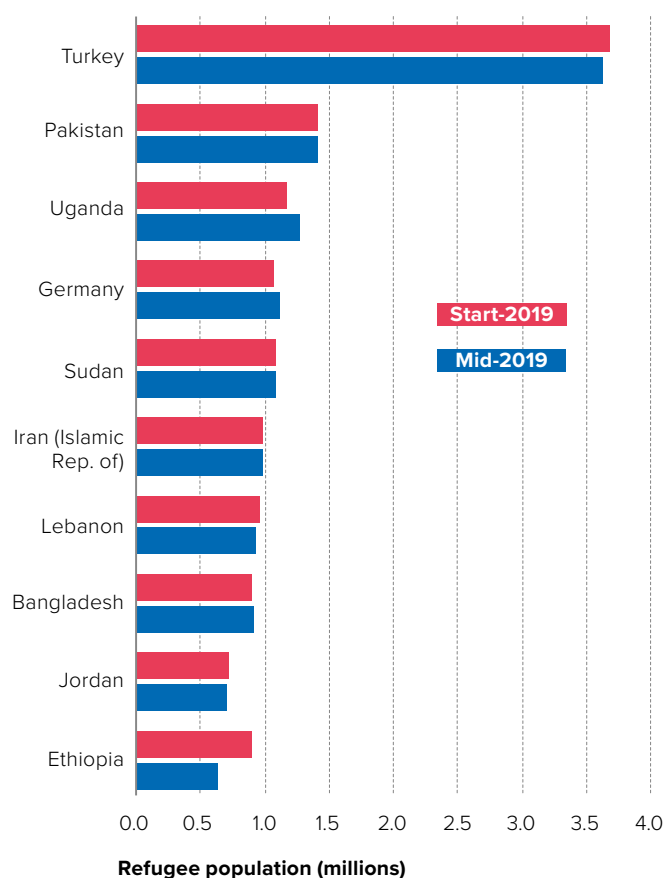
Unlike previous years, Syria was not the country of origin of the greatest number of new refugees. Most new refugees in the first half of 2019 (206,000) originated from countries in sub-Saharan Africa. The ongoing conflict in South Sudan displaced the most people across borders, with 78,200 new arrivals. Most of these refugees were registered in either Uganda (30,400) and Sudan (29,500), with smaller numbers in Kenya (8,200), DRC (5,100) and Ethiopia (4,900).

There were 37,600 new refugees from Eritrea registered in the first half of 2019. Almost all of these new registrations were in Ethiopia. The unresolved conflict in DRC also continued to displace people, with 28,300 new refugees in the first six months of 2019. Most of these new refugees were registered in Uganda (23,500), with smaller numbers in Rwanda (3,100) and Zambia (1,500). There were also 25,900 new refugees from Nigeria. Most fled to Cameroon (20,000), with others going to Chad (4,600).

Other sub-Saharan Africa countries from which significant numbers of people fled in the first half of 2019 included 9,900 from the Central African Republic, mostly going to Cameroon (6,300) and Sudan (3,300), 8,100 new refugees from Sudan, mostly going to South Sudan (7,200), and refugees from Cameroon (7,300), all going to Nigeria.

Despite entering its ninth year, the Syrian conflict continued to displace people outside of its borders although the numbers have declined significantly and, in contrast to previous years, Turkey has reported no new registrations. Some 7,500 new refugee registrations from Syrians were reported in Algeria<sup>3</sup>, 4,200 in Iraq, 3,300 in Jordan, 2,300 in Greece and 2,000 in Egypt. ■

**Fig. 3 Major host countries of refugees**

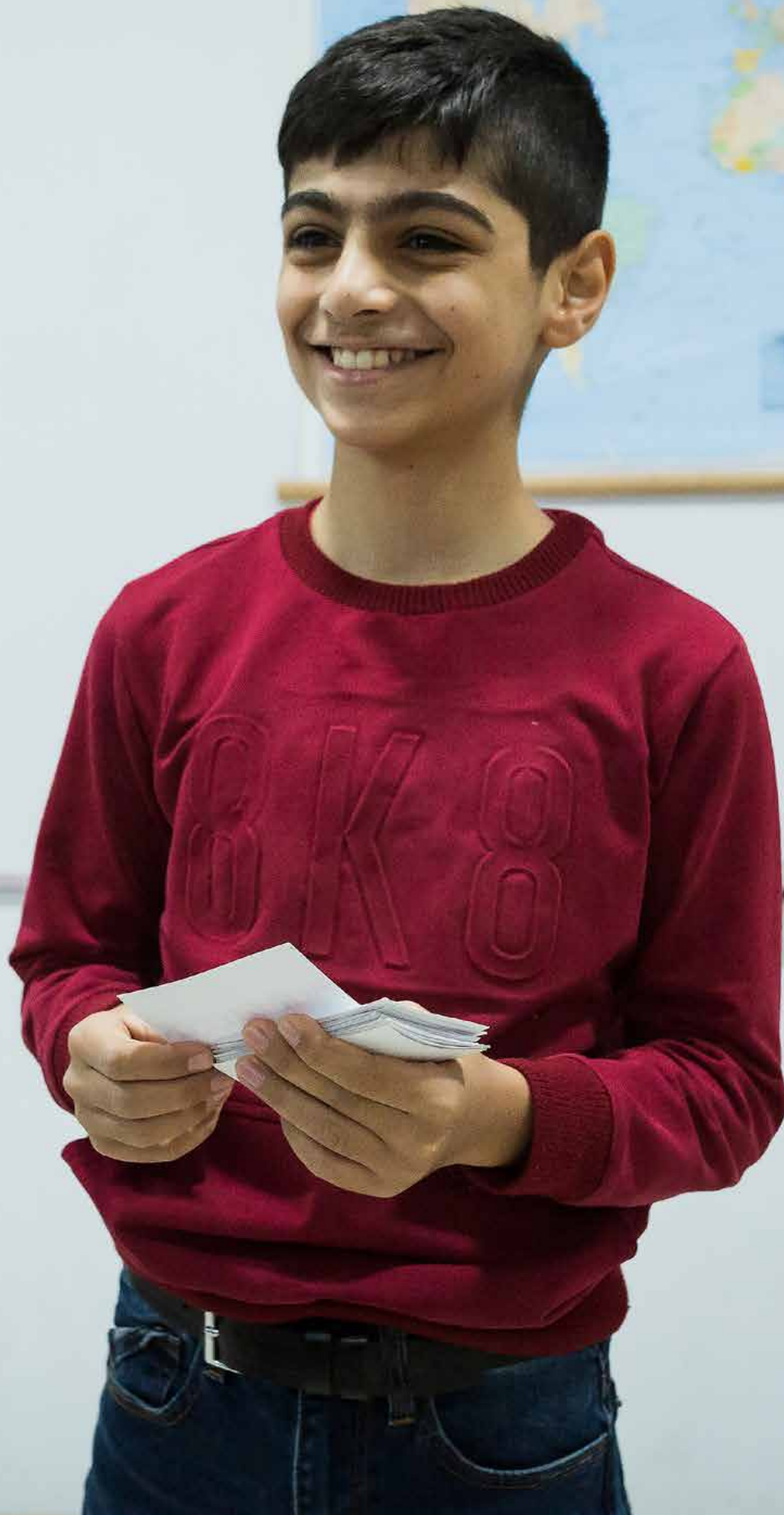


<sup>3</sup> These new registrations were asylum seekers who received temporary protection on a group basis and do not represent new arrivals.

## ASYLUM-SEEKERS

**GREECE.** *Ali, a twelve-year-old asylum-seeker from Iraq, attends classes at a non-formal school in Kos. The school, set up and supported by UNHCR and the European Union, is run by partner ARSIS.*

© UNHCR / ACHILLEAS ZAVALLIS



## Asylum-Seekers

About 1.0 million individual asylum applications were registered in 158 countries or territories during the first half of 2019, about the same number as in the corresponding period in 2018 (1.0 million). An estimated 16 per cent of these claims were registered at ‘second instance’, including with courts and other appellate bodies. UNHCR offices registered 67,500 individual asylum claims, accounting for 7 per cent of the total. This is a significant decline as compared with the equivalent period in 2018, when 126,900 individual asylum applications were registered by UNHCR, equating to about 12 per cent of the total.

### New Individual Asylum Applications Registered

During the first half of 2019, individuals of at least 197 nationalities submitted 862,300 new asylum applications in 158 asylum countries or territories. Similar to the challenges for refugee statistics, this reported figure is likely to become significantly higher once several important countries of asylum complete the reporting process.

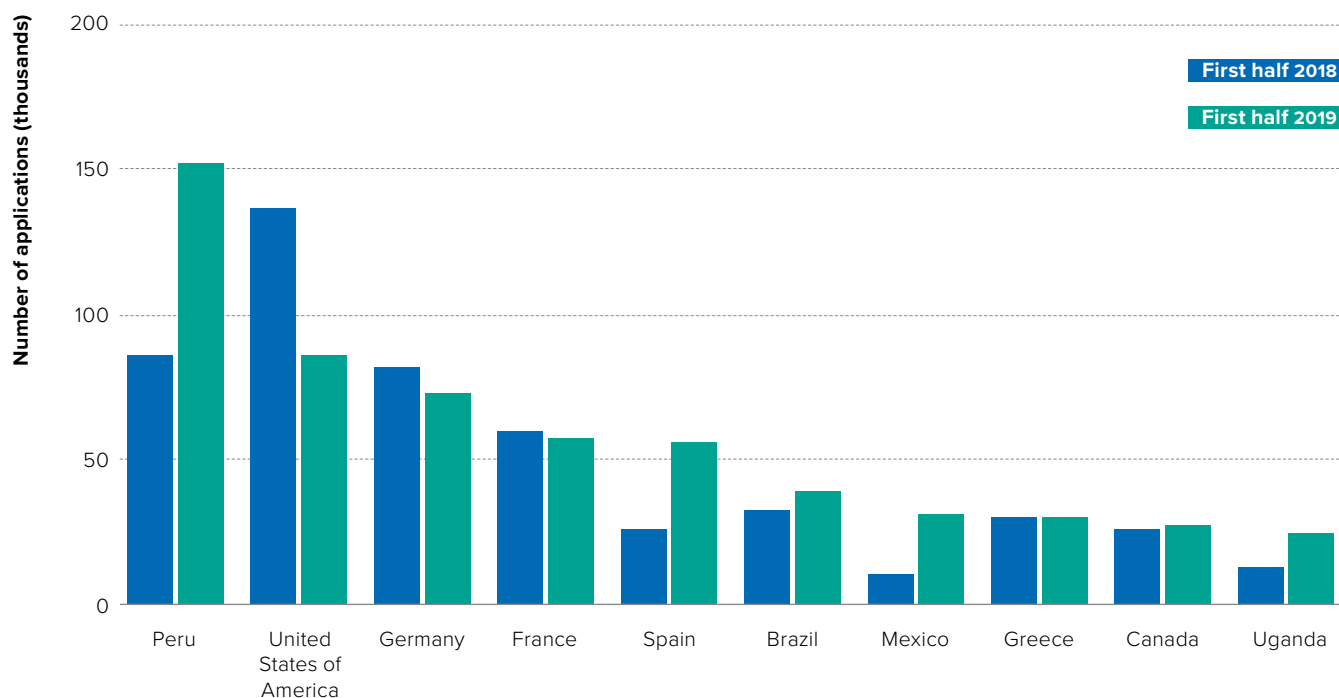
The ongoing crisis in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has caused the number of asylum applications to continue to increase sharply in Peru, the largest recipient of new asylum applications with 152,100 just in the first half of 2019 [Figure 4]. This is almost double the 85,800 received in the first half of 2018 and more than double the 34,200 applications received in all of 2017. Nearly all these applications were from Venezuelans (150,400).

### ASYLUM STATISTICS: A WORD OF CAUTION

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

The United States of America is likely to have received the highest number of new asylum applications worldwide during the reporting period, but because no data was reported by the Executive



**Fig. 4 Main destination countries for new asylum-seekers**

Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) of the Department of Justice, no new defensive asylum claims have been reported. UNHCR is working to obtain this data and it is likely that the figures will be updated for the end of year reporting. In the first half of 2018, new asylum claims reported by EOIR accounted for 44 per cent of all new claims. Therefore, the lack of the EOIR data has a significant impact on the numbers reported by the United States of America, which are a substantial underestimate. New claims reported by the Department for Homeland Security were 85,800 in the first half of 2019.<sup>4</sup>

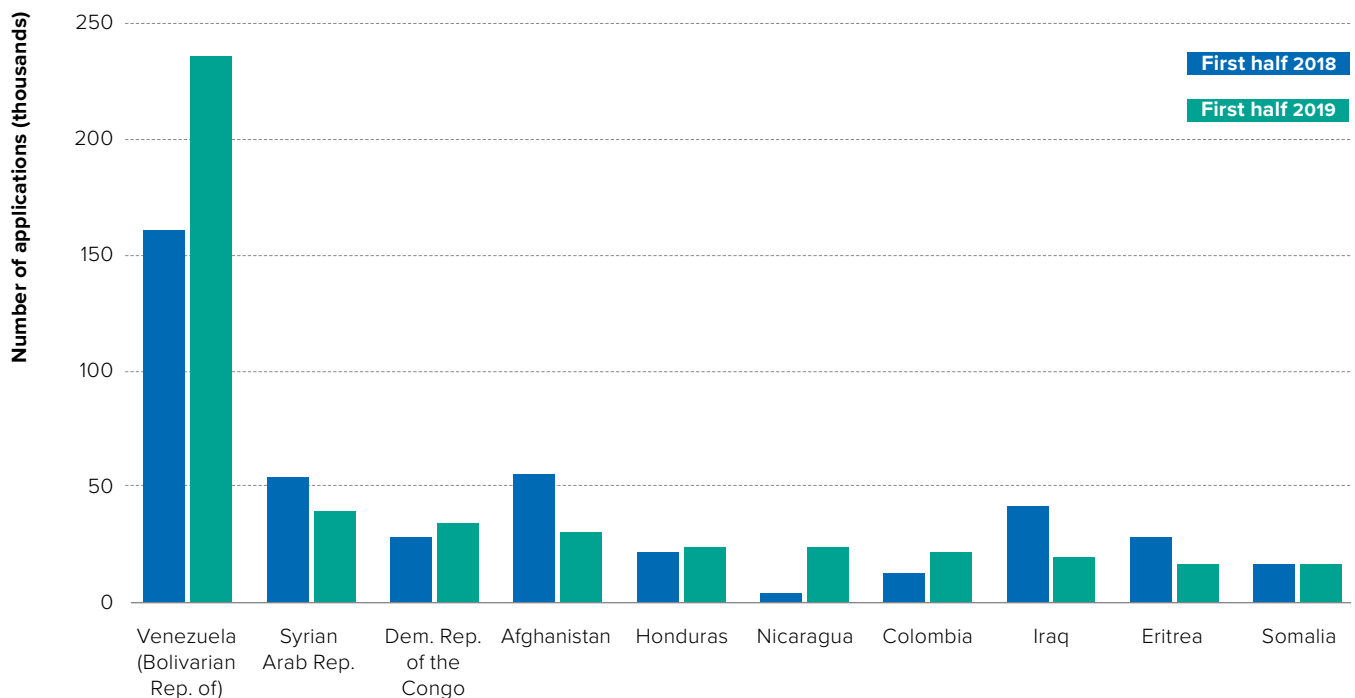
Germany, as the third-largest recipient country for new asylum claims, continued to experience a decline in asylum claims, with 73,000 new applications reported in the first half of 2019 compared with 81,800 new applications in the first half of 2018. Syria continued to be the main country of origin and represented 27 per cent of all applications, with 19,600 applications. This is a small decrease compared to the same period in 2018, when 21,600 were received. The second most common country of origin was Iraq, with 6,900 applications. The number

<sup>4</sup> With an inflation factor of 1.501 to reflect the number of persons per case.

of applications from Nigerians continued to increase and reached 6,400 compared with 5,700 in the first half of 2018 and 3,600 in the first half of 2017. The reduction in applications from nationals of Afghanistan is notable, with a continued decline to 4,400 between January and June 2019. This compares to 60,400 in the first half of 2016 when applications from Afghan nationals peaked.

France was the fourth-largest single recipient of new asylum claims during the first six months of 2019 with an estimated 57,400 claims. This is compared with 60,200 in the same period in 2018. Similar to the previous year, Afghans were the most common nationality, with 4,000 applications. The number of Georgians applying increased to 3,600, from 2,800 during the first half of 2018 and it became the second most common country of origin. Other countries of origin included Albania (3,000), Guinea (2,700), Haiti (2,100), Bangladesh (2,000), Côte d'Ivoire (1,900), Mali (1,800) and China (1,500).

Spain became the recipient of the fifth-largest number of new asylum claims in the first half of 2019, with 55,500 applications. This figure is more than double the number in the equivalent period the

**Fig. 5** Main source countries for new asylum-seekers

previous year (26,200). More than three quarters (76 per cent) of these applications came from countries in Latin America: the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (19,800), Colombia (12,200), Honduras (3,200), Nicaragua (3,200), El Salvador (2,500) and Peru (1,400).

Other countries receiving large numbers of new asylum applicants were Brazil (39,400), Mexico (31,400), Greece (29,300), Canada (26,700) and Uganda (25,200).

UNHCR's offices registered 65,000 new individual applications in the first half of 2019, with a further 2,500 on appeal or for review. This number is about half the number received in the first half of the previous year. The largest number of new requests lodged at UNHCR's offices were received in Malaysia (17,300), Egypt (13,400) and Libya (5,200).

### By Origin

The continuing outflow of Venezuelans due to the challenging situation in their country was also reflected in the number of new asylum applications, with Venezuelans constituting by far the largest group of asylum-seekers in the first half of 2019 [Figure 5]. A total of 236,100 new applications from Venezuelans were registered around the world between 1 January and 30 June 2019, compared with 154,100 in the same period in 2018. The most claims were received by Peru (150,400), followed by Brazil (27,500), Spain (19,800) and the United States of America (15,100) [Figure 5].

Syrians constituted the second-largest group of asylum-seekers in the first half of 2019 due to the continuing hostilities in their country of origin. Worldwide, 39,300 new applications from Syrians were registered during the first six months of 2019, a continuing decline as compared with those received over the same period in previous years. Like the previous year, the largest recipient of claims by a wide margin was Germany, with 19,600 claims received in the first six months of 2019, slightly lower than the 21,600 applications received in the first half of 2018. Greece received the second-largest number



of new claims from Syrians (2,800), followed by Cyprus (1,800) and the United Arab Emirates (1,500).

The third largest country of origin for asylum-seekers was the Democratic Republic of the Congo with 34,500 new asylum claims. This is an increase over the same period in 2018, when 27,500 claims were made. The vast majority of these were in countries in the region: Uganda (8,900), Republic of Congo (8,500), Burundi (4,400), Kenya (2,200), Malawi (1,900) and Zambia (1,800).

The number of new asylum claims from Afghans has also continued to drop and is now the fourth most common country of asylum. In the first half of 2019,

there were 29,600 new claims for asylum from Afghans compared with 54,600 in the first half of 2018. Based on available statistical reporting for mid-year 2019 and pending receipt of the statistical reports from major host countries<sup>5</sup>, Greece became the country with the highest number of new asylum claims (7,200) – double the number in the same period in 2018. Germany was the second-most common country of asylum, with 4,400 applications, while the country receiving the third-highest number of claims was France (4,000). Other countries which

<sup>5</sup> In September 2018, UNHCR phased out from registration and refugee status determination functions for asylum-seekers of nationalities other than Syrians in Turkey. From then on, these functions, including statistical reporting, have been carried out by the Government of Turkey.





**BRAZIL.** Venezuelan asylum-seekers wait on a bus after having just gone through the biometric registration procedure, which includes an interview, iris scan, finger printing, a photo and the issuing of a UNHCR asylum ID card.

© UNHCR / ALLANA FERREIRA

registered significant numbers of claims in the first half of 2019 were Tajikistan (2,100), Pakistan (1,900) and India (1,800).

### Pending asylum-seekers

There were an estimated 3.7 million asylum-seekers with pending claims at the end of June 2019; this is a small increase on the 3.5 million awaiting decisions at the end of 2018, although this figure is likely to be revised and increased when end-year reporting is completed. The United States of America had the largest asylum-seeker population at the middle of the year, with 724,400 people as the end-2018 population for asylum-seekers with claims

outstanding with EOIR (392,400). Peru had the second-largest asylum-seeker population with 382,200, more than three times the number at this same point in 2018 (122,600). Other countries with large numbers of asylum-seekers at mid-2019 included Germany (339,900)<sup>6</sup>, Turkey (317,800), South Africa (184,200)<sup>7</sup>, Brazil (191,500) and Spain (122,100). ■

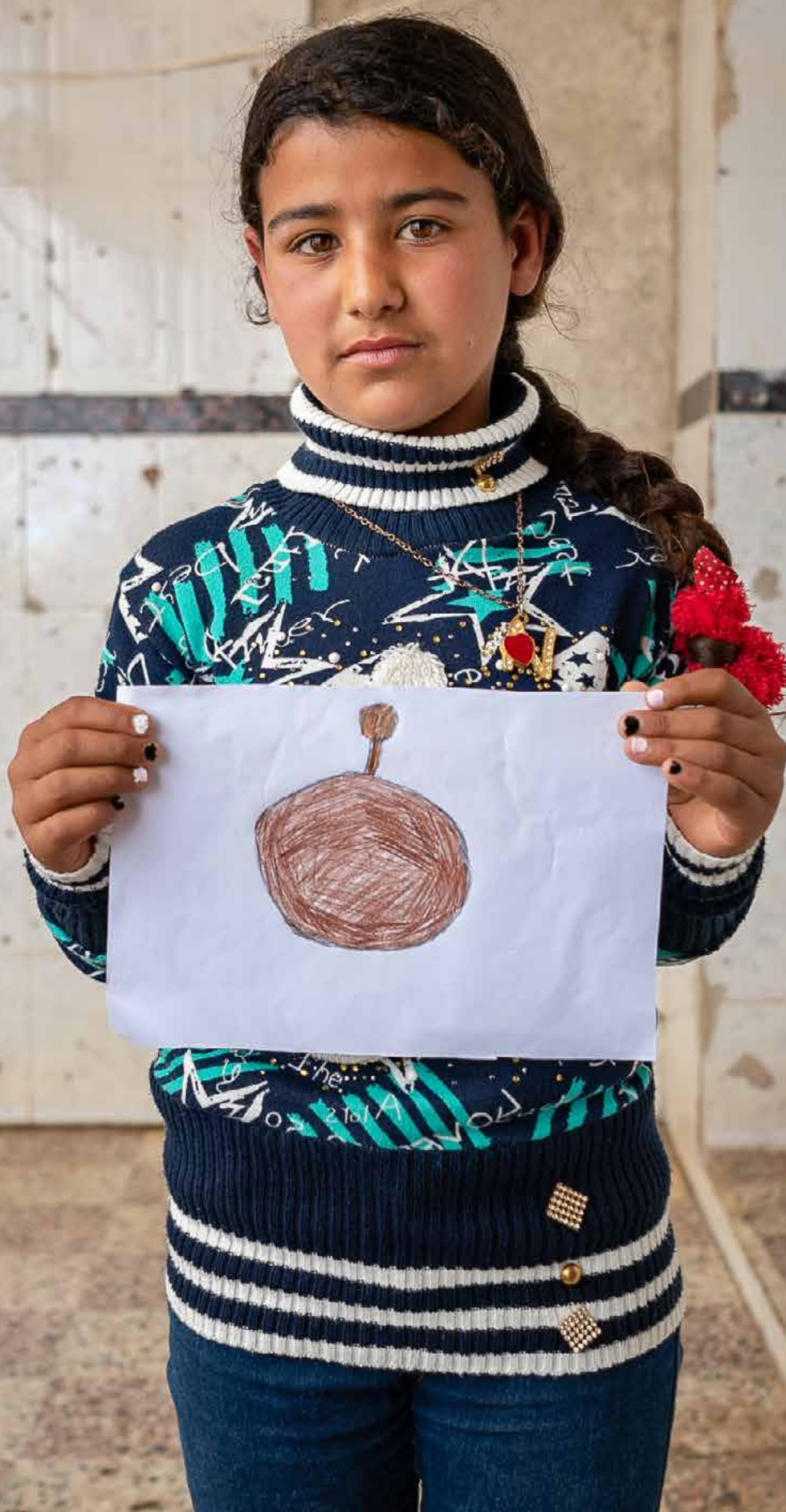
<sup>6</sup> This number includes pending applications on appeal before courts.

<sup>7</sup> End-2018 data.



## INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

**SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC.** *Ten-year-old Arej has drawn a piece of unexploded ordnance, similar to the one lodged in her family's living room in Sheikh Ahmad, Aleppo governorate.*  
© UNHCR / ANTWAN CHNKDJI



## Internally Displaced Persons

Updated global figures on internally displaced persons (IDP) are only available for the population at the end of the year. The population reported in here is limited to IDPs, or those in an IDP-like situation, displaced due to conflict, to whom the agency extends protection or assistance. As a result, the data provided to UNHCR does not provide a comprehensive picture of global internal displacement.<sup>8</sup>

At 30 June 2019, there were an estimated 43.9 million people displaced within their own country due to armed conflict, generalized violence or human rights violations, as reported by UNHCR offices in 32 countries. This compares to 41.4 million at the start of the year [Figure 6] and 39.7 million in mid-2018. However, this is likely to be an underestimate which will be revised when countries update the figures for end-2019.

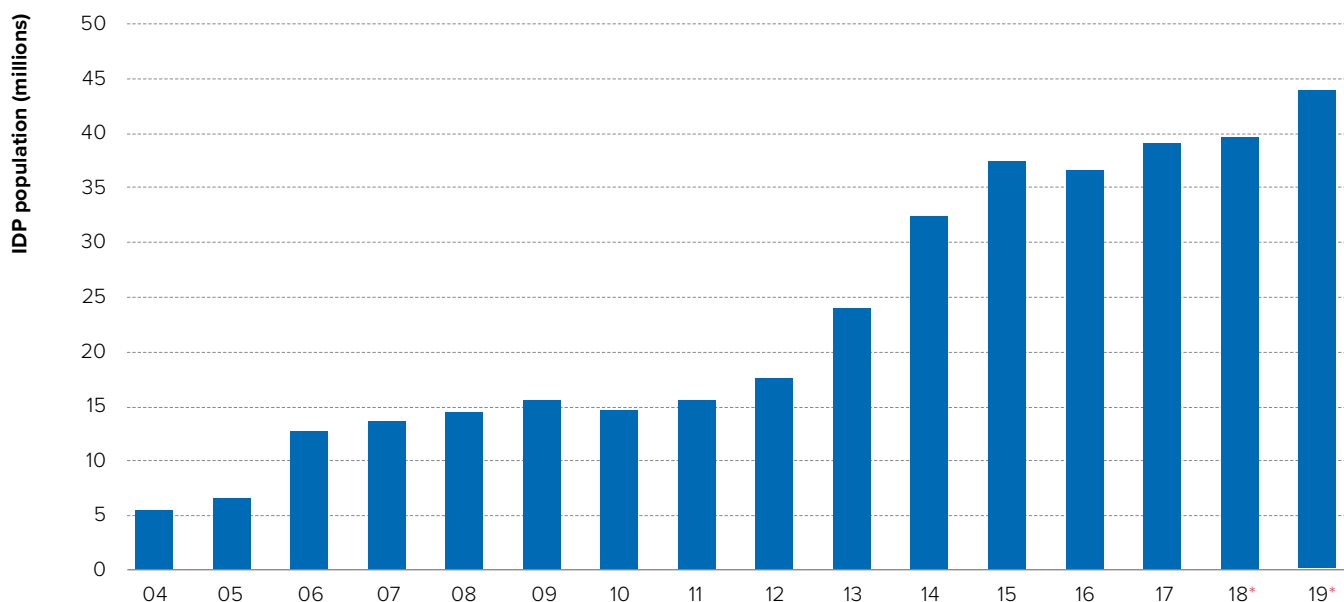
During the first half of the year, some 3.4 million people were newly displaced within their own countries as a result of conflict or violence, compared to 3.7 million in the corresponding period in 2018. During the first six months of 2019, UNHCR offices in 13 countries reported new IDP displacements. Among them, Ethiopia had the

<sup>8</sup> For detailed statistics on global internal displacement, see the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) website at [www.internal-displacement.org](http://www.internal-displacement.org).



**Fig. 6 IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR | 2004-2019\***

\* 2004 – 2018 (end-year); 2019 (mid-year)



highest number of new displacements (2,220,100), followed by Cameroon (389,100), Somalia (187,000), Afghanistan (150,900), Burkina Faso (123,400), Libya (98,100), the Philippines (83,000), Mali (60,500) and the Central African Republic (54,500).

According to the Government of Colombia, 7.9 million IDPs were registered in the Victim's Registry in mid-2019<sup>9</sup>, with some 38,600 new displacements registered between January and June 2019.

Syria continued to be the country with second-highest IDP population, with 6.1 million IDPs at 30 June 2019. There were 173,000 new IDPs reported as a result of adjustment of the earlier population.

As in 2018, DRC continued to have the third highest IDP population, standing at 4.5 million. No changes were reported in the mid-year population, although this is expected to be adjusted later.

Yemen saw a particularly large increase in the first half of 2019 and became the country with the fourth-largest IDP population (3.6 million).

Other countries where UNHCR offices reported large IDP populations in mid-2019 were Ethiopia

(3.2 million), Somalia (2.6 million), Afghanistan (2.3 million), Nigeria (2.1 million), Sudan (1.9 million), South Sudan (1.8 million), Iraq (1.6 million) and Ukraine (1.5 million, of which an estimated 800,000 IDPs and 700,000 conflict-affected persons). Given the difficulties in estimating IDP populations, it is likely that the number of IDPs will change by end-2019.

In mid-2019, 13 UNHCR country offices reported returns of IDPs to their areas of usual residence. This accounted for total 2.3 million returnees; of these, some 369,600 were assisted by UNHCR. Some 1.6 million returned IDPs were reported by Ethiopia, which experienced significant new displacement at the same time, indicating a high level of movement. Other countries that reported a large number of IDP returnees were Cameroon (279,700), Iraq (207,100) and the Central African Republic (81,600). ■

<sup>9</sup> The large number of registered IDPs in Colombia comes from the total cumulative figure entered by the Victims' Registry, which commenced in 1985. See <http://rni.unidadvictimas.gov.co/RUV>.

**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO.** *Ungwa Sangani, a 50-year-old internally displaced widow and mother of six, is photographed on farmland that is part of Evariste Mfaume's agricultural project, the regional winner for Africa for the UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award. "Thanks to this project, I am able to buy clothes for my children and send them to school."*  
© UNHCR / JOHN WESSELS





**KYRGYZSTAN.** *Nasyr Khamatova, 48, works in construction, one of the few jobs where it is possible to work without papers. His son Nazir has obtained Kyrgyz citizenship and is able to continue his studies thanks to the NGO, Ferghana Valley Lawyers Without Borders, led by the 2019 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award-winning Azizbek Ashurov.*

© UNHCR / CHRIS DE BODE





## Stateless Persons

Collecting data on statelessness remains a challenge. Data is currently reported by UNHCR in relation to 75 States globally with a total of 3.9 million stateless people. Because most countries do not report any data on statelessness, it is difficult to establish a global estimate that reflects the reality on the ground. However, the true number of stateless persons is thought to be significantly higher.

UNHCR continues to advocate for improved data on statelessness, inter alia, through Action 10 of its Global Action Plan to End Statelessness by 2024. In 2019, Kyrgyzstan became the first country to end statelessness on its territory through the grant of nationality. From the latest data available, other decreases in the number of stateless persons due to acquisition or confirmation of nationality took place in the Russian Federation, Thailand and Côte d'Ivoire.

At the High-Level Segment on Statelessness in October 2019, more than 30 States delivered pledges to undertake qualitative or quantitative studies on statelessness or to add questions

pertaining to nationality or statelessness in their next official census by the year 2024. UNHCR will aim to support States in many of these data-collection initiatives. Data and evidence on statelessness was also the theme of the statelessness session at the 2019 NGO Consultations, where concrete avenues for improved data collection on statelessness were discussed. UNHCR has recently strengthened its partnerships with the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and the World Bank (Joint Data Centre with UNHCR) in ways expected to improve statelessness data over time. ■

## REFUGEE RETURNS

**COLOMBIA.** Rocio Ramirez, 41, sits at home in Brisas del Norte informal settlement in Riohacha with her children Julian (left), 23, Rosi (right), 25, Rosmelia, 16 and granddaughter, Sinai, 3. Rocio grew up in Venezuela, but was considered stateless as her mother was Colombian. In 2015, Rocio fled with her family to Colombia when her daughter's school closed and food became scarce.

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## Refugee Returns

**For the period of January – June 2019, an estimated 531,000 refugees returned to their countries of origin as compared with 143,100 returning refugees in the same period in 2018. The majority of these returnees were Colombian refugees, reported as returning from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (400,000).**

UNHCR acknowledges there was a substantial increase in the number of returnees in Colombia in 2019 which is not consistent with the number of Colombian refugees earlier reported by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Despite UNHCR's efforts and enhanced capacities in Colombia and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, there are constraints to ensuring a precise quantification of the total number of Colombians in a refugee-like situation who have recently returned, particularly given their migratory status and family linkages with Venezuelan nationals. In the light of this, UNHCR is reporting the most reliable figure, the official statistics of refugee returnees published by the Government of Colombia.

After reconciling the 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 30 countries. In addition to returns to Colombia, there were 47,600 returns to South Sudan, of which 30,400 were from Sudan, 8,200 from Ethiopia, 5,300 from Uganda and 2,300 from DRC. The third highest country of origin for returnees was Syria, with at least 41,400 returnees from Jordan, Turkey, Lebanon and Egypt.

For many of the returnees, unresolved conflicts and insecurity in their countries of origin continued to present a major constraint for the sustainability of their return and returnees remain vulnerable to further displacement. Other refugees returned to their countries of origin due to unstable conditions in the country of asylum, which also raises concerns regarding the sustainability of their returns. ■



**CANADA.** Originally from Damascus, refugee Nabil Maati trains to become a head chef at Paramount Fine Foods, in Mississauga, Ontario. The project is run by Talent Beyond Boundaries, connecting skilled refugees with global employers.  
© UNHCR / CHRIS YOUNG



## Resettlement

Providing access to third-country solutions remains crucial and one of the cornerstones of the Global Compact on Refugees. Accordingly, a three-year Strategy (2019-2021) on resettlement and complementary pathways was launched in mid-2019.<sup>10</sup> It serves as a key vehicle to increase the number of resettlement spaces, expand the number of resettlement countries and improve the availability and predictability of complementary pathways for refugees. The Strategy envisions that one million refugees will depart on resettlement following a UNHCR submission by the end of 2028. It also anticipates that two million refugees will be admitted through complementary pathways over the same timeframe.

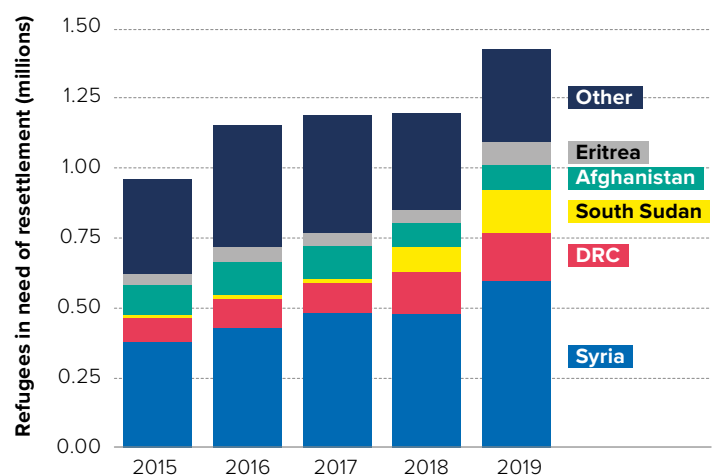
Resettlement provides protection and solutions for refugees who face specific or urgent protection risks. However, only 32,000 refugees departed to a resettlement State in the first half of 2019. This is against a background of more than 1.4 million refugees<sup>11</sup> identified by UNHCR as needing access to this solution, illustrating the gap between needs and solutions. The increasing resettlement need can be seen in Figure 7.

Among the 1.4 million refugees in need of resettlement, Syrians constitute the largest population (601,200), followed by Congolese (DRC) (163,400) and South Sudanese (158,500). However, only 42,500 refugees were submitted for

<sup>10</sup> See <https://www.unhcr.org/protection/resettlement/5d15db254/three-year-strategy-resettlement-complementary-pathways.html>

<sup>11</sup> Source: [2019 Projected Global Resettlement Needs](#)

**Fig. 7** Global resettlement needs by country of origin | 2015-2019






resettlement consideration to 26 countries during the first half of the year. The United States of America remained the main recipient, with 11,700 refugees submitted by UNHCR, almost half of them Congolese (5,400). Canada recorded 7,400 submissions (mostly Syrian and Somali refugees), while Germany and Sweden received 5,700 and 3,200 submissions, respectively (mostly Syrians, in both cases). Member States of the European Union together received about 17,800, or 42 per cent, of all

UNHCR resettlement submissions during the reporting period. This constituted an 18 per cent increase as compared to the first half of 2018 (15,100), reflecting an increase in resettlement quotas.

Overall, UNHCR expects to submit about 80,000 refugees globally by the end of the year, a figure similar to 2018 (81,300). Turkey is not only the largest refugee-hosting country in the world, the UNHCR office in Turkey also continued to be the largest





*AUSTRALIA. South Sudanese poet Bigoa Chuol, 28, reflects on years of exile and what 'home' means. Bigoa was resettled to Melbourne, Australia, as a child.*  
© UNHCR / HEIDI WOODMAN

resettlement operation worldwide. Some 8,800 individuals were submitted for resettlement during the first half of the year, 72 per cent of them Syrians. Turkey was followed by Lebanon and Jordan with 6,300 and 3,100 submissions, respectively. ■

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-2019

All data are provisional and subject to change.

Country/ territory of asylum	REFUGEES			Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>1</sup>	Returned refugees <sup>2</sup>	IDPs of concern to UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Others of concern to UNHCR <sup>9</sup>	Venezuelans displaced abroad <sup>10</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee- like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee- like situations								
Afghanistan	72,231	-	72,231	264	3,198	2,257,781	-	-	492,924	-	2,826,398
Albania <sup>11</sup>	145	-	145	233	-	-	-	3,844	52	-	4,274
Algeria	98,282	-	98,282	1,230	-	-	-	-	-	-	99,512
Angola	39,900	-	39,900	30,180	-	-	-	-	-	-	70,080
Antigua and Barbuda	2	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	208	211
Argentina	3,584	-	3,584	7,075	-	-	-	-	416	154,517	165,592
Armenia	3,397	14,573	17,970	130	-	-	-	913	-	-	19,013
Aruba	-	-	-	411	-	-	-	-	-	15,598	16,009
Australia <sup>12</sup>	66,424	-	66,424	62,680	-	-	-	144	-	-	129,248
Austria	131,366	-	131,366	31,204	-	-	-	1,095	-	-	163,665
Azerbaijan	1,097	-	1,097	132	-	620,422	-	3,585	-	-	625,236
Bahamas	17	-	17	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
Bahrain	260	-	260	56	-	-	-	-	-	-	316
Bangladesh <sup>13</sup>	911,736	-	911,736	44	-	-	-	911,720	-	-	911,780
Barbados	1	-	1	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Belarus	2,573	-	2,573	151	-	-	-	5,909	-	-	8,633
Belgium	61,677	-	61,677	10,893	-	-	-	10,933	-	-	83,503
Belize	28	-	28	3,614	-	-	-	-	2,858	-	6,500
Benin	1,223	-	1,223	351	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,574
Bolivia (Plurinational State of) <sup>14</sup>	810	-	810	46	-	-	-	-	-	-	856
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5,234	-	5,234	601	-	96,830	-	80	48,907	-	151,652
Botswana	2,078	-	2,078	204	-	-	-	-	7	-	2,289
Brazil	11,629	-	11,629	191,452	-	-	-	-	-	68,499	271,580
British Virgin Islands	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Brunei Darussalam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,863	-	-	20,863
Bulgaria	20,015	-	20,015	1,093	-	-	-	102	-	-	21,210
Burkina Faso	25,761	-	25,761	47	-	170,447	-	-	-	-	196,255
Burundi	72,216	-	72,216	6,986	14,185	26,005	-	974	828	-	121,194
Cabo Verde	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	115	-	-	115
Cambodia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57,444	-	-	57,444
Cameroon	396,698	-	396,698	8,920	1	777,867	279,719	-	26	-	1,463,231
Canada	101,279	-	101,279	84,747	-	-	-	3,790	-	-	189,816
Cayman Islands	31	-	31	6	-	-	-	-	-	50	87
Central African Rep.	7,265	-	7,265	394	10,310	613,031	81,649	-	-	-	712,649
Chad	464,340	-	464,340	3,707	291	133,338	-	-	65,710	-	667,386
Chile	2,039	-	2,039	10,310	-	-	-	-	2,023	371,163	385,535
China, Hong Kong SAR	147	-	147	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	147
China, Macao SAR	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
China <sup>15</sup>	321,784	-	321,784	588	-	-	-	-	-	-	322,372
Colombia <sup>16</sup>	328	-	328	5,028	-	7,908,725	-	11	400,000	1,403,101	9,717,193
Congo, Republic of	29,777	-	29,777	13,801	-	134,430	-	-	11,762	-	189,770
Costa Rica	4,566	-	4,566	44,308	-	-	-	105	30,182	-	79,161
Côte d'Ivoire <sup>17</sup>	1,950	-	1,950	237	1,078	-	-	689,424	110	-	692,799
Croatia	816	37	853	231	25	-	-	2,886	4,266	-	8,261
Cuba	230	-	230	44	-	-	-	-	1	-	275
Curaçao	101	-	101	358	-	-	-	-	1	25,686	26,146
Cyprus <sup>18</sup>	11,508	-	11,508	15,759	-	-	-	-	6,000	-	33,267

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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-2019 (ctnd)

All data are provisional and subject to change.

Country/ territory of asylum <sup>1</sup>	REFUGEES			Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>	Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs of concern to UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Others of concern to UNHCR <sup>9</sup>	Venezuelans displaced abroad <sup>10</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee- like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee- like situations								
Czechia	2,267	-	2,267	1,887	-	-	-	1,502	-	-	5,656
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	538,009	-	538,009	1,272	1,622	4,516,865	-	-	-	-	5,057,768
Denmark	36,971	-	36,971	1,956	-	-	-	8,507	-	-	47,434
Djibouti	19,158	-	19,158	10,900	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,058
Dominican Rep. <sup>19</sup>	170	-	170	376	-	-	-	-	-	28,392	28,938
Ecuador	53,151	49,950	103,101	22,512	-	-	-	-	-	294,919	420,532
Egypt	256,020	-	256,020	63,448	-	-	-	4	-	-	319,472
El Salvador	52	-	52	17	-	71,500	-	-	3,700	-	75,269
Eritrea	703	-	703	-	205	-	-	-	18	-	926
Estonia <sup>20</sup>	324	-	324	35	-	-	-	76,639	-	-	76,998
Eswatini	923	-	923	836	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,759
Ethiopia	626,957	-	626,957	1,284	3	3,196,229	1,619,678	-	344	-	5,444,495
Fiji	6	-	6	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Finland	22,903	-	22,903	9,310	-	-	-	2,759	-	-	34,972
France	389,680	-	389,680	82,220	-	-	-	1,514	-	-	473,414
Gabon	588	-	588	94	-	-	-	-	-	-	682
Gambia	4,030	-	4,030	358	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,388
Georgia	1,365	633	1,998	892	-	283,976	-	558	-	-	287,424
Germany	1,106,198	-	1,106,198	339,872	-	-	-	14,932	-	-	1,461,002
Ghana	12,004	-	12,004	1,355	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,359
Greece	56,483	6,439	62,922	79,237	-	-	-	4,892	-	-	147,051
Grenada	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	7
Guatemala	390	-	390	423	-	-	-	-	146,000	-	146,813
Guinea	4,433	-	4,433	1,980	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,413
Guinea-Bissau	1,852	-	1,852	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,886
Guyana	28	-	28	34	-	-	-	-	1	36,400	36,463
Haiti <sup>21</sup>	4	-	4	9	-	-	-	2,992	-	-	3,005
Honduras	51	-	51	77	-	247,090	-	-	4,400	-	251,618
Hungary	6,064	-	6,064	196	-	-	-	145	-	-	6,405
Iceland	665	-	665	420	-	-	-	69	-	-	1,154
India	194,873	-	194,873	11,728	-	-	-	-	-	-	206,601
Indonesia	10,658	-	10,658	3,325	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,983
Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	979,435	-	979,435	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	979,468
Iraq <sup>22</sup>	257,796	-	257,796	12,935	43	1,607,148	207,114	47,365	12	-	2,132,413
Ireland	6,850	-	6,850	7,412	-	-	-	99	-	-	14,361
Israel	1,749	16,202	17,951	37,085	-	-	-	42	-	-	55,078
Italy	193,336	-	193,336	67,207	-	-	-	822	-	-	261,365
Jamaica	15	-	15	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
Japan <sup>23</sup>	1,650	-	1,650	29,162	-	-	-	710	-	-	31,522
Jordan <sup>24</sup>	700,806	-	700,806	54,449	-	-	-	-	855	-	756,110
Kazakhstan	561	-	561	175	-	-	-	8,204	-	-	8,940
Kenya	424,655	-	424,655	49,389	-	-	-	18,500	-	-	492,544
Kuwait	715	-	715	1,005	-	-	-	92,000	16	-	93,736
Kyrgyzstan	350	-	350	138	-	-	-	108	-	-	596
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Latvia <sup>25</sup>	659	-	659	38	-	-	-	224,844	-	-	225,541
Lebanon	930,209	-	930,209	16,258	1	-	-	-	3,155	-	949,623
Lesotho	116	-	116	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	149

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	Refugees <sup>3</sup>	People in refugee- like situations <sup>4</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee- like situations								
Liberia	8,700	-	8,700	46	6	-	-	-	-	-	8,752
Libya	6,503	-	6,503	46,277	-	268,629	-	-	-	-	321,409
Liechtenstein	170	-	170	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	209
Lithuania	1,790	-	1,790	287	-	-	-	3,039	-	-	5,116
Luxembourg	4,571	-	4,571	1,171	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,742
Madagascar	111	-	111	80	-	-	-	-	-	-	191
Malawi	13,732	-	13,732	25,299	-	-	-	-	250	-	39,281
Malaysia <sup>26</sup>	125,478	1,125	126,603	50,285	-	-	-	9,631	80,000	-	266,519
Mali	26,820	-	26,820	948	3,324	147,861	3,975	-	-	-	182,928
Malta	8,726	-	8,726	1,951	-	-	-	11	-	-	10,688
Mauritania	60,165	26,000	86,165	1,177	-	-	-	-	-	-	87,342
Mauritius	21	-	21	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
Mexico	18,674	-	18,674	50,499	-	-	-	13	183,903	49,000	302,089
Monaco	25	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
Mongolia	26	-	26	3	-	-	-	17	10	-	56
Montenegro	701	-	701	440	-	-	-	145	12,297	-	13,583
Morocco	6,388	-	6,388	2,671	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,059
Mozambique	4,666	-	4,666	20,452	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,118
Myanmar <sup>27</sup>	-	-	-	-	566	386,961	-	628,939	-	-	883,466
Namibia	2,749	-	2,749	1,519	10	-	-	-	9	-	4,287
Nauru	788	-	788	407	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,195
Nepal <sup>28</sup>	18,704	-	18,704	45	-	-	-	-	549	-	19,298
Netherlands	93,378	-	93,378	13,728	-	-	-	1,951	-	-	109,057
New Zealand	2,182	-	2,182	436	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,618
Nicaragua	326	-	326	131	-	-	-	-	368	-	825
Niger	177,583	-	177,583	4,109	-	183,702	-	-	45,837	-	411,231
Nigeria	42,159	-	42,159	1,009	-	2,116,858	51,066	-	-	-	2,211,092
North Macedonia	276	122	398	57	-	-	-	562	16,541	-	17,558
Norway	55,336	-	55,336	1,719	-	-	-	2,809	-	-	59,864
Oman	308	-	308	256	-	-	-	-	-	-	564
Pakistan	1,410,684	-	1,410,684	6,978	2	100,680	18	-	-	-	1,518,362
Panama	2,539	-	2,539	16,389	-	-	-	2	-	94,596	113,526
Papua New Guinea	5,181	4,581	9,762	138	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,900
Paraguay	284	-	284	659	-	-	-	-	-	3,350	4,293
Peru	2,636	-	2,636	382,152	-	-	-	-	-	475,357	860,145
Philippines	649	-	649	297	-	154,306	70,999	456	68	-	226,775
Poland	12,549	-	12,549	3,108	-	-	-	10,825	-	-	26,482
Portugal	2,228	-	2,228	802	-	-	-	14	-	-	3,044
Qatar	199	-	199	100	-	-	-	1,200	-	-	1,499
Rep. of Korea	5,458	-	5,458	22,070	-	-	-	197	-	-	27,725
Rep. of Moldova	417	-	417	110	-	-	-	3,632	-	-	4,159
Romania	4,165	-	4,165	376	-	-	-	225	-	-	4,766
Russian Federation <sup>29</sup>	62,470	-	62,470	672	5	-	-	72,318	-	-	135,465
Rwanda	144,835	-	144,835	299	659	-	-	-	4,331	-	150,124
Saint Kitts and Nevis	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Saint Lucia	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Samoa	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Saudi Arabia	294	7	301	2,209	-	-	-	70,000	-	-	72,510

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Country/ territory of asylum	REFUGEES			Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>1</sup>	Returned refugees <sup>2</sup>	IDPs of concern to UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Others of concern to UNHCR <sup>9</sup>	Venezuelans displaced abroad <sup>10</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>3</sup>	People in refugee- like situations <sup>4</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee- like situations								
Senegal	14,417	-	14,417	1,758	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,175
Serbia and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)	26,751	3,797	30,548	242	1	215,736	57	2,032	-	-	248,616
Sierra Leone	370	-	370	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	370
Singapore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,303	1	-	1,304
Sint Maarten (Dutch part)	6	-	6	3	-	-	-	-	1	92	102
Slovakia	963	-	963	7	-	-	-	1,523	-	-	2,493
Slovenia	789	-	789	360	-	-	-	4	-	-	1,153
Solomon Islands	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Somalia	17,369	-	17,369	17,189	3,721	2,648,000	8,000	-	382	-	2,694,661
South Africa <sup>30</sup>	89,285	-	89,285	184,203	-	-	-	-	-	-	273,488
South Sudan	295,986	-	295,986	2,977	47,602	1,829,223	3,845	-	10,000	-	2,189,633
Spain	23,462	-	23,462	122,101	-	-	-	3,567	-	-	149,130
Sri Lanka	790	-	790	798	545	26,872	8,601	-	-	-	37,606
Sudan	1,087,060	-	1,087,060	16,979	2,098	1,864,195	-	-	3,730	-	2,974,062
Suriname	48	-	48	385	-	-	-	-	-	-	433
Sweden	247,289	-	247,289	31,255	-	-	-	31,819	-	-	310,363
Switzerland	106,900	-	106,900	13,173	-	-	-	44	-	-	120,117
Syrian Arab Rep. <sup>31</sup>	16,797	-	16,797	14,699	41,444	6,146,994	-	160,000	6,815	-	6,386,749
Tajikistan	2,287	-	2,287	2,170	-	-	-	6,842	-	-	11,299
Thailand	51,605	48,485	100,090	878	-	-	-	475,847	83	-	576,898
Timor-Leste	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Togo	12,333	-	12,333	677	15	-	-	-	-	-	13,025
Tonga	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Trinidad and Tobago	1,244	-	1,244	14,468	-	-	-	-	127	27,179	43,018
Tunisia	1,341	-	1,341	697	-	-	-	-	9	-	2,047
Turkey <sup>32</sup>	3,622,284	-	3,622,284	317,820	-	-	-	1	-	-	3,940,105
Turkmenistan	22	-	22	-	-	-	-	5,214	1	-	5,237
Turks and Caicos Islands	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Uganda	1,267,043	-	1,267,043	26,539	2	-	-	-	1,152,253	-	2,445,837
Ukraine <sup>33</sup>	2,627	-	2,627	2,103	-	1,500,000	-	35,650	-	-	1,540,380
United Arab Emirates	1,227	-	1,227	7,320	-	-	-	-	137	-	8,684
United Kingdom	132,700	-	132,700	43,833	-	-	-	176	-	-	176,709
United Rep. of Tanzania	264,601	-	264,601	36,656	-	-	-	-	19,024	-	320,281
United States of America <sup>34</sup>	318,852	-	318,852	724,387	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,043,239
Uruguay	425	-	425	8,428	-	-	-	-	-	12,607	21,460
Uzbekistan	14	-	14	-	1	-	-	95,857	-	-	95,872
Vanuatu	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	8,762	58,826	67,588	52	-	-	-	-	385,000	-	452,640
Viet Nam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34,110	-	-	34,110
Yemen	265,783	-	265,783	9,853	-	3,647,250	-	-	14	-	3,922,900
Zambia	54,926	-	54,926	3,737	-	-	-	-	23,113	-	81,776
Zimbabwe <sup>35</sup>	8,706	-	8,706	11,155	16	-	-	-	953	-	20,830
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,001,155</b>	<b>230,777</b>	<b>20,231,932</b>	<b>3,727,291</b>	<b>130,979</b>	<b>43,898,951</b>	<b>2,334,721</b>	<b>3,881,119</b>	<b>3,170,382</b>	<b>3,060,717</b>	<b>79,391,372</b>

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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-2019 (ctnd)

All data are provisional and subject to change.

Country/ territory of asylum	REFUGEES			Asylum- seekers (pending cases) <sup>1</sup>	Returned refugees <sup>2</sup>	IDPs of concern to UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Others of concern to UNHCR <sup>9</sup>	Venezuelans displaced abroad <sup>10</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee- like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee- like situations								
<b>UNHCR-Bureaux</b>											
- Central Africa- Great Lakes	1,453,989	-	1,453,989	68,422	26,777	6,068,198	361,368	974	35,971	-	8,015,699
- East and Horn of Africa	4,203,271	-	4,203,271	128,964	53,922	9,670,985	1,631,523	18,500	1,232,437	-	16,939,602
- Southern Africa	217,213	-	217,213	277,703	26	-	-	-	24,332	-	519,274
- Western Africa	333,635	-	333,635	12,909	4,423	2,618,868	55,041	689,539	45,947	-	3,760,362
<b>Total Africa</b>	<b>6,208,108</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,208,108</b>	<b>487,998</b>	<b>85,148</b>	<b>18,358,051</b>	<b>2,047,932</b>	<b>709,013</b>	<b>1,338,687</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>29,234,937</b>
Asia and Pacific	4,183,728	54,191	4,237,919	192,665	4,312	2,926,600	79,618	2,257,606	573,638	-	9,227,638
Middle East and North Africa	2,604,842	42,209	2,647,051	271,725	41,488	11,670,021	207,114	370,611	11,013	-	15,219,023
Europe	6,472,160	25,601	6,497,761	1,206,463	31	2,716,964	57	536,976	88,063	-	11,046,315
Americas	532,317	108,776	641,093	1,568,440	-	8,227,315	-	6,913	1,158,981	3,060,717	14,663,459
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,001,155</b>	<b>230,777</b>	<b>20,231,932</b>	<b>3,727,291</b>	<b>130,979</b>	<b>43,898,951</b>	<b>2,334,721</b>	<b>3,881,119</b>	<b>3,170,382</b>	<b>3,060,717</b>	<b>79,391,372</b>
<b>UN major regions</b>											
Africa	6,636,807	26,000	6,662,807	603,498	85,148	18,626,680	2,047,932	709,017	1,338,696	-	30,073,778
Asia	9,924,941	81,025	10,005,966	619,941	45,800	15,232,390	286,732	2,633,126	590,642	-	28,369,877
Europe	2,832,509	10,395	2,842,904	871,730	31	1,812,566	57	531,919	82,063	-	6,141,270
Latin America and the Caribbean	112,186	108,776	220,962	759,306	-	8,227,315	-	3,123	1,158,981	3,060,717	13,430,404
Northern America	420,131	-	420,131	809,134	-	-	-	3,790	-	-	1,233,055
Oceania	74,581	4,581	79,162	63,682	-	-	-	144	-	-	142,988
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,001,155</b>	<b>230,777</b>	<b>20,231,932</b>	<b>3,727,291</b>	<b>130,979</b>	<b>43,898,951</b>	<b>2,334,721</b>	<b>3,881,119</b>	<b>3,170,382</b>	<b>3,060,717</b>	<b>79,391,372</b>

## Notes

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

A dash (“-”) indicates that the value is zero, not available or not applicable. 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 2019. 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 of concern to UNHCR who have returned to their place of origin during the first half of 2019.
- 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 Venezuelans displaced abroad refers to persons who have left Venezuela as a result of the deteriorating circumstances inside the country, but who have not applied for asylum in the country in which they are present. As indicated in the Guidance Note on International Protection Considerations for Venezuelans (May 2019), UNHCR considers that the majority of Venezuelan nationals or stateless persons who were habitually resident in Venezuela, are in need of international protection under the criteria contained in the Cartagena Declaration on the basis of threats to their lives, security or freedom resulting from events that are seriously disturbing public order in Venezuela. In line with the Secretary General’s Guidance, UNHCR and IOM have been coordinating closely to respond to the outflow of Venezuelans.
- 11 The statelessness figure refers to a survey conducted in late 2017.
- 12 Australia’s figures for asylum-seekers are based on the number of applications lodged for protection visas.
- 13 The figure reported relates to stateless persons who are also refugees from Myanmar, mainly from Rakhine State. This figure exceptionally includes 911,660 stateless refugees who are also counted in the column under “Refugees.” UNHCR’s statistical reporting currently follows a methodology that reports on one legal status as a person of concern only. However, due to the extraordinary size of the displaced stateless population in Bangladesh, UNHCR considered it important to reflect, on an exceptional basis, the dual status that this population group possesses as both refugees and stateless persons as to do otherwise might convey the mistaken impression that the overall number of stateless persons has declined significantly. This approach will not be replicated in the database and in the Excel version of this table and, therefore, figures may differ.
- 14 All data relate to end of 2018.
- 15 The 321,500 Vietnamese refugees are well integrated and in practice receive protection from the Government of China.
- 16 Figure of others of concern is provided by the Government of Colombia.
- 17 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 of 2019. The estimate does not include individuals of unknown parentage who were abandoned as children and who are not considered as nationals under Ivorian law.
- 18 UNHCR’s assistance activities for IDPs in Cyprus ended in 1999. Visit the website of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) for further information.
- 19 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 2017, 2018 and first half of 2019, although an official figure was not available for this report.
- 20 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.
- 21 Stateless 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.
- 22 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.
- 23 Figures are UNHCR estimates.
- 24 Includes 34,500 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.
- 25 With respect to persons under UNHCR’s statelessness mandate, this figure includes persons of concern covered by two separate Latvian laws. 174 persons fall under the Republic of Latvia’s Law on Stateless Persons on 17 February 2004. 224,670 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).
- 26 Updated 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 2017, 906 persons of those registered acquired Malaysian nationality.
- 27 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 and 2017 General Administration Department (GAD) of Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) data. This figure exceptionally includes stateless IDPs who are also of concern under the statelessness mandate. This approach will not be replicated in the database and in the Excel version of this table and, therefore, figures may differ.
- 28 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.
- 29 The statelessness figure refers to the census figure from 2010 adjusted to reflect the number of stateless persons who acquired nationality from 2011 to mid-2019.
- 30 All data relate to end of 2018.
- 31 Refugee figure for Iraqis was a government estimate and UNHCR has registered and was assisting 13,800 Iraqis at mid-2019. Figure for stateless persons was an estimate.
- 32 Refugee figure is a Government estimate and pertains only to Syrian refugees.
- 33 IDP figure in Ukraine includes 700,000 conflict-affected persons.
- 34 Figures for asylum-seekers in the United States of America pertain to mid-2019 for claims reported by the Department of Homeland Security and end-2018 for claims reported by the Executive Office for Immigration Review.
- 35 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-2019

All data are provisional and subject to change.

Origin <sup>1</sup>	REFUGEES			Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>	Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs of concern to UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Others of concern to UNHCR <sup>9</sup>	Venezuelans displaced abroad <sup>10</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee-like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations								
Afghanistan	2,692,450	2,885	2,695,335	225,188	3,198	2,257,781	-	-	492,929	-	5,674,431
Albania	13,688	-	13,688	16,052	-	-	-	-	1	-	29,741
Algeria	4,522	1	4,523	6,055	-	-	-	-	13	-	10,591
Andorra	3	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Angola	8,609	-	8,609	9,191	-	-	-	-	18,117	-	35,917
Antigua and Barbuda	46	-	46	67	-	-	-	-	-	-	113
Argentina	116	-	116	653	-	-	-	-	3	-	772
Armenia	10,936	-	10,936	10,941	-	-	-	-	4	-	21,881
Aruba	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Australia	14	-	14	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
Austria	19	3	22	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
Azerbaijan	10,792	573	11,365	8,482	-	620,422	-	-	-	-	640,269
Bahamas	499	-	499	391	-	-	-	-	-	-	890
Bahrain	529	-	529	142	-	-	-	-	1	-	672
Bangladesh	21,830	345	22,175	55,247	-	-	-	-	9	-	77,431
Barbados	93	-	93	125	-	-	-	-	-	-	218
Belarus	3,434	-	3,434	3,355	-	-	-	-	2	-	6,791
Belgium	59	-	59	87	-	-	-	-	-	-	146
Belize	53	-	53	224	-	-	-	-	-	-	277
Benin	686	-	686	987	-	-	-	-	6	-	1,679
Bhutan	7,052	-	7,052	389	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,441
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	489	-	489	1,067	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,556
Bosnia and Herzegovina	16,763	37	16,800	1,056	-	96,830	-	-	48,907	-	163,593
Botswana	54	-	54	98	-	-	-	-	-	-	152
Brazil	1,483	-	1,483	8,972	-	-	-	-	1	-	10,456
Brunei Darussalam	5	-	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Bulgaria	540	-	540	371	-	-	-	-	4	-	915
Burkina Faso	11,530	-	11,530	4,592	-	170,447	-	-	-	-	186,569
Burundi	391,332	-	391,332	50,769	14,185	26,005	-	-	14,168	-	496,459
Cabo Verde	14	-	14	228	-	-	-	-	-	-	242
Cambodia	11,979	51	12,030	753	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,783
Cameroon	52,613	-	52,613	18,368	1	777,867	279,719	-	7	-	1,128,575
Canada	83	-	83	88	-	-	-	-	3	-	174
Cayman Islands	7	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Central African Rep.	603,569	-	603,569	15,310	10,310	613,031	81,649	-	21,576	-	1,345,445
Chad	10,615	-	10,615	4,731	291	133,338	-	-	45,719	-	194,694
Chile	558	-	558	635	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,193
China	206,489	-	206,489	95,276	-	-	-	-	1	-	301,766
China, Hong Kong SAR	10	-	10	782	-	-	-	-	-	-	792
China, Macao SAR	2	-	2	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Colombia <sup>11</sup>	77,538	58,826	136,364	59,824	-	7,908,725	-	-	400,000	-	8,504,913
Comoros	621	-	621	327	-	-	-	-	-	-	948
Congo, Republic of	13,303	-	13,303	13,271	-	134,430	-	-	34	-	161,038
Costa Rica	213	-	213	578	-	-	-	-	-	-	791
Côte d'Ivoire	43,259	-	43,259	17,183	1,078	-	-	-	22	-	61,542
Croatia <sup>12</sup>	23,824	-	23,824	71	25	-	-	-	4,266	-	28,186
Cuba	4,611	-	4,611	34,653	-	-	-	-	-	-	39,264
Curaçao	35	-	35	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	36
Cyprus <sup>13</sup>	14	-	14	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	36
Czechia	993	-	993	220	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,213
Dem. People's Rep. of Korea	361	-	361	107	-	-	-	-	-	-	468

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Origin <sup>1</sup>	REFUGEES			Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>	Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs of concern to UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Others of concern to UNHCR <sup>9</sup>	Venezuelans displaced abroad <sup>10</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee-like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations								
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	765,211	215	765,426	135,325	1,622	4,516,865	-		10,855		5,430,093
Denmark	23	-	23	41	-	-	-				64
Djibouti	1,486	-	1,486	978	-	-	-				2,464
Dominica	48	-	48	68	-	-	-				116
Dominican Rep.	512	-	512	3,729	-	-	-				4,241
Ecuador	1,456	-	1,456	17,078	-	-	-				18,534
Egypt	26,284	-	26,284	15,993	-	-	-		55		42,332
El Salvador	34,515	-	34,515	125,471	-	71,500	-		53,746		285,232
Equatorial Guinea	136	-	136	193	-	-	-				329
Eritrea	422,407	13,750	436,157	71,507	205	-	-		84		507,953
Estonia	272	-	272	40	-	-	-				312
Eswatini	96	-	96	66	-	-	-				162
Ethiopia	93,433	-	93,433	132,630	3	3,196,229	1,619,678		4,090		5,046,063
Fiji	600	-	600	1,376	-	-	-				1,976
Finland	7	-	7	6	-	-	-				13
France	98	-	98	243	-	-	-				341
French Guiana	1	-	1	23	-	-	-				24
Gabon	424	-	424	472	-	-	-				896
Gambia	17,537	-	17,537	10,960	-	-	-				28,497
Georgia	7,160	-	7,160	17,988	-	283,976	-				309,124
Germany	92	-	92	190	-	-	-				282
Ghana	18,131	-	18,131	11,200	-	-	-		2		29,333
Gibraltar	1	-	1	-	-	-	-				1
Greece	115	-	115	126	-	-	-				241
Grenada	49	-	49	71	-	-	-				120
Guadeloupe	-	-	-	11	-	-	-				11
Guam	-	-	-	37	-	-	-				37
Guatemala	20,134	-	20,134	89,324	-	-	-		39		109,497
Guinea	25,188	-	25,188	26,678	-	-	-		1		51,867
Guinea-Bissau	2,065	-	2,065	2,732	-	-	-				4,797
Guyana	233	-	233	601	-	-	-		1		835
Haiti	26,955	-	26,955	45,667	-	-	-		-		72,622
Holy See (the)	-	-	-	4	-	-	-				4
Honduras	19,622	-	19,622	94,737	-	247,090	-		96,399		457,848
Hungary	933	-	933	733	-	-	-		3		1,669
Iceland	9	-	9	5	-	-	-				14
India	13,833	4	13,837	55,668	-	-	-		214		69,719
Indonesia	1,711	5,544	7,255	3,281	-	-	-		4		10,540
Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	125,986	471	126,457	85,483	-	-	-		63		212,003
Iraq <sup>14</sup>	337,275	1,194	338,469	321,055	43	1,607,148	207,114		6,867		2,480,696
Ireland	27	-	27	80	-	-	-				107
Israel	360	-	360	698	-	-	-				1,058
Italy	156	-	156	399	-	-	-				555
Jamaica	1,876	-	1,876	1,671	-	-	-				3,547
Japan	54	-	54	126	-	-	-				180
Jordan	2,657	1	2,658	4,324	-	-	-		768		7,750
Kazakhstan	3,130	-	3,130	6,009	-	-	-				9,139
Kenya	7,997	-	7,997	7,287	-	-	-		4		15,288
Kuwait	1,281	-	1,281	944	-	-	-		6		2,231
Kyrgyzstan	2,770	-	2,770	2,571	-	-	-				5,341
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	6,860	-	6,860	293	-	-	-				7,153
Latvia	80	-	80	105	-	-	-				185

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Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by origin | mid-2019 (ctnd)

All data are provisional and subject to change.

Origin <sup>1</sup>	REFUGEES			Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>	Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs of concern to UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Others of concern to UNHCR <sup>9</sup>	Venezuelans displaced abroad <sup>10</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee-like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations								
Lebanon	5,349	1	5,350	7,808	1	-	-	-	35	-	13,194
Lesotho	11	-	11	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
Liberia	5,327	7	5,334	2,839	6	-	-	-	90	-	8,269
Libya	14,091	-	14,091	5,993	-	268,629	-	-	14	-	288,727
Liechtenstein	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Lithuania	50	-	50	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	140
Luxembourg	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Madagascar	301	-	301	115	-	-	-	-	-	-	416
Malawi	598	-	598	2,793	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,391
Malaysia	998	-	998	16,882	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,880
Maldives	71	-	71	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	96
Mali	163,322	-	163,322	7,078	3,324	147,861	3,975	-	4	-	325,564
Malta	2	-	2	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Marshall Islands	7	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Martinique	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Mauritania	37,180	-	37,180	7,494	-	-	-	-	1	-	44,675
Mauritius	177	-	177	289	-	-	-	-	-	-	466
Mexico	13,877	-	13,877	86,984	-	-	-	-	-	-	100,861
Monaco	3	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	6
Mongolia	2,202	-	2,202	3,886	-	-	-	-	10	-	6,098
Montenegro	681	-	681	539	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,220
Morocco	4,240	5	4,245	7,908	-	-	-	-	27	-	12,180
Mozambique	70	-	70	9,079	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,149
Myanmar <sup>15</sup>	1,103,672	48,488	1,152,160	37,919	566	386,961	-	-	84	-	1,577,690
Namibia	999	-	999	482	10	-	-	-	-	-	1,491
Nauru	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Nepal	7,903	6	7,909	9,412	-	-	-	-	332	-	17,653
Netherlands	73	-	73	101	-	-	-	-	-	-	174
New Zealand	37	-	37	17	-	-	-	-	1	-	55
Nicaragua	2,434	-	2,434	49,321	-	-	-	-	30,071	-	81,826
Niger	2,879	-	2,879	2,018	-	183,702	-	-	26,361	-	214,960
Nigeria	297,892	-	297,892	78,730	-	2,116,858	51,066	-	19,490	-	2,564,036
Niue	19	-	19	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
North Macedonia	1,751	-	1,751	2,369	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,120
Norway	13	-	13	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	32
Oman	47	-	47	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	83
Pakistan	132,358	562	132,920	64,933	2	100,680	18	-	-	-	298,553
Palau	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Palestinian <sup>16</sup>	96,261	-	96,261	12,721	-	-	-	-	1,014	-	109,996
Panama	52	-	52	184	-	-	-	-	-	-	236
Papua New Guinea	440	-	440	523	-	-	-	-	-	-	963
Paraguay	68	-	68	468	-	-	-	-	-	-	536
Peru	2,591	-	2,591	6,626	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,217
Philippines	562	16	578	3,755	-	154,306	70,999	-	80,037	-	309,675
Poland	1,011	-	1,011	874	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,885
Portugal	32	-	32	260	-	-	-	-	-	-	292
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Qatar	28	-	28	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	67
Rep. of Korea	150	-	150	637	-	-	-	-	-	-	787
Rep. of Moldova	2,236	1	2,237	4,193	-	-	-	-	2	-	6,432
Romania	2,038	-	2,038	4,153	-	-	-	-	1	-	6,192
Russian Federation	61,883	-	61,883	42,614	5	-	-	-	3	-	104,505
Rwanda	247,426	-	247,426	13,533	659	-	-	-	15,330	-	276,948
Saint Kitts and Nevis	14	-	14	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
Saint Lucia	54	-	54	73	-	-	-	-	-	-	127

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Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by origin | mid-2019 (ctnd)

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Origin <sup>1</sup>	REFUGEES			Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>	Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs of concern to UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Others of concern to UNHCR <sup>9</sup>	Venezuelans displaced abroad <sup>10</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee-like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations								
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	90	-	90	68	-	-	-	-	-	-	158
Saint-Martin (French part)	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Samoa	1	-	1	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	36
San Marino	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sao Tome and Principe	30	-	30	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	57
Saudi Arabia	4,724	-	4,724	1,413	-	-	-	-	22	-	6,159
Senegal	16,610	-	16,610	14,790	-	-	-	-	-	-	31,400
Serbia and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)	31,349	122	31,471	7,004	1	215,736	57	-	-	-	254,269
Seychelles	10	-	10	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Sierra Leone	4,896	-	4,896	7,247	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,143
Singapore	34	-	34	62	-	-	-	-	-	-	96
Sint Maarten (Dutch part)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Slovakia	588	-	588	356	-	-	-	-	-	-	944
Slovenia	20	-	20	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Solomon Islands	27	-	27	139	-	-	-	-	-	-	166
Somalia	863,211	169	863,380	56,546	3,721	2,648,000	8,000	-	134	-	3,579,781
South Africa	651	-	651	2,533	-	-	-	-	5	-	3,189
South Sudan <sup>17</sup>	2,239,679	46	2,239,725	4,479	47,602	1,829,223	3,845	-	10,000	-	4,134,874
Spain	88	-	88	242	-	-	-	-	-	-	330
Sri Lanka	109,956	-	109,956	14,292	545	26,872	8,601	-	5	-	160,271
Sudan <sup>18</sup>	730,656	2,306	732,962	69,857	2,098	1,864,195	-	-	3	-	2,669,115
Suriname	23	-	23	61	-	-	-	-	-	-	84
Sweden	30	-	30	202	-	-	-	-	-	-	232
Switzerland	7	-	7	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
Syrian Arab Rep.	6,623,416	17,912	6,641,328	118,731	41,444	6,146,994	-	-	8,580	-	12,957,077
Tajikistan	1,810	-	1,810	2,935	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,745
Thailand	379	23	402	2,834	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,236
Tibetan	11,519	-	11,519	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	11,524
Timor-Leste	18	1	19	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
Togo	7,965	-	7,965	3,291	15	-	-	-	-	-	11,271
Tonga	33	-	33	159	-	-	-	-	-	-	192
Trinidad and Tobago	261	-	261	354	-	-	-	-	127	-	742
Tunisia	1,994	-	1,994	2,526	-	-	-	-	3	-	4,523
Turkey	74,168	-	74,168	41,628	-	-	-	-	10	-	115,806
Turkmenistan	456	-	456	892	-	-	-	-	1	-	1,349
Turks and Caicos Islands	14	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Tuvalu	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Uganda	7,262	-	7,262	11,068	2	-	-	-	1,152,256	-	1,170,588
Ukraine <sup>19</sup>	78,179	286	78,465	29,072	-	1,500,000	-	-	8	-	1,607,545
United Arab Emirates	153	-	153	199	-	-	-	-	-	-	352
United Kingdom	66	5	71	193	-	-	-	-	6	-	270
United Rep. of Tanzania	760	-	760	1,882	-	-	-	-	17	-	2,659
United States of America <sup>20</sup>	2,600	8	2,608	2,837	-	-	-	-	11	-	5,456
Uruguay	24	-	24	246	-	-	-	-	-	-	270
Uzbekistan	3,101	-	3,101	4,721	1	-	-	-	2	-	7,825
Vanuatu	1	-	1	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	51
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	29,432	-	29,432	677,031	-	-	-	-	385,001	3,060,717	4,152,181

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Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees (refugees and IDPs), stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by origin | mid-2019 (ctnd)

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Origin <sup>1</sup>	REFUGEES			Asylum-seekers (pending cases) <sup>4</sup>	Returned refugees <sup>5</sup>	IDPs of concern to UNHCR, incl. people in IDP-like situations <sup>6</sup>	Returned IDPs <sup>7</sup>	Persons under UNHCR statelessness mandate <sup>8</sup>	Others of concern to UNHCR <sup>9</sup>	Venezuelans displaced abroad <sup>10</sup>	Total population of concern
	Refugees <sup>2</sup>	People in refugee-like situations <sup>3</sup>	Total refugees and people in refugee-like situations								
Viet Nam <sup>21</sup>	334,676	2	334,678	6,276	-	-	-	-	68	-	341,022
Western Sahara	90,838	26,000	116,838	1,126	-	-	-	-	-	-	117,964
Yemen	33,682	-	33,682	36,059	-	3,647,250	-	-	25	-	3,717,016
Zambia	294	-	294	252	-	-	-	-	6	-	552
Zimbabwe	12,546	-	12,546	17,234	16	-	-	-	116	-	29,912
Stateless	53,309	-	53,309	5,903	-	-	-	3,881,119	16	-	2,895,627
Various/unknown	176,406	50,911	227,317	121,222	-	-	-	-	222,051	-	570,590
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,001,155</b>	<b>230,777</b>	<b>20,231,932</b>	<b>3,727,291</b>	<b>130,979</b>	<b>43,898,951</b>	<b>2,334,721</b>	<b>3,881,119</b>	<b>3,170,382</b>	<b>3,060,717</b>	<b>79,391,372</b>
<b>UNHCR-Bureaux</b>											
- Central Africa-Great Lakes	2,074,804	215	2,075,019	249,150	26,777	6,068,198	361,368	-	61,987	-	8,842,499
- East and Horn of Africa	4,376,746	16,271	4,393,017	359,083	53,922	9,670,985	1,631,523	-	1,212,290	-	17,320,820
- Southern Africa	25,037	-	25,037	42,484	26	-	-	-	18,244	-	85,791
- Western Africa	617,301	7	617,308	190,553	4,423	2,618,868	55,041	-	45,976	-	3,532,169
<b>Total Africa</b>	<b>7,093,888</b>	<b>16,493</b>	<b>7,110,381</b>	<b>841,270</b>	<b>85,148</b>	<b>18,358,051</b>	<b>2,047,932</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,338,497</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>29,781,279</b>
Asia and Pacific	4,805,571	58,398	4,863,969	703,000	4,312	2,926,600	79,618	-	573,765	-	9,151,264
Middle East and North Africa	7,284,911	45,114	7,330,025	551,264	41,488	11,670,021	207,114	-	17,432	-	19,817,344
Europe	344,310	1,027	345,337	194,592	31	2,716,964	57	-	53,218	-	3,310,199
Americas	242,760	58,834	301,594	1,310,040	-	8,227,315	-	-	965,403	3,060,717	13,865,069
Various/Stateless	229,715	50,911	280,626	127,125	-	-	-	3,881,119	222,067	-	3,466,217
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,001,155</b>	<b>230,777</b>	<b>20,231,932</b>	<b>3,727,291</b>	<b>130,979</b>	<b>43,898,951</b>	<b>2,334,721</b>	<b>3,881,119</b>	<b>3,170,382</b>	<b>3,060,717</b>	<b>79,391,372</b>
<b>UN major regions</b>											
Africa	7,273,037	42,499	7,315,536	888,365	85,148	18,626,680	2,047,932	-	1,338,610	-	30,302,271
Asia	12,013,205	78,079	12,091,284	1,283,883	45,800	15,232,390	286,732	-	591,097	-	29,531,186
Europe	241,254	454	241,708	115,553	31	1,812,566	57	-	53,204	-	2,223,119
Latin America and the Caribbean	240,077	58,826	298,903	1,307,114	-	8,227,315	-	-	965,389	3,060,717	13,859,438
Northern America	2,683	8	2,691	2,926	-	-	-	-	14	-	5,631
Oceania	1,184	-	1,184	2,325	-	-	-	-	1	-	3,510
Various/Stateless	229,715	50,911	280,626	127,125	-	-	-	3,881,119	222,067	-	3,466,217
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,001,155</b>	<b>230,777</b>	<b>20,231,932</b>	<b>3,727,291</b>	<b>130,979</b>	<b>43,898,951</b>	<b>2,334,721</b>	<b>3,881,119</b>	<b>3,170,382</b>	<b>3,060,717</b>	<b>79,391,372</b>

**Notes**

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

A dash (“-”) indicates that the value is zero, not available or not applicable. 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 2019. 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 of concern to UNHCR who have returned to their place of origin during the first half of 2019.
- 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** Venezuelans displaced abroad refers to persons who have left Venezuela as a result of the deteriorating circumstances inside the country, but who have not applied for asylum in the country in which they are present. As indicated in the Guidance Note on International Protection Considerations for Venezuelans (May 2019), UNHCR considers that the majority of Venezuelan nationals or stateless persons who were habitually resident in Venezuela, are in need of international protection under the criteria contained in the Cartagena Declaration on the basis of threats to their lives, security or freedom resulting from events that are seriously disturbing public order in Venezuela. In line with the Secretary General’s Guidance, UNHCR and IOM have been coordinating closely to respond to the outflow of Venezuelans.
- 11** Figure of others of concern is provided by the Government of Colombia.
- 12** 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.
- 13** UNHCR’s assistance activities for IDPs in Cyprus ended in 1999. Visit the website of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) for further information.
- 14** Refugee figure for Iraqis in the Syrian Arab Rep. is a Government estimate. UNHCR has registered and is assisting 13,800 Iraqis at mid-2019. The refugee population in Jordan includes 34,500 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.
- 15** IDP figure in Myanmar includes 120,000 persons in an IDP-like situation.
- 16** Refers to Palestinian refugees under the UNHCR mandate only.
- 17** An unknown number of refugees and asylum-seekers from South Sudan may be included under Sudan (in absence of separate statistics for both countries).
- 18** Figures for refugees and asylum-seekers may include citizens of South Sudan (in absence of separate statistics for both countries).
- 19** IDP figure in Ukraine includes 700,000 conflict-affected persons.
- 20** 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.
- 21** The 321,500 Vietnamese refugees are well integrated and in practice receive protection from the Government of China.

Source: UNHCR/Governments.



# MID-YEAR TRENDS 2019

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Front cover:

**BRAZIL.** *Portrait of a young Venezuelan refugee girl and her sister at Rondon 3 temporary shelter in Boa Vista.*

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

## Who are included in the statistics?

**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,<sup>1</sup> and those enjoying temporary protection.<sup>2</sup> The refugee category also includes persons in a refugee-like situation.<sup>3</sup>

**Asylum-seekers (with 'pending cases')** are individuals who have sought international protection and whose claims for refugee status have not yet been determined. Those covered in this report refer to claimants whose individual applications were pending 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.<sup>4</sup> 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.<sup>5</sup>

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

- <sup>1</sup> 'Complementary protection' refers to protection provided under national, regional, or international law to persons who do not qualify for protection under refugee law instruments but are in need of international protection because they are at risk of serious harm.
- <sup>2</sup> 'Temporary protection' refers to arrangements developed to offer protection of a temporary nature, either until the situation in the country of origin improves and allows for a safe and dignified return, or until individual refugee or complementary protection status determination can be carried out.
- <sup>3</sup> 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.
- <sup>4</sup> See: United Nations Commission on Human Rights, *Report of the Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Francis M. Deng, submitted pursuant to Commission resolution 1997/39*. Addendum: Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, 11 February 1998.
- <sup>5</sup> 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.