

Australia vs. the World

How We Compare (Refugees)

Our World Ranking (2014)

- By total number of refugees **50th** (prev 48th)
- Compared to our population size (per 1000 inhabitants) **67th** (prev 62nd)
- Compared to our national wealth per billion GDP **84th** (prev 85th)

Our Ranking of 44 Industrialised Countries (2013)

- By total number of refugees **12th** (prev 14th)
- Compared to Australia's population size (per 1000 inhabitants) **13th** (prev 22nd)
- Compared to Australia's national wealth GDP (PPP) per capita **20th** (prev 17th)

| Category | Global total | Australia total | Australia's share & rank |
|---|--------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Refugees under UNHCR mandate | 14,380,094 | 35,582 | 0.25% (50 th) |
| Refugees resettled from other countries | 105,197 | 11,570 | 10.99% (3 rd) |

How We Compare (People Seeking Asylum)

Our World Ranking (2014)

- By total number of people seeking protection **16th** (prev 18th)
- By total number of asylum applications **40th** (prev 33rd)
- Applications compared to our population size (per capita) **49th** (prev 48th)
- Applications compared to our national wealth per billion GDP **75th** (prev 73rd)

| Category | Global total | Australia total | Australia's share & rank |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Asylum applications received in 2014 | 3,682,041 | 8,988 | 0.24% (40 th) |
| People granted protection in 2014 | 3,262,960 | 2,780 | 0.09% (37 th) |

Statistics at a glance

59.5 million people displaced, as at end of 2014; this is 8.3 million persons more than 2013, and the biggest increase in a single year.

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|---|---|
| Refugees (14.4 million under UNHCR mandate, 5.1 million Palestinian refugees under UNRWA) | 19.5 million |
| People seeking asylum | 1.8 million |
| Internally displaced persons | 38.2 million |
| Stateless | 3.5 million (However, estimated to have affected at least 10 million persons) |

World's Displaced Population Explained

“During 2014, 42,500 individuals *per day* had to leave their homes and seek protection elsewhere – more than the total number of asylum seekers arriving in Australia *in a year*”

Refugees under UNHCR mandate

Of the 19.5 million refugees under UNHCR's mandate as of 2014, for the first time, Turkey hosted the largest numbers of refugees. The next top hosting countries Pakistan (1.51 million), Lebanon (1.15 million) and Iran (982,000).

Developing countries hosted 86% of global refugees, the highest for the past 22 years. Least Developed Countries provided asylum to 25% of the total.

Australia was ranked 50th, hosting 35,582 refugees, or 0.25 per cent of the global total. Taking into account relative population size, that rank drops to 67th, from 62nd last year.

Children under the age of 18 represented an average of 51% of the total refugee population, the highest figure in more than a decade.

Capacity vs. Contribution

Lebanon hosted the largest number of refugees compared to its national population (232 refugees per 1000 inhabitants). More than half (53%) of all refugees worldwide came from just three countries: the Syrian Arab Republic (3.88 million), Afghanistan (2.59 million), and Somalia (1.11 million).

A record high of 1.7 million individuals submitted asylum applications or refugee status. Asylum applications to Australia numbers 0.93% of total applications.

26 countries admitted 105,200 refugees for resettlement during 2014. Australia resettled 11,570.

Last updated July 2015

REFERENCES

- (1) For statistics and global rankings on refugees, see UNHCR (2015) Global Trends Report, June 2015 and accompanying data tables <http://www.unhcr.org/558193896.html>
- (2) For statistics on asylum rankings see UNHCR (2014) Asylum Trends 2014: Levels and Trends in Industrialized Countries and accompanying data tables <http://www.unhcr.org/551128679.html>
- (3) For worldwide displacement statistics, see UNHCR (2014) Statistical Yearbook <http://www.unhcr.org/54cf9bd69.html>
- (4) For detailed rankings, see Refugee Council of Australia (2015) Media Release <http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/media/australias-harmful-policies-exacerbating-refugee-challenges-as-global-displacement-reaches-record-levels/>