



Statistical Data on Iranian Asylum Seekers and Refugees in 2011

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) at the end of 2011, some 42.5 million people worldwide were forcibly displaced due to conflict and persecution. Of these, 15.2 million were refugees, including 10.4 million under UNHCR's mandate and 4.8 million Palestinian refugees registered with U. N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). The figure also included 895,000 asylum-seekers (people whose asylum applications had not yet been adjudicated) and 26.4 million internally displaced people.

Based on data received or estimated by UNHCR at the end of 2011 the number of **Iranian refugees** was **72,347** of which **12,031** were assisted by the UNHCR mostly in Iraq (7,989). A total of **24,812** applications (first instance, appeal, etc) were filed by **Iranians** during 2011. The six countries that **received the largest numbers** of new applications from Iranians were **Turkey** (3,411), **Germany** (3,352), the **United Kingdom** (3,045), **Australia** (2,156), **Sweden** (1,118), and **the Netherlands** (929).

No. of applications filed by Iranians in previous years

2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
13,532	13,401	14,120	13,329	15,890	19,004

Of the **23,261 decisions** taken on Iranian asylum applications in 2011 (first instance and appeal) some **10,025** resulted in **refugee status**, **972** resulted in **humanitarian status**, **8,912** were **rejected**, and 3,353 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 2011 amounted to **50.4%**, whereas the total recognition percentage, including grants of **humanitarian status**, amounted to **55.2%**.

Recognition percentages for Iranians in previous years

2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
21/28	30/37	33/41	36/44	37/44	44/49

Some examples of **first instance total recognition** rates (refugee & humanitarian) for **Iranian** applications in 2011 are: Australia (58%), Austria (74%), Canada (88%), France (67%), Germany (56%), Netherlands (47%), Sweden (37%), Turkey-UNHCR (95%), UK (49%), and USA-INS (97%).

Globally, some 577,100 substantive decisions on individual asylum applications (first instance and appeal) were rendered in 2011 by Governments (91%) or UNHCR offices (9%) in 183 countries or territories. Seven countries receiving most of the new asylum applications were South Africa (107,000), United States (76,000), France (52,100), Germany (45,700), Italy (34,100), Sweden (29,600), Belgium (26,000), UK (25,500), and Canada (25,000). In total, the **global refugee recognition rate** amounted to **30%**. When applicants allowed to remain on **humanitarian grounds** are included, the recognition rate was **38%**.

Global recognition percentages in previous years

2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
27/37	28/39	32/45	29/41	38/47	30/39

By nationality, the highest number of new asylum claims in 2011 was filed by individuals from Zimbabwe (52,500), Afghanistan (43,000), Somalia (35,900), Cote d'Ivoire (33,000), D.R. Congo (31,500), Myanmar (29,800), and Iraq (29,100).

In 2011, a total of 79,800 refugees (less than 1% of world's refugees) were resettled in 22 countries with UNHCR's assistance (62,000) or without it. By nationality, the main beneficiaries of the UNHCR-facilitated resettlement programs were refugees from Bhutan (18,100), Myanmar (17,900), Iraq (8,900), and Somalia (4,800). Some **1,931 Iranians** were also **resettled** including from Turkey (1,815) and Iraq (26) with UNHCR's assistance.

SOURCES: UNHCR 2011 Global Trends. For 2000-2010 figures see our previous statistics sheets.

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