

Refugee Realities | 2016

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How many forcibly displaced people (FDP) are in the world?

A. 65.3 million people have been forced to flee their homes as a result of persecution, conflict and/or human rights violations. This is the highest number recorded since WW II.

Q. How many people were newly uprooted in 2015?

A. 12.4 million. The number of forcibly displaced people in the world has increased by more than 50% since 2011.

Q. How many people were newly uprooted every day in 2015?

A. 34,000. An average of 24 people was newly uprooted every minute.

Q. How many of the world's FDP are internally displaced (IDP)?

A. 40.8 million people have been forced to flee their homes, but not their country (i.e. internally displaced).

Q. How many refugees are in the world?

A. 21.3 million. Refugees are people who were forced to flee their country of origin in search of safety. To receive refugee protection, they have to prove that they could not find refuge within their homeland and that the authorities in their country either could not or would not protect them.

Q. How many asylum-seekers are in the world?

A. 3.2 million. An asylum-seeker is an individual seeking international protection and whose claim for refugee status has not yet been determined.

Q. How many stateless people are in the world?

A. 10 million. Stateless persons are not considered as nationals by any State under the operation of its law. In other words, they do not possess the nationality of any State. Many refugees are at risk of becoming stateless.

Q. What can you tell me about the average refugee in the world today?

- **47%** of the world's refugees are women.
- **51%** of the world's refugees are under 18 years old.
- **86%** of the world's refugees are hosted by developing countries.

Q. What country received the most claims for asylum in 2015?

A. Germany received 441,900 new applications for asylum in 2015. The USA received the second highest number of applications (172,700) and Sweden third (156,400).

Q. What country is producing the greatest number of refugees?

A. More than half (54%) of the world's refugees come from just 3 countries, Syria (4.9m), Afghanistan (2.7m) and Somalia (1.1m).



Q. What countries are producing the most displaced people (refugees + IDP)?

1. Syria (11.7m)
2. Colombia (7m)
3. Iraq (4.9m)
4. Afghanistan (4.2m)
5. Sudan (3.9)
6. South Sudan (2.6m)
7. Yemen (2.5m)
8. Nigeria (2.4m)
9. Somalia (2.3m)
10. D.R. Congo (2.2m)

Q. What part of the world hosts the most refugees?

A. 86% of the world's refugees are hosted by developing nations. 37% of the world's refugees are hosted in North Africa and the Middle East. 21% are hosted in sub-Saharan Africa. 21% are hosted in Europe. 18% are hosted in the Asia/Pacific region. 4% are hosted in the Americas.

Q. What countries host the largest number of refugees?

A. Turkey (2.5m), Pakistan (1.6m), Lebanon (1.1m), Iran (980,000), Ethiopia (736,000), Jordan (664,000), Kenya (554,000), Uganda (477,000), D.R. Congo (383,000) and Chad (370,000) host the most refugees in the world.

Q. What countries received the most resettled refugees in 2015?

A. A tiny fraction of the world's refugee population was resettled in 2015 (less than 1%). 33 countries received a total of 107,100 refugees for resettlement. The USA received 62% of resettled refugees (66,500). Other leading countries of resettlement included Canada (20,000), Australia (9,400) and Norway (2,400).

Q. What does the Bible have to say about refugees and forcibly displaced people (FDP)?

A. More than you think. Check out www.iafr.org to learn more.



The Refugee Highway is more than numbers. Each statistic represents a name, a face, a heart and soul – a precious life.

Their lives are more than stories of suffering and loss. They are tales of courage, resourcefulness and resilience. The people who are forced to travel the Highway are worthy of our respect.

If this overview of Refugee Realities has stirred your heart, take the next step. Find out if there are refugees in your community. See if there are opportunities to volunteer and help them integrate. Extend friendship to them. Invite them into your home and ask them to share their story. Pray with and for them.

I was a stranger, and you invited me in. -Jesus