

# Asylum statistics for the North East- as at December 2004



This publication includes data for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter (Q4) of 2004, relating to October to December 2004.

It includes the most recently available information from regional, national and some European statistics on the number of asylum seekers and their circumstances. Please note that not all the information relates to the same period largely due to the different publication dates of the source material.

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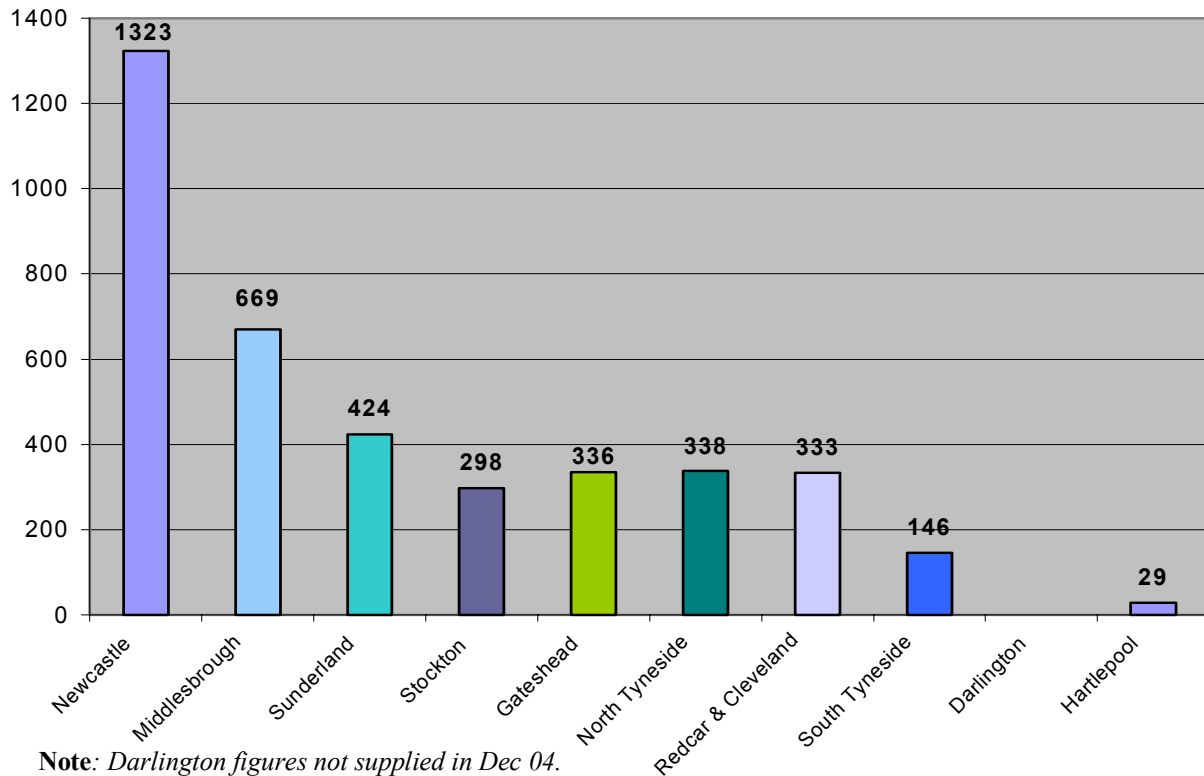
## Summary

1. As at December 2004 there were 3906 asylum seekers in the North East in NASS accommodation, a decrease of (6%) from September 2004. The majority, 1323 (34%), are living in Newcastle upon Tyne [Page 4 and 5]
2. The main nationalities of asylum seekers in the North East are Iranian (11%), Iraqi (7%) and Turkish (7%). [Page 6]
3. The total number of asylum seekers in the UK who are supported by NASS (The National Asylum Support Service) is 61,625, a decrease of 4.3% from the previous quarter. Greater London has the largest number with 15,960 followed by Yorkshire and North Humberside 10,030. [Page 7]
4. Asylum applications in the quarter nationally fell to 8,465, a decrease of 2% from the previous quarter. The main countries of origin were Iran (13%), then China (6%) and Iraq (6%). [Page 8]
5. The number applying for NASS support nationally was 8,750 a decrease of 12% from the previous quarter. The main nationalities applying for NASS support were Iran (14%), Iraq (9.4%) and Somalia (7%). [Page 9]
6. A Total of 8,460 asylum applications received initial decisions, 25% lower than the previous quarter. The number awaiting a decision fell to 9,800. 4% of initial decisions were granted asylum in Q4. [Page 10]
7. 7,100 appeals were received, 19% lower than previous quarter and 11,640 were determined, 43% lower than in the previous quarter. [Page 11].
8. 350,500 asylum applications were made to European countries (EU + Switzerland and Norway) in 2003. UK received the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest number in 2003 with 60,000 applications, but France was on top of the list in with 62,000 applications. [Page 12]
9. Asylum requests fell by 22% from 508,100 in 2003 to 396,400 in 2004. European application levels decreased by 21% from 396,800 in 2003 to 314,300 in 2004. UK fell to third place in the destination of asylum-seekers during 2004 from 1<sup>st</sup> place in 2003. [Page 13]
10. United States had the highest asylum applications with 411,700 over a 5 year period, Cyprus had the highest applications by asylum-seekers per 1000 inhabitants, 22. [Page 14]
11. The decline in asylum applications in 2004 ranged from 14% for asylum-seekers from Nigeria and the Russian Federation to 61% for asylum seekers from Iraq. [Page 15]

## Supported Asylum Seekers in the Region – including dependants

### Asylum seekers supported by the local authorities

- In the North East there are 10 different Local Authorities where the majority of asylum seekers are accommodated. The Chart below shows individual asylum seekers supported in NASS accommodation.



### Subsistence Only (SO) supported Asylum seekers

There are **165** asylum seekers in the **North East** who are not in NASS accommodation and receive only subsistence (cash) support from NASS. In total there are **20,875** clients getting only subsistence support throughout the country. The North East had **1%** of this number. **14,505 (69%)** of all asylum seekers in receipt of subsistence only support were located in London.

The table below shows by Local Authorities the number of individual asylum seekers in receipt of subsistence only support from NASS:

Local Authority	Number of SO Individuals
GATESHEAD	35
MIDDLESBROUGH	30
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE	50
SUNDERLAND	20
OTHERS	35
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>165</b>

## Number of households in NASS accommodation in the North East

There were **2026** households made up of **3906** individuals in the North East as at the end of December 2004. The table below shows the number of households and individuals in each Local Authority area sub-divided by accommodation provider:

Town	PROVIDER	Number of Households	Number of individuals
<b>DARLINGTON</b>	<i>Figures not supplied</i>	<i>Figures not supplied</i>	<i>Figures not supplied</i>
	NECARS		
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>GATESHEAD</b>			
	NECARS	114	224
	Clearsprings Management Ltd	1	3
	ANGEL GROUP	44	103
	GATESHEAD Asylum Support Team	1	3
	Newcastle City Asylum Team	1	3
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>336</b>
<b>HARTLEPOOL</b>			
	NECARS	12	28
	Newcastle City Asylum Team	1	1
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>MIDDLESBROUGH</b>			
	LEENA HOMES LTD	330	450
	NECARS	80	213
	MIDDLESBROUGH BC	1	6
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>669</b>
<b>NEWCASTLE</b>			
	NECARS	351	817
	ANGEL GROUP	335	494
	Newcastle City Asylum Team	3	7
	Clearsprings Management Ltd	1	4
	ROSELODGE LIMITED	1	1
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>1323</b>
<b>NORTH TYNESIDE</b>			
	NECARS	140	338
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>338</b>
<b>REDCAR and CLEVELAND</b>			
	NECARS	110	331
	Redcar & Cleveland AST	1	2
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>333</b>
<b>SOUTH TYNESIDE</b>			
	NECARS	47	143
	Angel Group	1	3
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>146</b>
<b>STOCKTON</b>			
	NECARS	87	164
	LEENA HOMES LTD	76	133
	Stockton-on-Tees AST	1	1
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>298</b>
<b>SUNDERLAND</b>			
	NECARS	160	289
	ADELPHI HOTELS LIMITED	126	138
	LEENA HOMES LTD	1	7
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>434</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>2026</b>	<b>3906</b>

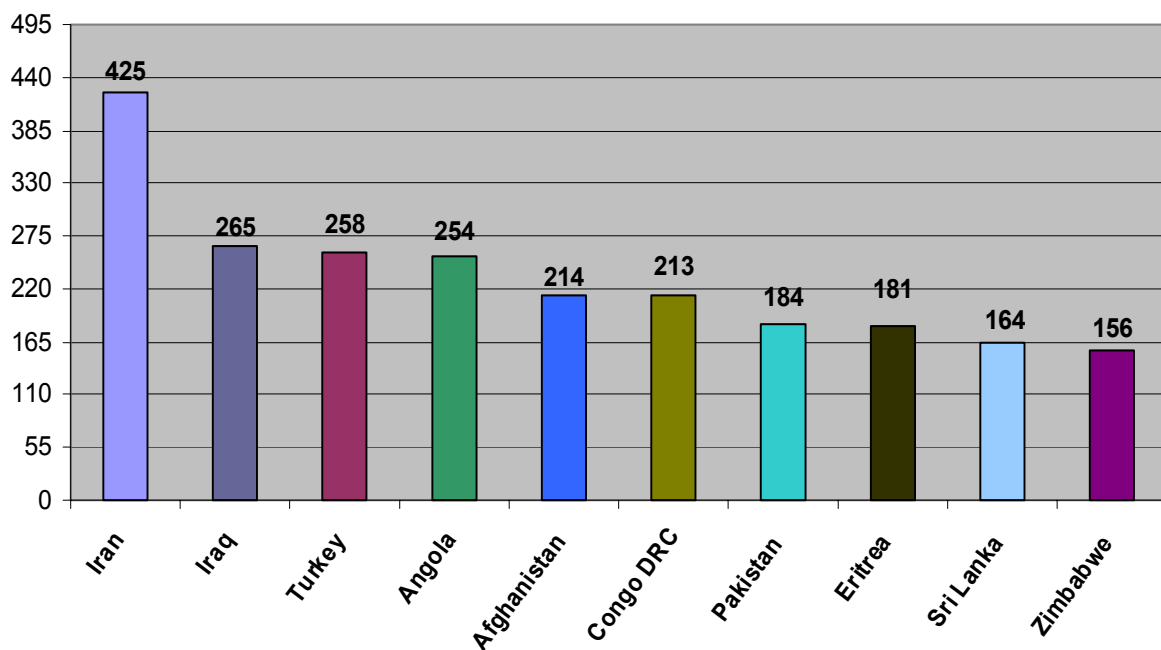
## Nationality of Supported Asylum Seekers in Region – including dependants

### Top ten Nationalities in the North East

The totals below represent the number of asylum seekers currently residing in NASS accommodation or in receipt of subsistence only support.

**As at end December 2004:**

- There were 56 different Nationalities in the North East
- The top **10** nationalities in the North East region are shown below:



## Supported Asylum Seekers by Region – including dependants

### Asylum seekers in different regions of the UK

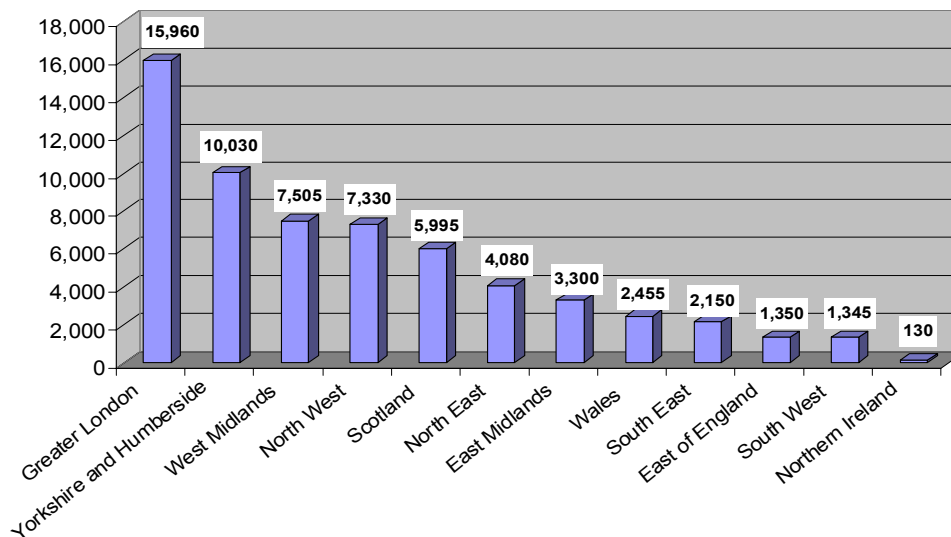
The totals below represent the numbers of asylum seekers who are currently in NASS accommodation or are in receipt of subsistence (cash) only support. They reflect the numbers of new applicants granted support and exclude applications for those for whom support has ceased. These figures do not include asylum seekers who are not supported by NASS.

#### As at the end of December 2004:

- 20,875 asylum seekers were receiving subsistence only support
- 40,750 asylum seekers were supported in NASS accommodation
- Thus a total 61,625 asylum seekers were in receipt of NASS support as at the end of Q3 of 2004 which is 4.3% lower than the previous quarter (Sept-04 = 64,410)

### Subsistence only supported asylum seekers in different regions of the UK

The chart below shows the number of asylum seekers supported by NASS Subsistence only, and by accommodation and subsistence, in different regions of the UK as at the end of December 2004.



- ♦ The regions with the highest populations of asylum seekers supported by NASS in order of numbers were: Greater London (70%), South East (6%), West Midlands (5.5%), North West (4%), East of England (4%), the **North East** is in tenth place with 1% of all the asylum seekers supported by NASS in the UK.
- ♦ Below is a table showing the number of asylum seekers in receipt of subsistence only support and clients in NASS accommodation by region:

Government Office Region (GOR)	In receipt of Subsistence only support	Supported in NASS accommodation
Greater London	14505	1455
Yorkshire and Humberside	660	9370
West Midlands	1195	6310
North West	900	6430
Scotland	205	5790
North East	165	3920
East Midlands	745	2555
Wales	110	2345
South East	1340	815
East of England	1,350	590

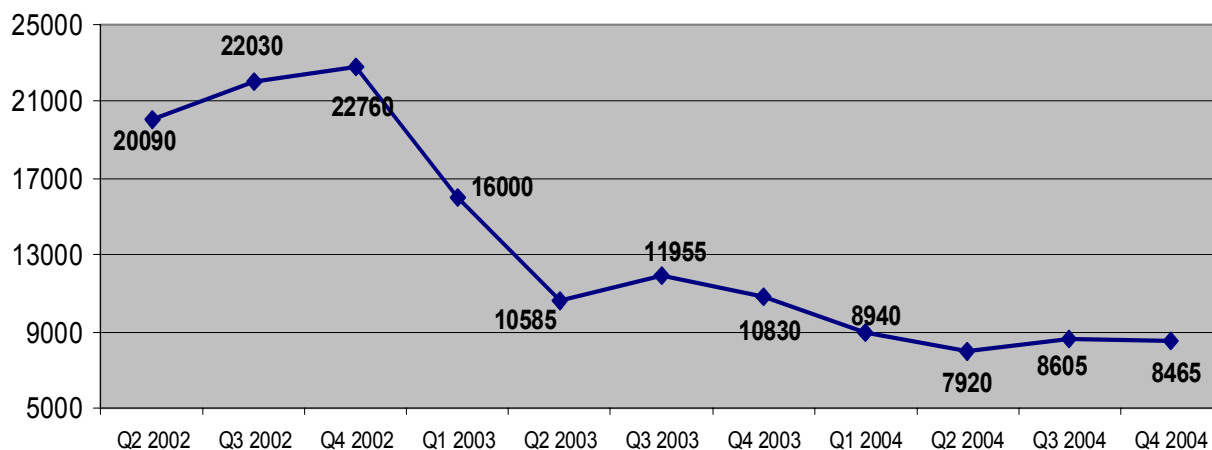
## Asylum applications – National

### Number of applications for the past 9 quarters

- Applications: 8,465 2% less than previous quarter

Applications for asylum (excluding dependants) in the UK fell slightly by 2% in Q4 to 8465, from Q3 (8,605) and was 22% less than Q4 2003.

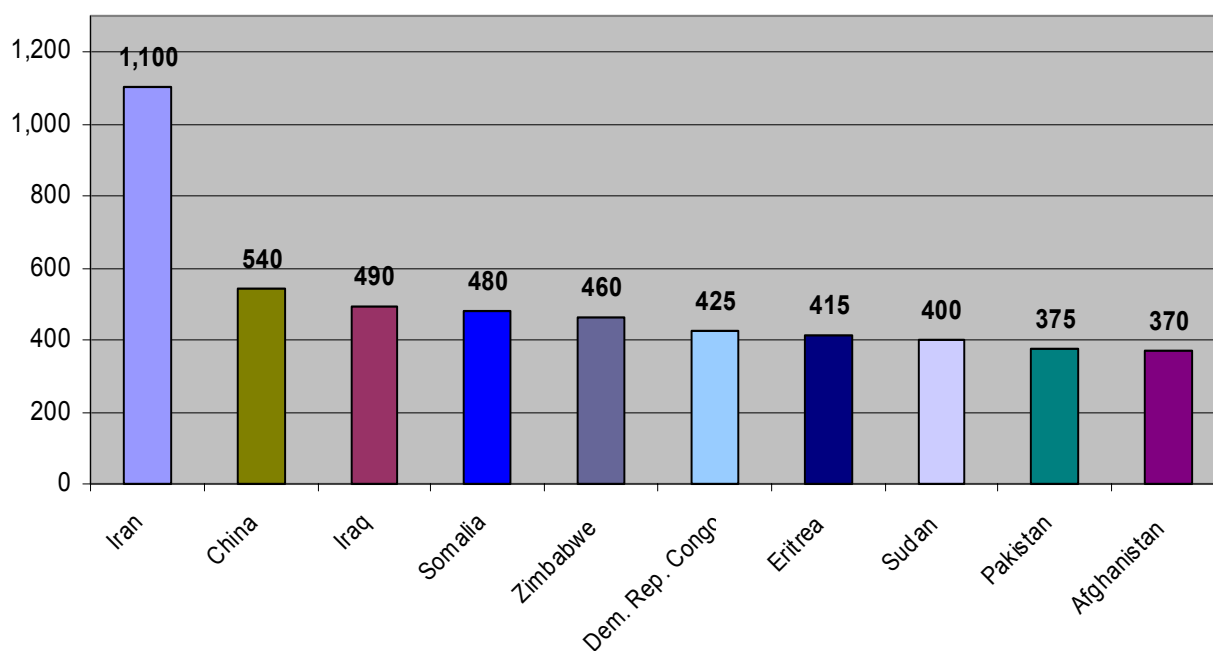
The Chart below shows the number of applications for the past 10 quarters:



### The top ten nationalities applying for asylum in quarter 4 of 2004

- Nationalities

The largest nationality applying for asylum in Q4 of 2004 was Iran with 1,205. Below shows the top 10 nationalities applying for asylum in the UK in Q4:





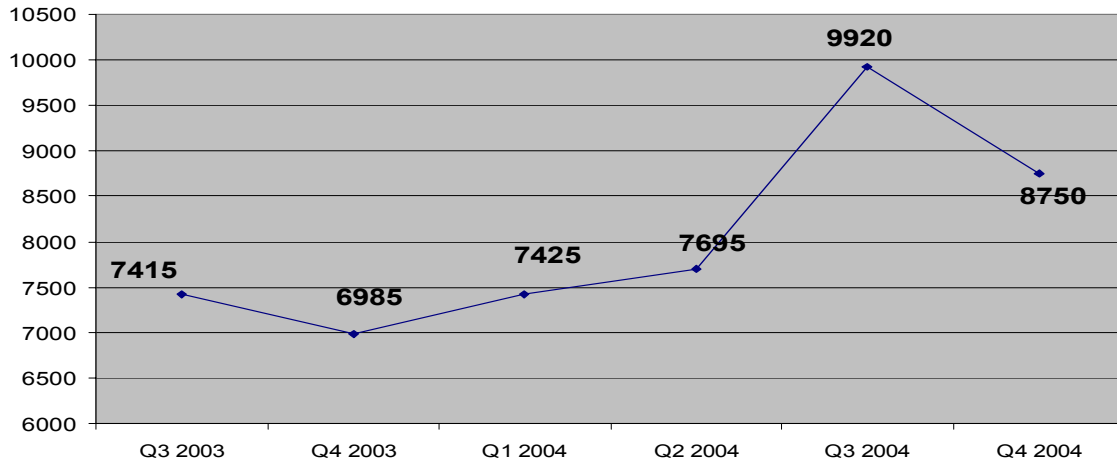
## NASS applications - National

### Number of NASS applications made in the past 6 quarters

- **Total applications: 8,750 which was 12% lower than previous quarter**

The number of applications for NASS support in Q4 was 8,750, 12% lower than Q3 (9,920) and 25% higher than Q4 2003. In 2004, NASS received 33,790 applications for support compared with 37,000 in 2003.

In Q4, 7,605 (87%) applications were from single adults and 1,145 (13%) were from family groups.



- **Support type:**

- In Q4, 4,765 (54%) applications were for accommodation and subsistence support and 2,985 (34%) of applications were for subsistence only support.
- The remaining 11% of applications were classified as invalid or unknown.

### Top Ten Nationalities applying for NASS support:

<b>Iran</b>	1,205
<b>Iraq</b>	800
<b>Somalia</b>	585
<b>Sudan</b>	420
<b>Eritrea</b>	410
<b>Zimbabwe</b>	400
<b>Afghanistan</b>	385
<b>Pakistan</b>	390
<b>Dem. Rep. Congo.</b>	380
<b>Turkey</b>	360

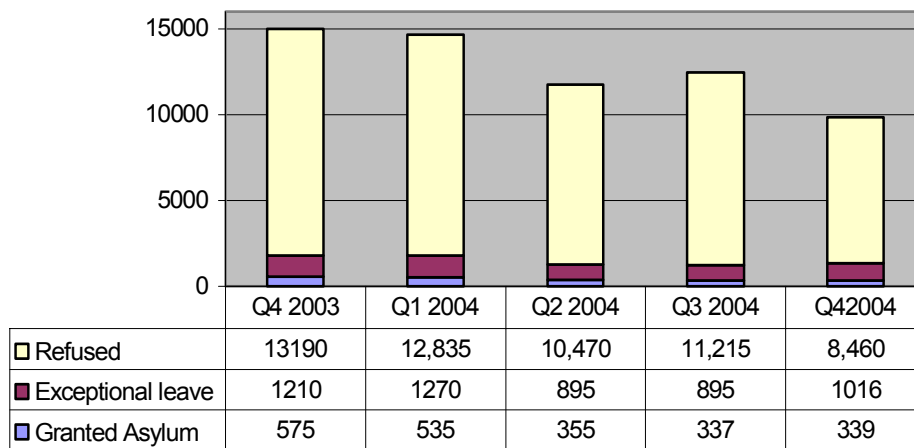
## Asylum application initial decisions – National

### Number of decisions made for the past 5 quarters

#### • Initial Decisions: 8,460, 25% lower than previous quarter

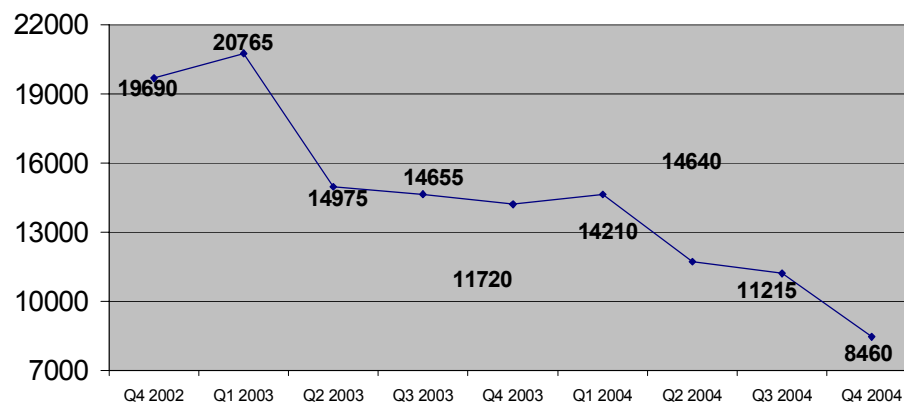
- 8,460 initial decisions were made in Q4, 25% lower than in Q3 (11,215) and around the same level of applications.
- The number of cases awaiting an initial decision continued to fall (due to a higher combined level of decisions and withdrawals than applications), to 9,800 at the end of December (23,900 at the end of December 2003). Of this total, 5,300 cases were work in progress, i.e. the application had been outstanding for 6 months or less.
- 4% of initial decisions in Q4 granted asylum, higher than Q3 (3%). The proportion granted humanitarian protection or discretionary leave increased from 8% in Q3 to 12%. 85% of initial decisions were refusals, lower than Q3 (90%).

The Chart below demonstrates the number of decisions made for the past 5 quarters:



### Number of decisions made for the past 9 quarters

The Chart below shows the number of Initial decisions made for the period from Q4 of 2002 to Q4 of 2004:



### Timeliness of Initial Decisions

- 83% of applications received in Q3 (July to September) 2004 had initial decisions reached and served within two months, compared with 84% for Q2 (April to June) 2004.

## Asylum appeals - National

### Appeals received

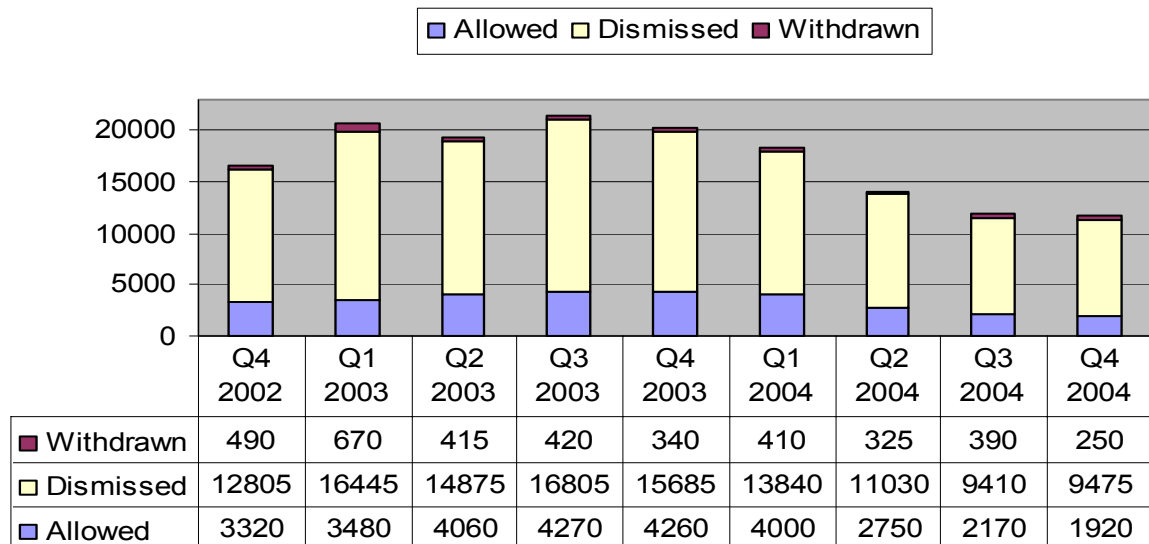
- Appeals received in Q4: 7,100, 19% lower than previous quarter
- It is estimated that 7,100 appeals were received by the Home Office in Q4 of 2004, compared with 8,800 in Q3 2004.

### Appeals determined

- Appeals determined in Q4: 11,640, 3% lower than previous quarter
- The number of appeals determined by adjudicators fell in Q4 by 3% to **11,640** from 11,965 in Q3 and was 43% **lower** than in Q4 2003 (20,285).
- The proportion of appeals dismissed rose slightly to 81% in Q4 from 79% in Q3, whilst the proportion of appeals allowed fell to 16%, from 18% in Q3.

### Appeals determined by Immigration (IAA)

The Chart below shows the number of appeals determined by Immigration Appellate Authority (IAA) Adjudicators



- As at 31 December 2004, there were an estimated 5,000 appeals lodged with the Home Office which had not been sent to the IAA (a proportion of appeals lodged do not result in appeal bundles being sent to the IAA).
- The total number of asylum appeals in progress in the IAA as at 31 December 2004, was 21,600 (10,300 at the Adjudicator Tier, 6,200 applications for permission to appeal to the Tribunal, and 5,200 Tribunal Appeals).

### Timeliness of Appeal decisions - up to and including appeals at Immigration Appellate Authority and Immigration Appeal Tribunal

- 64% of applications received in the financial year 2003/04 (April 2003 to March 2004) had a final decision, up to and including appeals at the IAT, within 6 months.

## Applications to European Countries 2002 and 2003

### Number of applications made to European countries

In Total 350,500 asylum applications were made to European Countries (i.e. EU plus Switzerland and Norway) in 2003. The highest numbers of applications were made in France (17.69%), UK (17.12%) and Germany (14.44%). The table below shows the number of applications made to European Countries in 2002 and 2003<sup>†</sup>

	Number of applicants (Including dependants)		% Change	% of Total
	2002	2003		
Luxemburg	1,000	1,600	49%	0.46%
Greece	5,700	8,200	44%	2.34%
France	58,100	62,000	7%	17.69%
Sweden	33,000	31,400	-5%	8.96%
Spain	6,200	5,900	-4%	1.68%
Norway	17,500	15,600	-11%	4.45%
Belgium	21,400	19,300	-10%	5.51%
Finland	3,400	3,200	-4%	0.91%
Austria	39,400	32,400	-18%	9.24%
Switzerland	26,100	20,800	-20%	5.93%
Denmark	5,900	4,600	-23%	1.31%
Netherlands	18,700	13,400	-28%	3.82%
Germany	71,100	50,600	-29%	14.44%
Ireland	11,600	7,900	-32%	2.25%
UK	<b>103,100</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>-42%</b>	17.12%
Portugal	200	100	-56%	0.03%
Italy	7300	13,500	85%	3.85%
<b>TOTAL EU</b>	<b>386,100</b>	<b>313,900</b>	<b>-19%</b>	<b>100%</b>

- Asylum applications to European Countries, including dependants, per 1,000 population 2003<sup>†</sup>

	Applications in 2003 (Including dependants)	Applications in 2003 per 1,000 of population
Austria	32,400	3.9
Sweden	31,400	3.5
Norway	15,600	3.4
Luxembourg	1,600	3.1
Switzerland	20,800	2.9
Ireland	7,900	2.0
Belgium	19,300	1.9
France	62,000	1.0
UK	<b>60,000</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Denmark	4,600	0.8
Netherlands	13,400	0.8
Greece	8,200	0.7
Germany	50,600	0.6
Finland	3,200	0.6
Spain	5,900	0.1
Portugal	100	0.0
Italy	13,500	0.2
<b>Total EU</b>	<b>313,900</b>	<b>0.8</b>

**Source:** Home office quarterly reports. All figures are provisional and subject to change

<sup>†</sup> Figures rounded to the nearest 100

## Asylum seekers and refugees worldwide

### Asylum Levels and trends in industrialized Countries, 2004

- In 50 industrialized countries, the number of asylum requests fell by 22%, from 508,100 in 2003 to 396,400 in 2004. Since 2001, asylum applications have dropped 40%.
- In Europe, asylum application levels decreased by 21%, from 396,800 in 2003 to 314,300 in 2004. The 25 European Union countries recorded 19% fewer asylum requests in 2004. North America reported 26% fewer asylum-seekers in 2004. Australia and New Zealand registered 28 % fewer asylum requests in 2004.
- In 38 industrialized countries with historical data, the number of applications submitted in 2004 (368,000) was the lowest since 1988 (347,000). In Europe as well as in the 25 EU countries, the number of asylum-seekers in 2004 was the lowest since 1997. In the six non-European industrialized countries, in 2004, asylum levels were the lowest since 1986.
- France, the third largest asylum-seeker receiving country in 2003, became the main destination country for asylum-seekers in 2004.
- The United Kingdom, the second main destination country for asylum-seekers in 2003, fell to third position in 2004.
- The Russian Federation continued to be the leading country of origin of asylum applicants in the industrialized counties in 2004, followed by Serbia and Montenegro and China. In Europe, the three leading nationalities of asylum-seekers in 2004 were Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro and Turkey.
- The number of asylum-seekers from Afghanistan and Iraq continued to drop sharply in 2004. Afghanistan asylum applications have fallen by 83% since 2001, while Iraqi asylum requests have dropped by 80% since 2002.

## Asylum applications submitted in EU, 2000 – 2004: total and per capita

Asylum applications submitted in EU, 2000-2004: total and per capita			
Asylum country	No. of applications	No. of inhabitants (mln.)	Applications per 1,000 inhabitants
Cyprus	17,640	0.8	22.1
Austria	144,810	8.1	17.9
Sweden	127,350	8.9	14.3
Luxembourg	5,480	0.4	13.7
Ireland	45,730	3.9	11.7
Belgium	118,350	10.3	11.5
Slovak Rep.	41,120	5.4	7.6
Netherlands	118,330	16.1	7.3
Denmark	38,590	5.4	7.1
Slovenia	13,720	2.0	6.9
UK	393,830	59.1	6.7
Malta	2,340	0.4	5.9
Czech Rep.	52,220	10.2	5.1
France	279,190	59.8	4.7
<b>EU average</b>	<b>1,923,640</b>	<b>453.5</b>	<b>4.2</b>
Germany	324,150	82.4	3.9
Finland	15,130	5.2	2.9
Hungary	27,760	9.9	2.8
Greece	26,890	11.0	2.4
Italy	64,660	57.5	1.1
Spain	35,020	41.0	0.9
Poland	29,250	38.6	0.8
Lithuania	1,070	3.5	0.3
Portugal	900	10.0	0.1
Estonia	50	1.3	0.0
Latvia	60	2.3	0.0

The UK has had 393,830 applications for Asylum during the period 2000 – 2004, thus of the 59.1 million inhabitants 6.7% applications per 1000 were made.

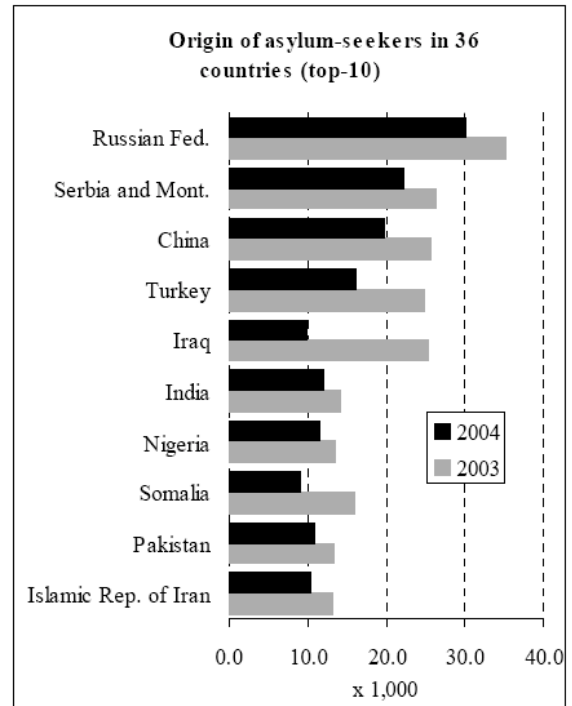
The highest, including outside the EU was the **United States** (411,700), followed by the **United Kingdom** (393,800), **Germany** (324,200), **France** (279,200), **Canada** (175,200), **Austria** (144,800), **Sweden** (127,400) **Belgium** (118,400), **The Netherlands** (118,300) and **Switzerland** (99,400).

A different picture emerges when the number of asylum-seekers is compared with the total population, however. During the five year period 2000 – 2004, **Cyprus** received 22 asylum-seekers per 1,000 inhabitants.

## Origins of asylum-seekers

This part of the report looks at the origins of asylum seekers in the 36 industrialized countries which have provided monthly asylum data to UNHCR.

- The ten leading asylum-seekers nationalities recorded a significant drop in asylum applications in 2004. The decline ranged from 14% for asylum seekers from Nigeria and the Russian Federation to 61% for asylum seekers from Iraq.
- Among the 40 main asylum-seeker nationalities, those recording a decrease of over 25% included **Turkey** (-35%), **Iraq** (-61%), **Somalia** (-43%), **Afghanistan** (-38%), **Mexico** (-25%), **Cameroon** (-27%), **Albania** (-31%), **Zimbabwe** (-33%), **Angola** (-38%), **Côte d'Ivoire** (-32%), **Liberia** (-44%), **Romania** (-28%), **Belarus** (-28%) and **Indonesia** (-58%)
- Only five of the 40 main asylum-seeker nationalities registered a rise in applications during 2004. The number of asylum-seekers from **Haiti** rose the sharpest, by 9%, followed by **Georgia** (4%), **Azerbaijan** (3%), **Algeria** (2%) and the **Republic of Moldova** (1%).



## Quarterly Trends

- During the fourth quarter of 2004, 94,200 asylum applications were logged in the 36 countries providing monthly data, 1% more than during the third quarter (93,500). While asylum applications submitted in the 10 **new EU countries** rose by 18% during the fourth quarter, a significant decline was reported by the five **Nordic countries** (-12%) and by **Australia /New Zealand** (-13%).
- Most major asylum-seeker nationalities recorded decrease during the fourth quarter of 2004. However, the number of asylum-seekers increased from countries such as the **Russian Federation** (15%), the **Islamic Republic of Iran** (14%), **Iraq** (21%), **Columbia** (23%), **Ukraine** (20%) and **Bulgaria** (42%).

## Acknowledgements

Asylum Levels and Trends in Industrialized Countries 2004 - UNHCR Report -

<http://www.unhcr.ch/statistics>

Home Office: Asylum Statistics: 4th Quarter 2004 United Kingdom -

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs05/asylumq404.pdf>

NECARS internal data supplied to NERS.-