Global Facts and Figures

Number of forcibly displaced worldwide (end 2014): **59.5 million**

**Number of Refugees**

- There were **19.5 million refugees** worldwide at the beginning of 2013, **14.4 million** under the mandate of UNHCR, around **2.9 million** more than in 2013. The other 5.1 million refugees are Palestinian refugees registered with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).
- An estimated **13.9 million people** were newly displaced by conflict in 2014, including **2.9 million** new refugees.
- Developing countries host **over 86%** of the world’s refugees compared to **70%** ten years ago.
- In 2014, the country hosting the largest number of refugees was **Turkey**, with **1.59 million** refugees. By the end of 2014, **Syria** had become the world’s top source country for refugees, overtaking Afghanistan, which had held the position for more than three decades.
- Last year, **51% of refugees were under 18 years old**. This is the highest figure for child refugees in more than a decade.

**Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)**

- Internally displaced people are those who have been displaced but who remain within the borders of their own country. By the end of 2014 there were an estimated **38.2 million** people in this position.
- Continued fighting in the Syrian Arab Republic brought the number of IDPs in that country to **7.6 million**, the highest number anywhere in the world.
- The number of IDPs who benefited from UNHCR’s protection and assistance activities stood at **32.3 million** at the end of 2014 – the highest number on record.
Asylum-Seekers

- Close to **1.66 million** individuals submitted applications for asylum in 2014, the highest level ever recorded.

- With an estimated **274,700 asylum claims**, the **Russian Federation** became the world’s largest recipient of new individual applications in 2014, followed by **Germany (173,100)**, and the **USA (121,200)**

Stateless People

- Statelessness refers to the condition of an individual who is not considered a national by any state. Although stateless people may sometimes also be refugees, the two categories are distinct and both groups are of concern to UNHCR.

- It’s almost impossible to determine the true number of stateless people. For 2014 UNHCR offices reported a figure of almost **3.5 million** stateless people, drawing on data from **77 countries**.

Source: ([Global Trends Report 2014](https://www.unhcr.org/)

About UNHCR

At the start of 2015, there were 9,300 UNHCR members of staff, including a combined total of 1,050 working in UNHCR’s Geneva headquarters and the Global Service Centre in Budapest, Hungary.

The numbers break down into 6,854 national staff and 2,476 international staff.

UNHCR works in 125 countries with staff based in a mixture of 109 regional and branch offices, and 304 sub and field offices.

Source: [UNHCR](https://www.unhcr.org/)

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