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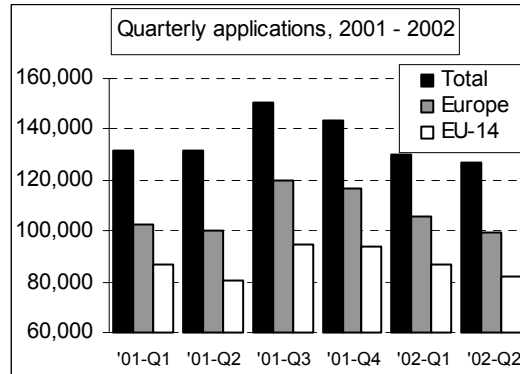
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## TRENDS IN ASYLUM APPLICATIONS IN EUROPE, NORTH AMERICA, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND JAPAN, JANUARY – JUNE 2002<sup>1</sup>

1. In the 29, mostly industrialized, countries covered by this report, 132,830 asylum applications were submitted during the second quarter of 2002, a decrease of 2% compared to the first quarter, when 135,780 applications were lodged. Quarterly asylum applications fell by 6% in Europe, by 5% in the 14 EU countries included and by 19% in Central Europe. Australia and New Zealand recorded a 3% decline in quarterly application. North America was the only region reporting an increase in quarterly asylum applications (15%) (see Table 1).



2. The total number of applications submitted during April to June 2002 was the lowest since early 2001. Although the fall in applications continues, the decline in the most recent quarter was less pronounced than in the previous two (see chart).

3. United Kingdom remained the largest receiving country, receiving 25% of asylum-seekers who applied for asylum in Europe during the second quarter of 2002, followed by Germany (16%) and France (12%). Countries reporting a major relative **increase** in applications during the second quarter as compared to first were Finland (156%), Luxembourg (51%), Canada (30%) and Japan (25%). Countries reporting a major relative **decrease** in quarterly applications included Czech Republic (-31%), Denmark (-32%), Greece (-51%), the Netherlands (-23%), Slovakia (-29%) and Spain (-50%) (see Table 1).

4. In the 29 countries included here, Iraq remained the main country of origin of asylum applicants, although the number of quarterly applications fell with 14%. Afghan applications fell by 27%, whereas applications of Turkish citizens remained stable (-1%). Nationalities reporting a relative strong increase in applications during the second quarter as compared to first were Mexico (37%), Pakistan (30%) and Romania (101%). Nationalities reporting a major relative **decrease** in quarterly applications were Bosnia and Herzegovina (-23%), Sierra Leone (-20%), Haiti (-30%) and Viet Nam (-21%) (see Table 2).

5. In Europe, Iraq, Afghanistan, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Turkey continue to be the four largest countries of origin of asylum-seekers, accounting for one-third of all claims submitted. Nationalities reporting a relative strong increase in applications during the second quarter as compared to first were Romania (110%) and Czech Republic (146%). Nationalities reporting a major relative **decrease** in quarterly applications were Afghanistan (-27%), the Islamic Republic of Iran (-20%), Sri Lanka (-20%), Bosnia and Herzegovina (-23%), Sierra Leone (-21%), Viet Nam (-21%) and Colombia (-41%) (see Table 3).

Population Data Unit, PGDS/DOS  
UNHCR Geneva, 2 September 2002  
<http://www.unhcr.org>, Statistics

<sup>1</sup> This report is an updated version of an earlier document and includes all countries providing monthly asylum data to UNHCR.

**Table 1. Monthly asylum applications submitted in 29, mostly industrialized, countries, 2002**

Country of asylum	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Total	First quarter	Second quarter	Change Q1-Q2	Share			Ranking		
											Q1	Q2	Total	Q1	Q2	Total
Austria	3,120	2,696	2,446	3,112	2,807	2,894	17,075	8,262	8,813	7%	6%	7%	6%	5	6	5
Belgium	1,858	1,394	1,433	1,520	1,489	1,335	9,029	4,685	4,344	-7%	3%	3%	3%	10	10	10
Bulgaria	350	324	417	474	373	117	2,055	1,091	964	-12%	1%	1%	1%	20	20	20
Czech Rep.	1,332	678	719	761	607	525	4,622	2,729	1,893	-31%	2%	1%	2%	12	13	13
Denmark	725	611	639	531	422	382	3,310	1,975	1,335	-32%	1%	1%	1%	15	17	16
Finland	170	117	106	196	393	418	1,400	393	1,007	156%	0%	1%	1%	22	19	22
France	4,009	4,040	4,580	4,089	4,109	3,934	24,761	12,629	12,132	-4%	9%	9%	9%	4	4	4
Germany	7,762	5,771	5,697	6,019	5,346	5,664	36,259	19,230	17,029	-11%	14%	13%	13%	2	2	2
Greece	589	435	508	133	192	426	2,283	1,532	751	-51%	1%	1%	1%	19	22	19
Hungary	612	527	536	544	461	440	3,120	1,675	1,445	-14%	1%	1%	1%	18	15	18
Ireland	838	763	932	888	795	869	5,085	2,533	2,552	1%	2%	2%	2%	13	12	12
Liechtenstein	5	7	4	3	11	5	35	16	19	19%	0%	0%	0%	29	29	29
Luxembourg	47	39	71	64	78	95	394	157	237	51%	0%	0%	0%	25	25	25
Netherlands	2,377	1,972	1,950	1,767	1,590	1,479	11,135	6,299	4,836	-23%	5%	4%	4%	8	9	9
Norway	1,506	1,388	1,482	1,251	1,232	1,294	8,153	4,376	3,777	-14%	3%	3%	3%	11	11	11
Poland	227	292	349	298	350	273	1,789	868	921	6%	1%	1%	1%	21	21	21
Portugal	28	12	18	22	30	7	117	58	59	2%	0%	0%	0%	27	28	27
Romania	129	97	66	106	134	77	609	292	317	9%	0%	0%	0%	23	23	23
Slovakia	751	662	545	400	455	538	3,351	1,958	1,393	-29%	1%	1%	1%	16	16	15
Slovenia	39	59	35	43	63	19	258	133	125	-6%	0%	0%	0%	26	26	26
Spain	1,007	801	723	414	542	311	3,798	2,531	1,267	-50%	2%	1%	1%	14	18	14
Sweden	2,633	2,242	2,358	2,494	2,689	2,191	14,607	7,233	7,374	2%	5%	6%	5%	6	7	7
Switzerland	2,008	1,767	1,837	2,163	2,252	1,827	11,854	5,612	6,242	11%	4%	5%	4%	9	8	8
UK	8,500	8,300	8,400	8,300	9,700	8,300	51,500	25,200	26,300	4%	19%	20%	19%	1	1	1
Canada	2,530	2,051	2,217	2,637	2,847	3,351	15,633	6,798	8,835	30%	5%	7%	6%	7	5	6
USA (cases)	5,357	4,370	5,802	5,571	5,434	5,907	32,441	15,529	16,912	9%	11%	13%	12%	3	3	3
Australia	656	490	542	501	605	490	3,284	1,688	1,596	-5%	1%	1%	1%	17	14	17
New Zealand	94	62	94	105	93	93	541	250	291	16%	0%	0%	0%	24	24	24
Japan	18	18	16	24	22	19	117	52	65	25%	0%	0%	0%	28	27	27
EU*	33,663	29,193	29,861	29,549	30,182	28,305	180,753	92,717	88,036	-5%	68%	66%	67%			
Western Europe**	37,182	32,355	33,184	32,966	33,677	31,431	200,795	102,721	98,074	-5%	76%	74%	75%			
Central Europe***	3,440	2,639	2,667	2,626	2,443	1,989	15,804	8,746	7,058	-19%	6%	5%	6%			
Europe****	40,622	34,994	35,851	35,592	36,120	33,420	216,599	111,467	105,132	-6%	82%	79%	81%			
North America	7,887	6,421	8,019	8,208	8,281	9,258	48,074	22,327	25,747	15%	16%	19%	18%			
Australia/New Z.	750	552	636	606	698	583	3,825	1,938	1,887	-3%	1%	1%	1%			
Grand total	49,277	41,985	44,522	44,430	45,121	43,280	268,615	135,784	132,831	-2%	100%	100%	100%			

**Notes**

Figures are provisional and subject to change.

Germany and USA: new applications only.

UK: no. of persons is estimated on the basis of 1.289 persons per case (Government estimate). All following tables concern the number of cases.

EU\*: Member states of the European Union, except Italy (no monthly data available).

Western Europe\*\*: EU countries listed plus Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland

Central Europe\*\*\*: Bulgaria, Czech Rep., Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia

Europe\*\*\*\*: All European countries included in this Table.

Source: Governments, compiled by UNHCR

Origin	First quarter	Second quarter	Total	Quarterly change	Ranking		
					Q1	Q2	Total
Iraq	12,278	10,558	22,836	-14%	1	1	1
Afghanistan	8,986	6,534	15,520	-27%	2	5	2
Turkey	7,328	7,237	14,565	-1%	3	3	3
Yugoslavia, FR	7,060	7,462	14,522	6%	4	2	4
China	6,243	6,781	13,024	9%	5	4	5
Russian Federation	3,994	4,404	8,398	10%	6	6	6
Colombia	3,364	3,740	7,104	11%	7	7	7
Mexico	2,717	3,731	6,448	37%	14	8	8
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	3,190	3,232	6,422	1%	8	9	9
India	2,997	3,035	6,032	1%	9	11	10
Nigeria	2,853	3,104	5,957	9%	11	10	11
Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	2,982	2,434	5,416	-18%	10	15	12
Somalia	2,596	2,726	5,322	5%	15	13	13
Algeria	2,762	2,539	5,301	-8%	13	14	14
Sri Lanka	2,835	2,361	5,196	-17%	12	16	15
Pakistan	2,256	2,927	5,183	30%	18	12	16
Armenia	2,496	2,217	4,713	-11%	16	17	17
Angola	2,396	2,107	4,503	-12%	17	19	18
Georgia	2,041	2,109	4,150	3%	21	18	19
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2,212	1,698	3,910	-23%	19	22	20
Ukraine	2,007	1,866	3,873	-7%	23	21	21
Sierra Leone	2,100	1,682	3,782	-20%	20	23	22
Haiti	2,011	1,398	3,409	-30%	22	26	23
Zimbabwe	1,791	1,567	3,358	-13%	24	24	24
Romania	971	1,952	2,923	101%	35	20	25
Albania	1,383	1,444	2,827	4%	25	25	26
FYR of Macedonia	1,245	1,233	2,478	-1%	26	28	27
Mauritania	1,214	1,254	2,468	3%	27	27	28
Rep. of Moldova	1,105	1,202	2,307	9%	31	29	29
Cameroon	1,074	1,180	2,254	10%	33	30	30
Guinea	1,165	1,034	2,199	-11%	29	33	31
Bangladesh	1,077	1,107	2,184	3%	32	31	32
Congo	1,153	1,029	2,182	-11%	30	34	33
Viet Nam	1,189	941	2,130	-21%	28	35	34
Azerbaijan	989	1,059	2,048	7%	34	32	35
Slovakia	903	934	1,837	3%	36	36	36
Syrian Arab Rep.	857	918	1,775	7%	38	37	37
Ethiopia	900	783	1,683	-13%	37	39	38
Togo	815	800	1,615	-2%	39	38	39
Sudan	802	771	1,573	-4%	40	40	40
Other	21,777	21,826	43,603	0%			
<b>Total</b>	<b>130,114</b>	<b>126,916</b>	<b>257,030</b>	<b>-2%</b>			





