



Statistical Data on Iranian Asylum Seekers and Refugees in 2010

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) at the end of 2010, some 43.7 million people worldwide were forcibly displaced due to conflict and persecution, the highest number in more than 15 years. Of these, 15.4 million were refugees, including 10.55 million under UNHCR's mandate and 4.82 million Palestinian refugees registered with U. N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). The figure also included 837,500 asylum-seekers (people whose asylum applications had not yet been adjudicated) and 27.5 million internally displaced people.

Based on data received or estimated by UNHCR at the end of 2010 the number of **Iranian refugees** was **68,791** of which **10,721** were assisted by the UNHCR mostly in Iraq (7,989). Another **19,004** **Iranians** applied for asylum during 2010. The five countries that **received the largest numbers** of new applications from Iranians were **Turkey** (2,881), **Germany** (2,475), the **United Kingdom** (2,205), **Sweden** (1,182), and the **Netherlands** (785).

No. of Iranian asylum applications in previous years

| 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 15,519 | 13,532 | 13,401 | 14,120 | 13,329 | 15,890 |

Of the **18,965 decisions** taken on Iranian asylum applications in 2010 (first instance and appeal) some **7,016** resulted in **refugee status**, **844** resulted in **humanitarian status**, **8,244** were **rejected**, and 2,861 were closed on other grounds. When cases closed on other non-substantive grounds are excluded, the **global refugee recognition percentage** for Iranian asylum applicants during 2010 amounted to **43.6%**, whereas the total recognition percentage, including grants of **humanitarian status**, amounted to **48.8%**.

Recognition percentages for Iranians in previous years

| 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2008 | 2009 |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 21/28 | 30/37 | 33/41 | 36/44 | 36/44 | 36/44 |

Some examples of **first instance total recognition** rates (refugee & humanitarian) for **Iranian** applications in 2010 are: Australia (76%), Austria (63%), Canada (81%), France (70%), Germany (55%), Netherlands (51%), Sweden (24%), Turkey-UNHCR (66%), UK (32%), and USA-INS (97%).

Globally, some 732,151 decisions on individual asylum applications (first instance and appeal) were rendered in 2010 by Governments (89%) or UNHCR offices (11%) in 166 countries or territories. Seven countries receiving most of the new asylum applications were South Africa (189,600), United States (54,300), France (48,100), Germany (41,300), Sweden (31,800), Ecuador (31,400), Malaysia-UNHCR (25,600), and Canada (22,500). In total, the **global refugee recognition rate** amounted to **30.3%**. When applicants allowed to remain on **humanitarian grounds** are included, the recognition rate was **38.5%**.

Global recognition percentages in previous years

| 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 21/29 | 27/37 | 28/39 | 32/45 | 29/41 | 38/47 |

By nationality, the highest number of new asylum claims in 2010 was filed by individuals from Zimbabwe (149,400), Somalia (37,500), D.R. Congo (35,600), Afghanistan (33,500), Colombia (32,300), Serbia (30,500), and Myanmar (27,900).

In 2010, a total of 98,800 refugees (less than 1% of world's refugees) were resettled in 22 countries with UNHCR's assistance (73,000) or without it. By nationality, the main beneficiaries of the UNHCR-facilitated resettlement programs were refugees from Myanmar (19,400), Iraq (16,000), Bhutan (14,800), and Somalia (5,400). Some **1,283** **Iranians** were also **resettled** including from Turkey (1,210) and Iraq (18) with UNHCR's assistance.

SOURCES: UNHCR 2010 Global Trends. For 2000-2009 figures see our previous statistics sheets.

Iranian Refugees' Alliance, Inc.

Cooper Station PO Box 316 New York, NY 10276-0316 USA
 phone: 212/260-7460 fax: 2672957391 e-mail: irainc@irainc.org URL: irainc.org