

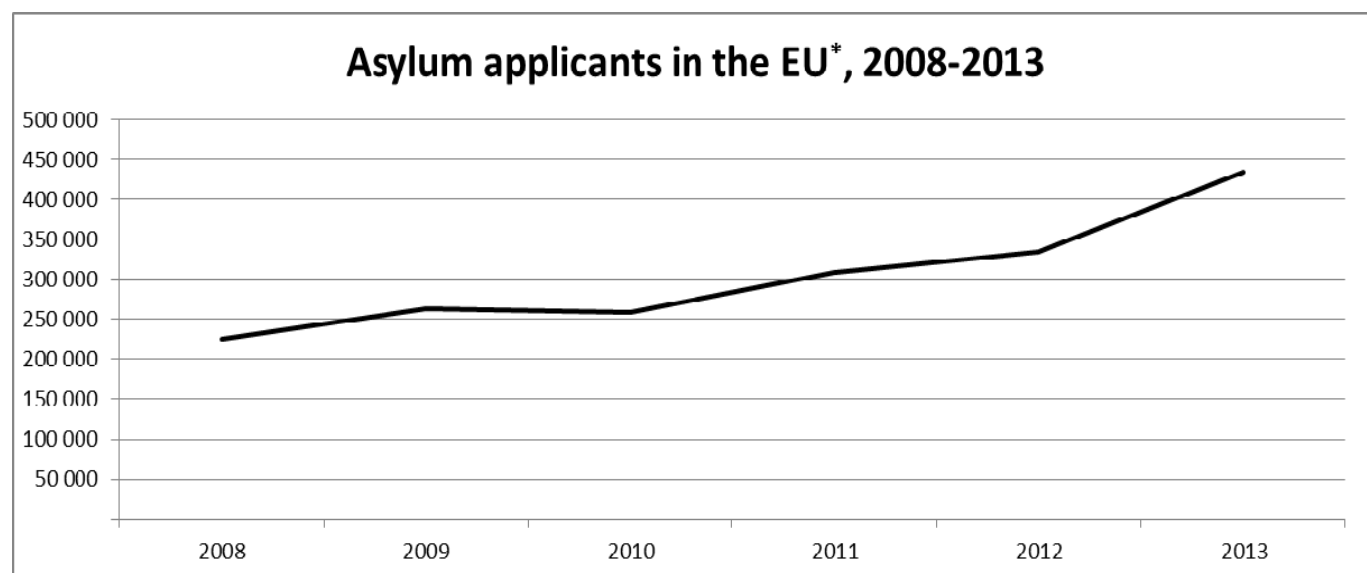
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Asylum in the EU28

Large increase to almost 435 000 asylum applicants registered in the EU28 in 2013

Largest group from Syria

In 2013, 435 000 asylum applicants¹ were registered in the **EU28**. It is estimated that around 90% of these were new applicants and around 10% were repeat applicants². In 2012, there were 335 000 asylum applicants.



* EU refers to EU27 for the years 2008 to 2012 and to EU28 for 2013.

These data³ on asylum applicants in the **EU28** are published in a report⁴ issued by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

Germany, France, Sweden, the United Kingdom and Italy registered 70% of all applicants

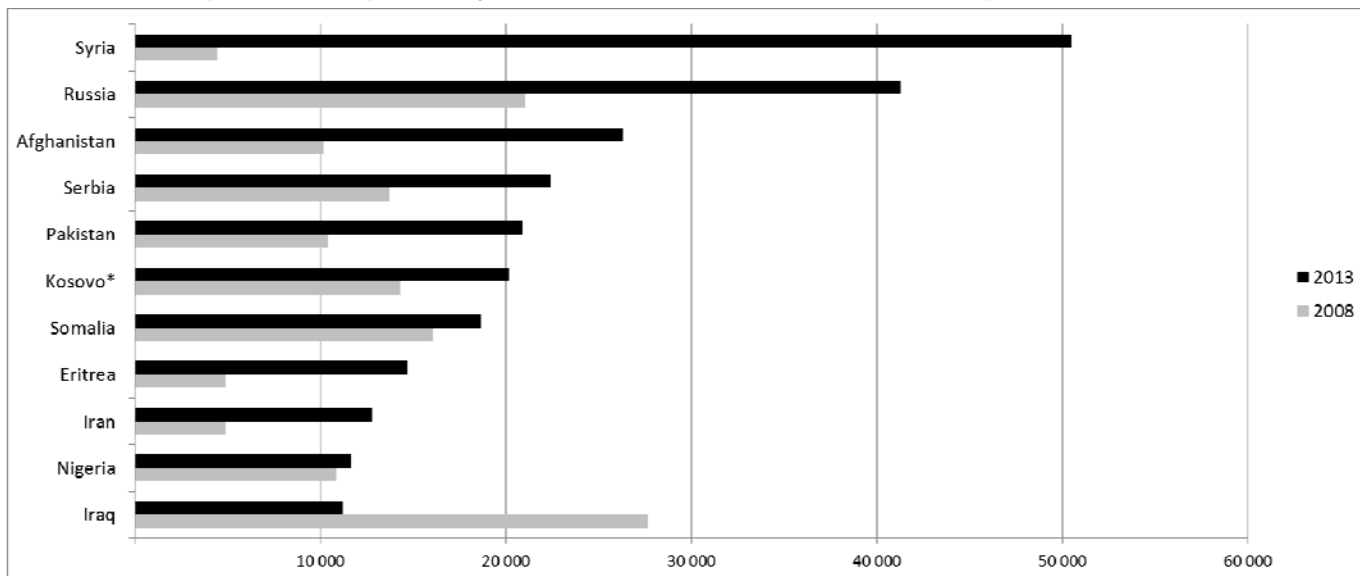
In 2013, the highest number of applicants was registered in **Germany** (127 000 applicants, or 29% of total applicants), followed by **France** (65 000, or 15%), **Sweden** (54 000, or 13%), the **United Kingdom** (30 000, or 7%) and **Italy** (28 000, or 6%). These five Member States accounted for 70% of all applicants registered in the **EU28** in 2013.

Compared with the population of each Member State, the highest rates of applicants registered were recorded in **Sweden** (5 700 applicants per million inhabitants), **Malta** (5 300), **Austria** (2 100), **Luxembourg** (2 000), **Hungary** and **Belgium** (both 1 900). Rates below 100 applicants per million inhabitants were observed in seven Member States: **Portugal** (50), the **Czech Republic** (65), **Estonia** (70), **Romania** (75), **Slovakia** (80), **Latvia** and **Spain** (both 95). In 2013, there were 860 asylum applicants per million inhabitants in the **EU28**.

Syrians and Russians accounted for nearly a quarter of all asylum seekers

Syria (50 000 asylum applicants, or 12% of the total number of applicants) became in 2013 the first main country of citizenship of these applicants, ahead of **Russia** (41 000, or 10%), **Afghanistan** (26 000, or 6%), **Serbia** (22 000, or 5%), **Pakistan** (21 000, or 5%) and **Kosovo** (20 000, or 5%).

Top citizenships of asylum seekers in the EU in 2013, compared with 2008



* Kosovo under UN Security Council Resolution 1244. 2009 data instead of 2008.

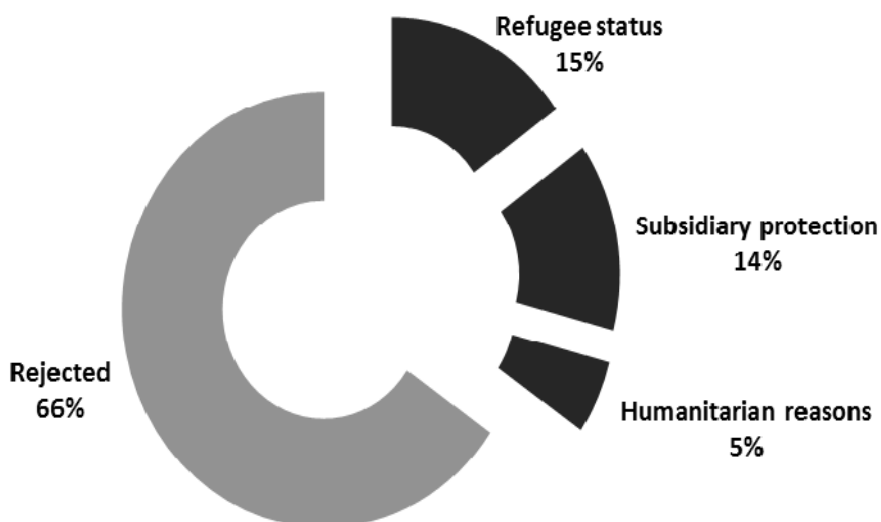
In some Member States, a large proportion of the applicants came from a single country. The Member States with the highest concentrations were **Poland** (84% of the applicants came from **Russia**), **Latvia** (76% from **Georgia**), **Romania** (68% from **Syria**) and **Bulgaria** (63% from **Syria**).

More than a third of first instance decisions were positive

In 2013 in the **EU28**, 65% of first instance decisions⁵ made on asylum applications were rejections, while 15% of applicants were granted refugee status, 14% subsidiary protection and 5% authorisation to stay for humanitarian reasons. It should be noted that first instance decisions made in 2013 may refer to applications registered in previous years.

If the proportion of positive decisions varies considerably among Member States, it should be kept in mind that the country of origin of applicants also differs greatly between Member States.

First instance decisions in the EU28, 2013



Asylum applicants, 2013

	Applicants		Citizenships of main groups of asylum applicants								
	#	Per million inh.	First group	#	%	Second group	#	%	Third group	#	%
EU28	434 160	860	Syria	50 470	12	Russia	41 270	10	Afghanistan	26 290	6
Belgium	21 030	1 885	Russia	2 150	10	Afghanistan	1 675	8	Guinea	1 610	8
Bulgaria	7 145	980	Syria	4 510	63	Stateless	565	8	Algeria	435	6
Czech Republic	695	65	Ukraine	145	21	Syria	70	10	Russia	50	7
Denmark	7 170	1 280	Syria	1 685	23	Russia	965	13	Somalia	920	13
Germany	126 705	1 575	Serbia	18 000	14	Russia	15 475	12	Syria	12 855	10
Estonia	95	70	Vietnam	25	27	Syria	15	18	Russia	15	15
Ireland	920	200	Nigeria	130	14	Pakistan	95	10	Zimbabwe	70	8
Greece	8 225	745	Pakistan	1 360	17	Afghanistan	1 225	15	Bangladesh	730	9
Spain	4 485	95	Mali	1 470	33	Syria	725	16	Algeria	350	8
France	64 760	985	Kosovo*	5 505	8	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	5 325	8	Albania	5 045	8
Croatia	1 075	250	Syria	195	18	Afghanistan	185	17	Somalia	135	13
Italy	27 930	470	Nigeria	3 580	13	Pakistan	3 310	12	Somalia	2 885	10
Cyprus	1 255	1 450	Syria	570	45	Egypt	145	12	Bangladesh	105	8
Latvia	195	95	Georgia	145	76	Syria	15	8	Russia	5	3
Lithuania	400	135	Georgia	120	30	Afghanistan	85	22	Russia	75	19
Luxembourg	1 070	1 990	Kosovo*	160	15	Bosnia and Herzegovina	145	14	Montenegro	115	11
Hungary	18 895	1 905	Kosovo*	6 210	33	Pakistan	3 080	16	Afghanistan	2 330	12
Malta	2 245	5 330	Somalia	1 015	45	Eritrea	475	21	Syria	250	11
Netherlands	17 160	1 025	Somalia	3 270	19	Syria	2 705	16	Iraq	1 420	8
Austria	17 500	2 070	Russia	2 850	16	Afghanistan	2 590	15	Syria	2 005	11
Poland	15 150	395	Russia	12 760	84	Georgia	1 235	8	Syria	255	2
Portugal	500	50	Syria	145	29	Guinea	80	16	Nigeria	35	7
Romania	1 495	75	Syria	1 010	68	Iraq	45	3	Pakistan	40	3
Slovenia	270	130	Syria	60	23	Kosovo*	35	13	Algeria	20	8
Slovakia	440	80	Afghanistan	110	25	Somalia	55	13	Georgia	35	8
Finland	3 210	590	Iraq	820	25	Russia	245	8	Somalia	215	7
Sweden	54 270	5 680	Syria	16 540	30	Stateless	6 885	13	Eritrea	4 880	9
United Kingdom	29 875	465	Pakistan	4 645	16	Iran	3 055	10	Sri Lanka	2 280	8
Iceland	125	390	Albania	40	31	Russia	10	7	Syria	5	6
Liechtenstein	55	1 495	Russia	10	17	Kosovo*	5	11	Somalia	5	7
Norway	11 930	2 360	Eritrea	3 250	27	Somalia	1 695	14	Syria	865	7
Switzerland	21 305	2 650	Eritrea	2 560	12	Syria	1 900	9	Nigeria	1 765	8

* Kosovo under UN Security Council Resolution 1244
Data are rounded to the nearest 5.

First instance decisions, 2013

	Total decisions	Positive decisions	Of which:			Rejections
			Refugee status	Subsidiary protection	Humanitarian reasons	
EU28	326 310	112 730	49 510	45 540	17 685	213 580
Belgium	19 805	6 280	3 910	2 370	-	13 525
Bulgaria	2 810	2 460	180	2 280	-	355
Czech Republic	900	345	90	240	15	555
Denmark	6 965	2 810	1 600	1 130	80	4 155
Germany	76 165	20 125	10 910	7 005	2 205	56 040
Estonia	55	10	5	0	-	45
Ireland	840	150	130	20	-	690
Greece	13 080	500	255	175	70	12 580
Spain	2 365	535	205	325	5	1 835
France	61 455	10 470	8 925	1 545	-	50 985
Croatia	185	25	5	15	-	165
Italy	25 245	16 185	3 110	5 550	7 525	9 060
Cyprus	800	165	35	125	10	635
Latvia	95	25	5	20	-	65
Lithuania	175	55	15	40	-	120
Luxembourg	1 245	130	110	25	-	1 115
Hungary	4 540	360	175	185	5	4 180
Malta	1 905	1 605	45	1 445	115	300
Netherlands	15 590	9 545	1 235	3 460	4 850	6 045
Austria	16 610	4 920	3 160	1 760	-	11 690
Poland	2 820	745	210	145	390	2 075
Portugal	305	135	20	115	-	170
Romania	1 435	915	385	530	5	515
Slovenia	195	35	25	15	-	160
Slovakia	190	70	5	30	35	125
Finland	3 185	1 620	540	785	295	1 565
Sweden	45 005	24 015	6 750	16 145	1 120	20 990
United Kingdom	22 340	8 505	7 475	70	960	13 840
Iceland	130	10	5	5	0	120
Liechtenstein	45	5	0	5	0	35
Norway	11 785	5 770	4 490	995	280	6 015
Switzerland	16 595	6 390	3 115	870	2 405	10 205

- Not applicable

Data are rounded to the nearest 5.

1. **Asylum applicant** means a person having submitted an application for international protection or having been included in such application as a family member during the reference period. For reasons of simplicity, the term "applicant" has been used in this Release, because the data counts individuals rather than applications, which include in some cases several persons.

'Application for international protection' means an application for international protection as defined in Art. 2(g) of Council Directive 2004/83/EC, i.e. including requests for refugee status or for subsidiary protection status, irrespective of whether the application was lodged on arrival at border, or from inside the country, and irrespective of whether the person entered the territory legally (e.g. as a tourist) or illegally.

Within the same month every person being a subject of asylum application is counted only once, therefore repeat applications are not recorded if the first application has been lodged in the same month. However, such a **repeat application** will be recorded if lodged in a different reference month. It means that the annual figures, which are based on an aggregation of monthly data, may overestimate the number of persons applying for international protection.

2. This proportion has been estimated on the basis of the share of repeat applicants available in 24 of the 28 Member States (Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom). These Member States covered 90% of all asylum applicants registered in the EU28 in 2013.
3. The data used for this publication are provided to Eurostat by the Ministries of Interior, Justice or immigration agencies of the Member States. Apart from statistics on new asylum applicants, these data are supplied by Member States according to the provisions of Article 4 of the Regulation (EC) 862/2007 of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection.

4. For further information, please see the publication "Asylum applicants and first instance decisions on asylum applications: 2013" on the Eurostat web site:
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/product_details/publication?p_product_code=KS-QA-14-003
5. **First instance decision** means a decision made in response to an asylum application at the first instance level of the asylum procedure. The number of asylum applicants and the number of first instance decisions during the same reference period differs. This is due to the time lag between the date of the asylum application and the date of the decision on the asylum application. The duration of this time lag may vary considerably depending on the national asylum procedure and the administrative workload. An asylum application lodged in one reference period may therefore result in a decision in a later period, while some asylum decisions reported for that period may relate to applications lodged in previous reference periods. **Rejected applicant** means a person covered by first instance decision rejecting application for international protection, such as, inter alia, decisions considering applications as inadmissible or as unfounded and decisions under priority and accelerated procedures, taken by administrative or judicial bodies during the reference period. Rejected applicants have the possibility to appeal against refusal. The outcomes of the appeals may overturn the results of the first instance decisions and may vary greatly between countries.
- Person granted refugee status at first instance** means a person covered by first instance decision granting refugee status, taken by administrative or judicial bodies during the reference period. Refugee status means status as defined in Art.2(d) of Directive 2004/83/EC within the meaning of Art.1 of the Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 28 July 1951, as amended by the New York Protocol of 31 January 1967. According to the Art.2(c) of that Directive refugee means a third country national who, owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership of a particular social group, is outside the country of nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself or herself of the protection of that country, or a stateless person, who, being outside of the country of former habitual residence for the same reasons as mentioned above, is unable or, owing to such fear, unwilling to return to it.
- Person granted subsidiary protection status at first instance** means a person covered by first instance decision granting subsidiary protection status, taken by administrative or judicial bodies during the reference period. Subsidiary protection status means status as defined in Art.2(f) of Directive 2004/83/EC. According to the Art.2(e) of that Directive person eligible for subsidiary protection means a third country national or a stateless person who does not qualify as a refugee but in respect of whom substantial grounds have been shown for believing that the person concerned, if returned to his or her country of origin, or in the case of a stateless person, to his or her country of former habitual residence, would face a real risk of suffering serious harm and is unable, or, owing to such risk, unwilling to avail himself or herself of the protection of that country.
- Person granted authorisation to stay for humanitarian reasons at first instance** means a person covered by other first instance decision granting authorisation to stay for humanitarian reasons under national law concerning international protection, taken by administrative or judicial bodies during the reference period. It includes persons who are not eligible for international protection as currently defined in the first stage legal instruments, but are nonetheless protected against removal under the obligations that are imposed on all Member States by international refugee or human rights instruments or on the basis of principles flowing from such instruments. Examples of such categories include persons who are not removable on ill health grounds and unaccompanied minors.

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