

Refugees 2020: know the facts 1*

There are worldwide:

- ◆ 70.8 million *displaced people* (those who have fled their home but remain within their country's borders). 2.3 million more than a year ago. Only 5% of those fleeing their homes move beyond their country's borders.
- ◆ 25.9 million *refugees* (people who have fled their own country and are seeking refuge elsewhere). 0.5 million more than a year ago. 80% of refugees flee to an adjacent country, living mostly in refugee camps.
- ◆ 3.5 million *registered asylum seekers* (up 0.4m) (refugees who have sought asylum from another country). Venezuela generated the greatest number of asylum seekers in 2018.
- ◆ 3.9 million *stateless people* (people without nationality)

This means:

- ◆ 37,000 people (one every two seconds) are forced to leave their homes every day (down from 44,000) through conflict or war.
- ◆ Half of all refugees are under 18 of which 173,800 are *unaccompanied children*.

57% of the worlds refugees come from:

- ◇ Syrian Arab Republic (6.7 million)
- ◇ Afghanistan (2.7 million)
- ◇ South Sudan (2.3 million)

Additionally, many persecuted groups, such as the Uighurs in China, are unable to flee their countries.

2018/19 refugee hosts:

Turkey -3.7 million
Pakistan -1.4 million
Uganda - 1.2 million
Germany - 1.1 million
Sudan - 1.1 million
UK: - 171,960

Number of refugees per 1000 head of local population.

Lebanon 156
Jordan 72
Turkey 45
(UK: 0.53) i.e. Lebanon has taken in nearly 294 times the number (per head of population) than the UK.

Only a tiny proportion (1%) of refugees are resettled in a new country; most will remain in refugee camps from which many will eventually return home. A number continue to live in other countries, often illegally, as *stateless people* (without legal protection from any country). India, for example, has passed a new law that gives asylum only to those who belong to non-Muslim religions, leaving thousands as 'illegal' refugees or settlers .

Refugees: know the facts 2

Europe

- ◆ In 2019 333,400 refugees applied for asylum in Europe. 20,325 (3%) were unaccompanied minors.
- ◆ The following countries gave asylum (per 1,000,000 of the local population):

Austria:	2345;
Sweden	1935
Germany	1685
Luxembourg	1660
Greece	1470
Malta	1385.
UK	260 (5.7% of Europe's refugees)

- ◆ The Eastern European country level was low (mostly in double figures).
- ◆ The UK ranks 17 in order of European countries accepting refugees as a percentage of population.
- ◆ Over 1000 people died in the Mediterranean in 2019.
- ◆ The Calais camp was destroyed in 2016. At it's peak there were 10,000 refugees there. About 1000-1500 refugees are still in and around Calais/ Dunkirk. A number are children who had hoped to cross to the UK under the 'Dubs' amendment' scheme (the Government has since closed this scheme).

Rich and Poor

The **poorest nations** of the world shoulder most of the relief work (80% of refugees are in developing nations).

(Overall) the **poorest countries** in Europe (Greece, Spain and Italy) have taken most of the refugees arriving here.

The UK is the world's 6th richest nation in the world but accepts **0.026% of the world's refugees**.

UK

- ◆ 18,519 people were given refugee protection in the UK (2018-19) 4,563 of which were children.

i.e. 0.27% of the world's refugees

- ◆ The total number of refugees (and those seeking asylum) in the UK is 171,964.

i.e. 0.6% of the UKs population

- ◆ The UK refuses 62% of initial asylum applications. 40% of those appealing win their cases

The **poorest towns and local authority areas** have accepted most of the refugees in the UK. No 1 is Glasgow, 2 is Stockton on Tees and 3 is Middlesbrough.

90 of 392 (mainly Conservative) local authorities have not resettled any refugees. The richest 1/3 of local authorities house only 10% of asylum seekers.

Craven

Craven welcomed 29 Syrian refugees (***i.e. 0.05% of Craven population***) under the Syrian Vulnerable Person's Scheme but have not housed any asylum seekers (compared to 800 housed by Bradford). Craven is one of the richest areas of the country (top 1/3).