

Asylum Seeking Communities in the North East of England

Quarterly Statistics as at June 2004



This publication includes data for the 2nd Quarter (Q2) of 2004, relating to April to June 2004.

It includes the most recently available information from regional, national and some European and worldwide 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 some source material.

There may be some variation in totals for the same period in different tables; this is because some figures come from different sources and others may have been amended at a later date.

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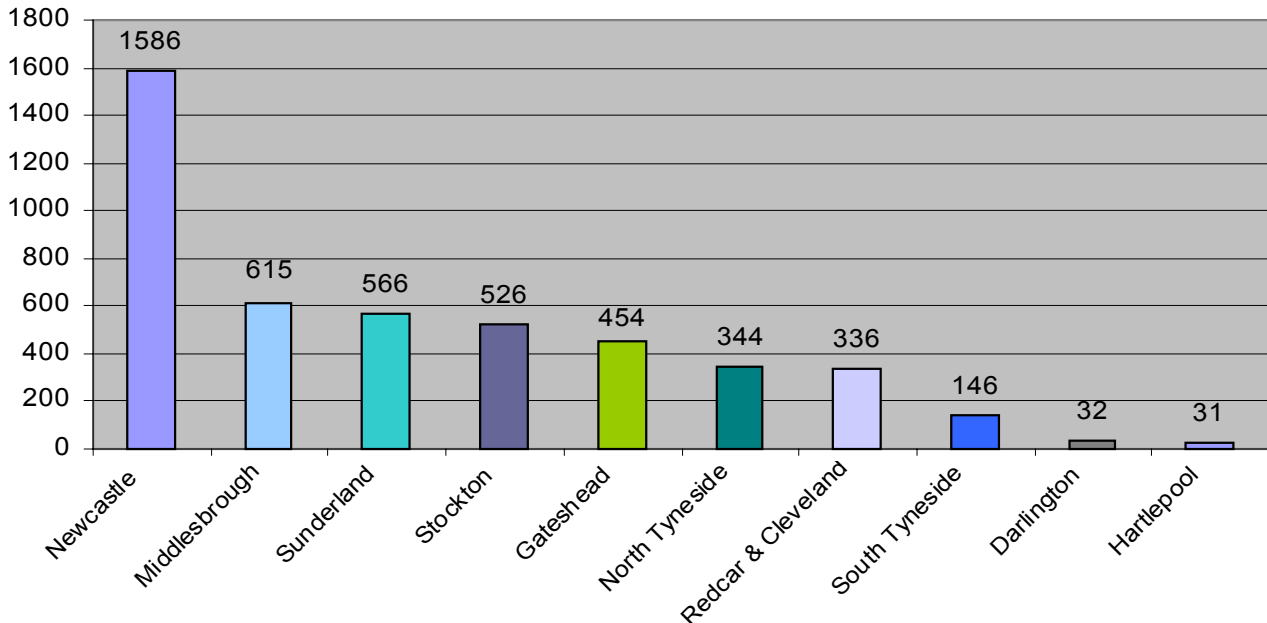
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Summary

1. As at June 2004 there were 4636 asylum seekers in the North East, a decrease of (6.19%) from March 2004. The majority, 1586 (34.2%), are living in Newcastle upon Tyne [Page 4 and 5]
2. The main nationalities of asylum seekers in the North East are Iranian (11.3%), Iraqi (9.4%) and Afghan (6.1%). [Page 6]
3. The total number of asylum seekers in the UK who are supported by NASS (The National Asylum Support Service) is 70,600, a decrease of 7% from the previous quarter. Greater London has the largest number with 20,330 followed by Yorkshire and the Humber with 10,315. [Page 7]
4. Asylum applications in the quarter nationally have reached 7,920, a decrease of 11% from the previous quarter. The main countries of origin were Iran (8.6%), the People's Republic of China (7.5%) and Somalia (6.8%). [Page 8]
5. The number applying for NASS support nationally was 7,695, an increase of 4% from the previous quarter. The main countries of origins were Iran (10.7%), Iraq (8.5%) and Somalia (7.3%). [Page 9]
6. A Total of 11,720 asylum applications received initial decisions, 2% lower than the previous quarter. Hence the number awaiting a decision fell to 13,300. 83% of applications received in Q1 2004 had initial decisions reached and served within two months. [Page 10]
7. 9,000 appeals were received and 14,115 were determined, 11% lower and 23% lower than in the previous quarter respectively. 3% of applications received in the period April to December 2003 had a final decision within 6 months [Page 11].
8. 350,400 asylum applications were made to European countries (EU + Switzerland and Norway) in 2003, 19% less than in 2002. UK received the largest number in 2002, but France was on top of the list in 2003. [Page 12]
9. At the start of the year 2004, the number of people of concern¹ in the world was 17.1 million. Asia had the highest number of asylum seekers and refugees, with 6,187,800. The estimated number of asylum seekers, refugees and others of concern as at 1st January 2004 has decreased by 17.4% compared to the same month in the previous year. [Page 13 and 14]

Supported Asylum Seekers in the Region – including dependants

- In the North East there are 10 different Local Authorities supporting asylum seekers. The Chart below shows individual asylum seekers supported in NASS accommodation by the various Local Authorities.



Subsistence Only (SO) supported Asylum seekers

There are **180** asylum seekers in the **North East** who are not in NASS accommodation and receive only subsistence (cash) support from NASS. In total there are 25,465 clients getting only subsistence support throughout the country. The North East had less than 1% of this number. 18,295 (72%) 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
NEWCASTLE	52
MIDDLESBROUGH	39
SUNDERLAND	15
GATESHEAD	32
STOCKTON	19
REDCAR and CLEVELAND	6
NORTH TYNESIDE	7
SOUTH TYNESIDE	2
HARTLEPOOL	4
DARLINGTON	2
OTHERS	2

Number of households in NASS accommodation in the North East

There were **2625** households made up of **4636** individuals in the North East as at the end of June 2004. The table below shows the number of households and individuals in each Local Authority area sub-divided by accommodation provider:

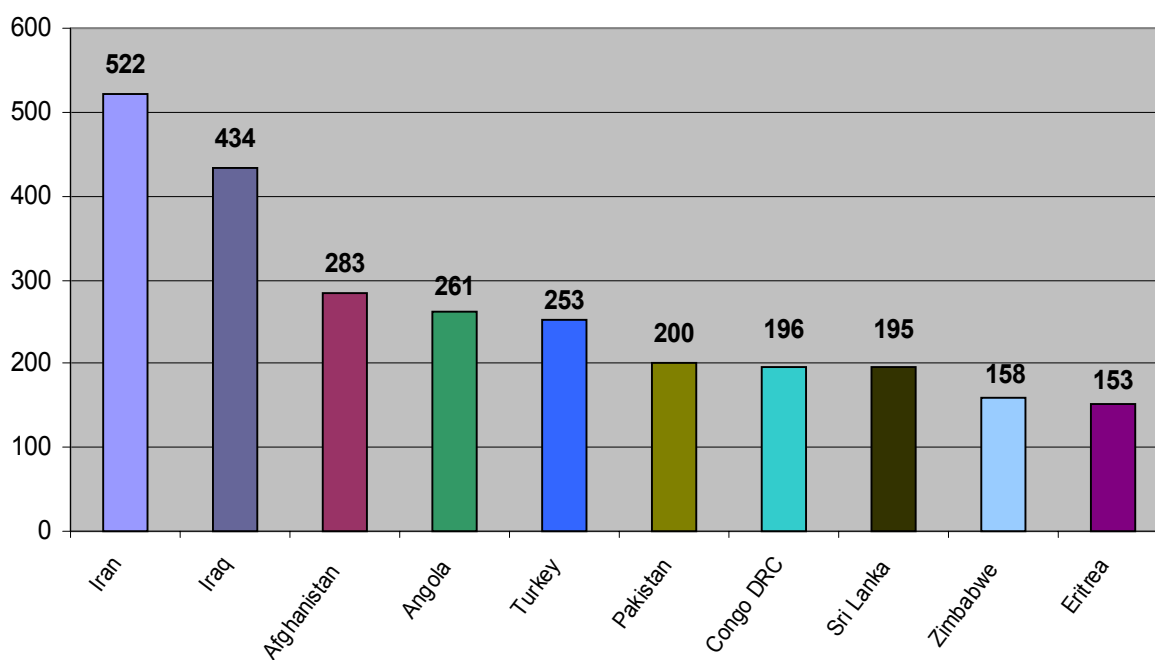
Town	PROVIDER	Number of Households	Number of individuals
DARLINGTON			
	DARLINGTON COUNCIL	18	32
	TOTAL	18	32
GATESHEAD			
	ROSELODGE LIMITED	110	204
	GATESHEAD COUNCIL	113	218
	ANGEL GROUP	14	32
		237	454
HARTLEPOOL			
	HARTLEPOOL COUNCIL	14	31
		14	31
MIDDLESBROUGH			
	LEENA HOMES LTD	224	314
	MIDDLESBROUGH BC	85	218
	ROSELODGE LIMITED	78	83
		387	615
NEWCASTLE			
	NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE CC	323	793
	ROSELODGE LIMITED	287	362
	ANGEL GROUP	280	431
		890	1586
NORTH TYNESIDE			
	NORTH TYNESIDE COUNCIL	129	322
	ROSELODGE LIMITED	12	22
		141	344
REDCAR and CLEVELAND			
	REDCAR AND CLEVELAND COUNCIL	113	336
		113	336
SOUTH TYNESIDE			
	SOUTH TYNESIDE COUNCIL	48	146
		48	146
STOCKTON			
	ROSELODGE LIMITED	239	260
	STOCKTON COUNCIL	73	145
	LEENA HOMES LTD	58	121
		370	526
SUNDERLAND			
	ROSELODGE LIMITED	180	197
	SUNDERLAND COUNCIL	140	273
	ADELPHI HOTELS LIMITED	87	96
		407	566
Grand Total		2625	4636

Nationality of Supported Asylum Seekers in Region – including dependants

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

As at end June 2004:

- There were **101** different Nationalities in the North East
- The top **10** nationalities in the North East region are shown below:



*Please see Appendix 1 for a more detailed break down of all nationalities in the North East

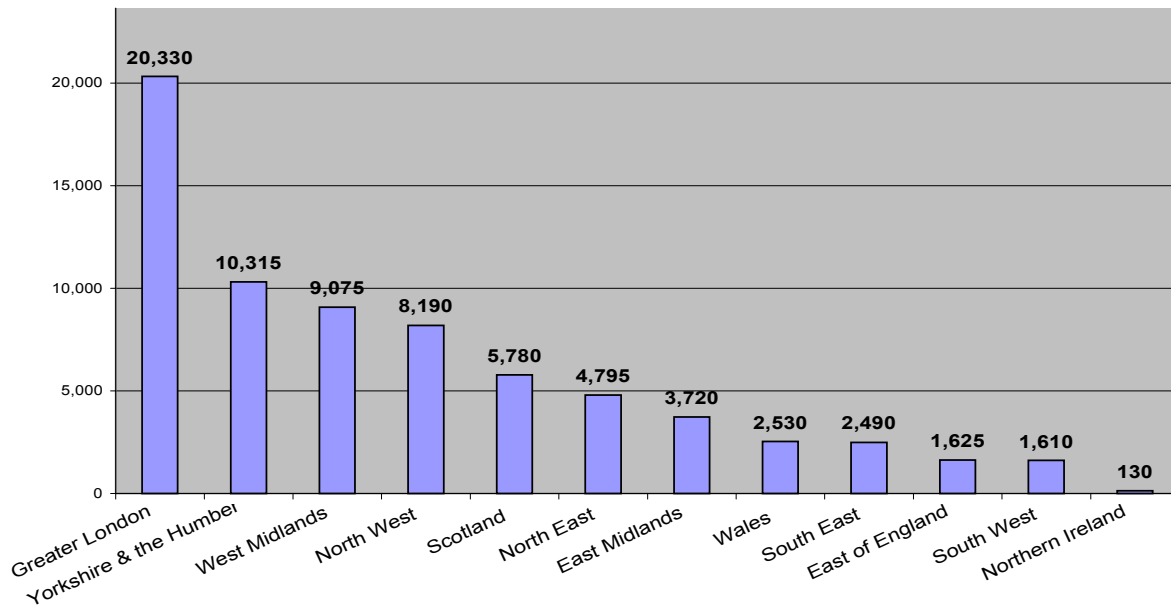
Supported Asylum Seekers by Region – including dependants

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 June 2004:

- **25,465** asylum seekers were receiving subsistence only support
- **45,135** asylum seekers were supported in NASS accommodation
- Thus a total **70,600** asylum seekers were in receipt of NASS support as at the end of Q2 of 2004 which is **7%** lower than the previous quarter (Mar-04 = 76,245)

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 June 2004.



- ♦ The regions with the highest populations of asylum seekers supported by NASS in order of numbers were: Greater London (30%), Yorkshire and the Humber (14%), West Midlands (13%), North West (11%), Scotland (8%), the **North East** is in sixth place with **7%** 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:

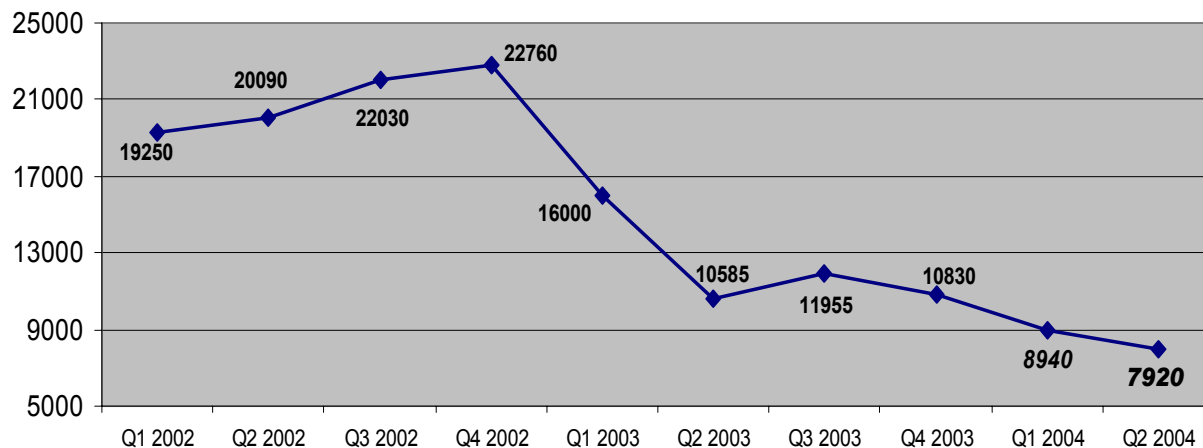
Government Office Region (GOR)	In receipt of Subsistence only support	Supported in NASS accommodation
Greater London	18,295	2,035
Yorkshire & the Humber	760	9,555
West Midlands	1,255	7,820
North West	865	7,325
Scotland	200	5,580
North East	175	4,620
East Midlands	870	2,850
Wales	155	2,375
South East	1,550	940
East of England	955	670
South West	355	1,255
Northern Ireland	20	110

Asylum applications - National

- **Applications: 7,920, 11% lower than previous quarter**

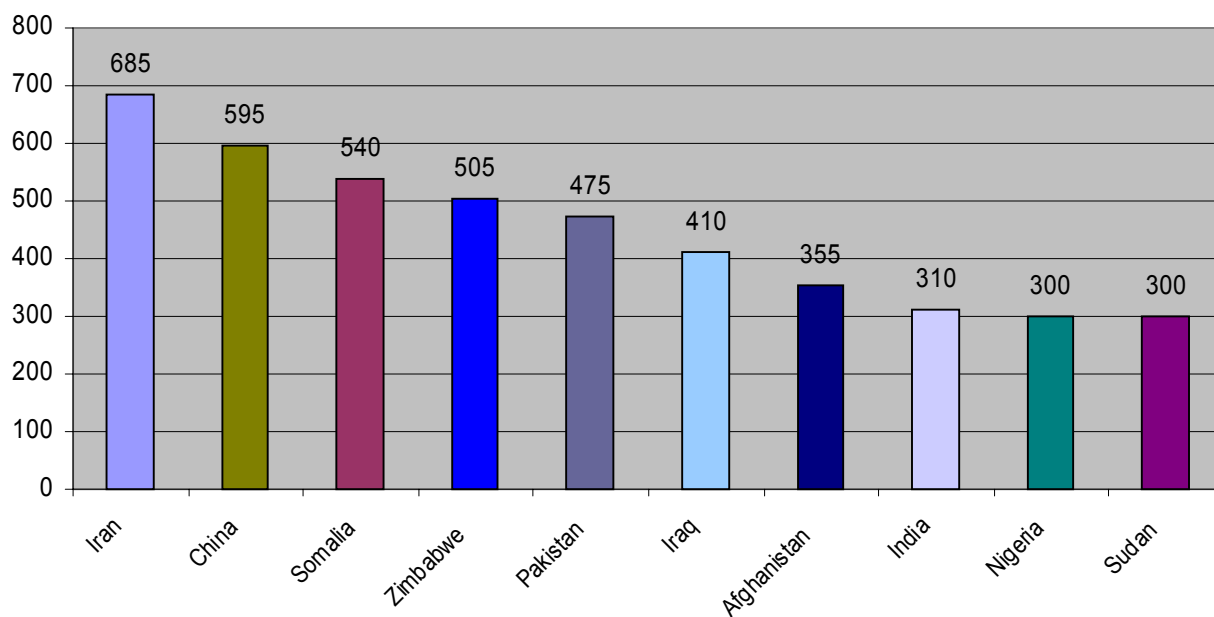
Applications for asylum (excluding dependants) in the UK in Q2 of 2004 totalled 7,920, 11% less than Q1 (8,940).

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



- **Nationalities**

The largest nationality applying for asylum in Q2 of 2004 was Iran with 685. Below shows the top 10 nationalities applying for asylum in the UK in Q2:

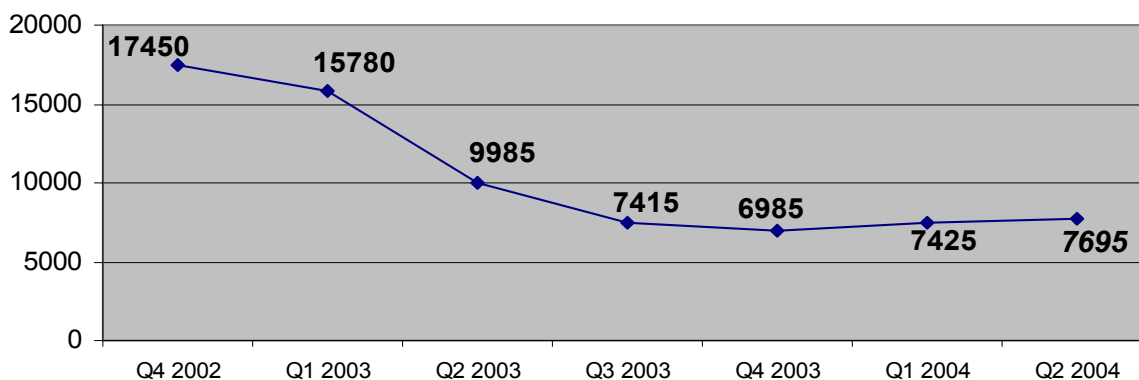


NASS applications - National

- **Total applications: 7,695 which was 4% higher than previous quarter**

The number of applications for NASS support in Q2 was 7,695 which was 4% higher than Q1 (7,425). Separately, 470 asylum cases were notified that they were not eligible to apply for NASS support on the grounds that their claims were not made as soon as reasonably practicable compared with 890 in Q1.

In Q2 6,085 (79%) applications were from single adults and 1,610 (21%) were from family groups.



- **Support type:**

- In Q2, **3,795 (49%)** applications were for accommodation and subsistence support and **2,230 (29%)** of applications were for subsistence only support.
- The remaining 22% of applications were classified as invalid.

- **Top Ten Nationalities applying for NASS support:**

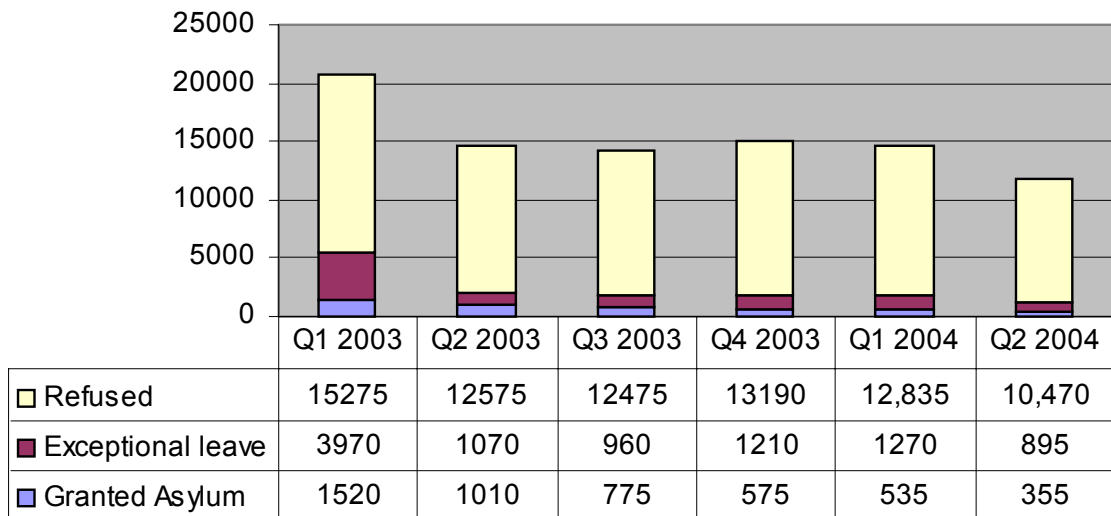
Iran	820
Iraq	655
Somalia	560
Pakistan	430
Sudan	350
Turkey	350
Zimbabwe	335
Afghanistan	305
Dem. Rep. Of Congo	285
Eritrea	190

Asylum application initial decisions - National

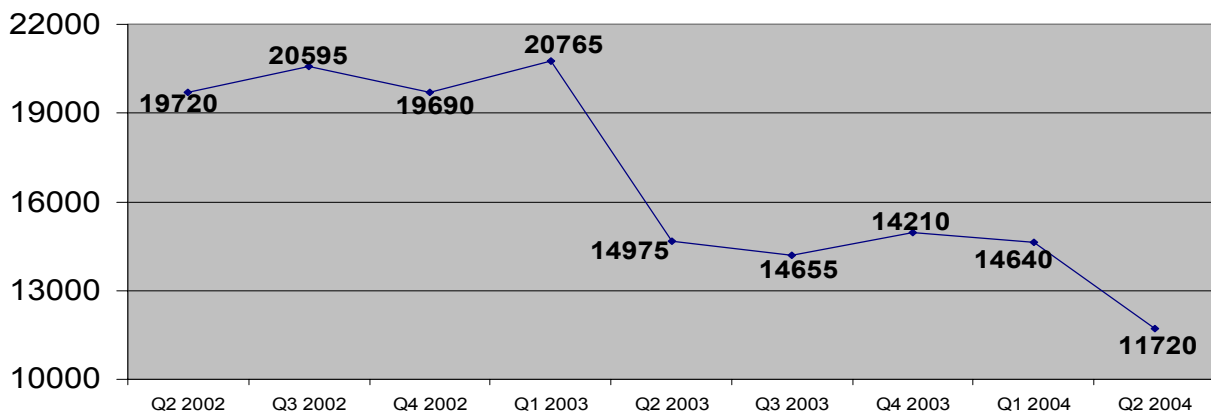
- **Initial Decisions: 11,720, 20% lower than previous quarter**

- 11,720 initial decisions were made in Q2, 20% lower than in Q1 (14,640) but remaining higher than the level of applications.
- Hence the number of cases awaiting an initial decision at the end of June continued to fall to 13,300 (31,400 at the end of June 2003). Of this total, 4,900 cases were in progress, i.e. the application had been outstanding for 6 months or less.
- 3% of initial decisions were granted asylum in Q2, compared with 4% in Q1. The proportion granted Humanitarian Protection (HP) or Discretionary Leave (DL) fell slightly this quarter to 8%. 89% of initial decisions were refusals, a slight increase on Q1.

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



The Chart below shows the number of Initial decisions made for the period from Q2 of 2002 to Q2 of 2004:



- **Timeliness of Initial Decisions**

- 83% of applications received in Q1 (January to March) 2004 had initial decisions reached and served within two months, compared with 82% for Q4 (October to December) 2003.

Asylum appeals - National

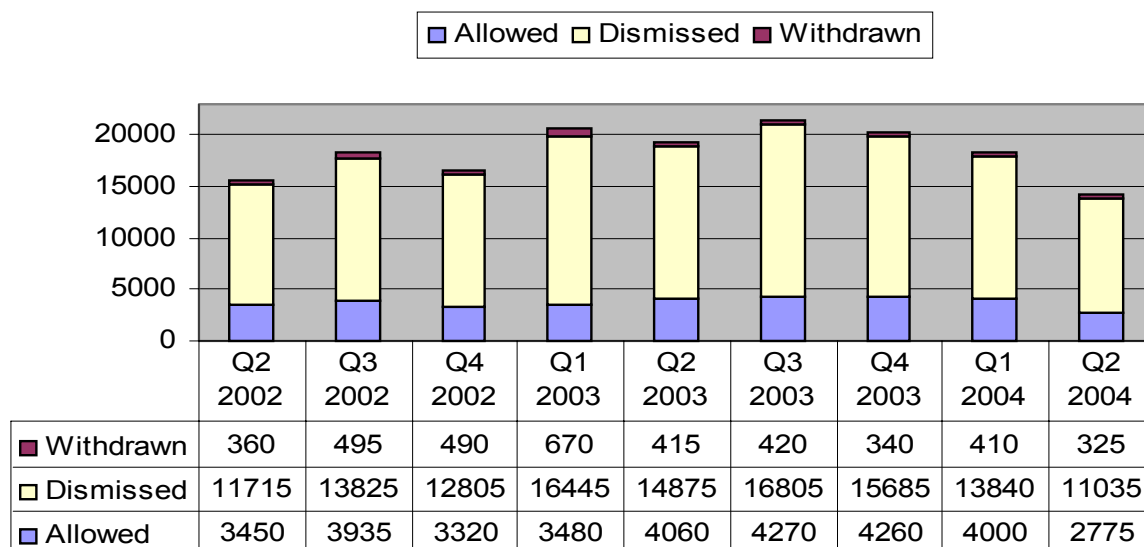
- **Appeals received: 9,000, 11% lower than previous quarter**

- It is estimated that 9,000 appeals were received by the Home Office in Q2 of 2004, compared with 10,100 in Q1 2004.

- **Appeals determined: 14,115, 23% lower than previous quarter**

- The number of appeals determined by adjudicators fell in Q2 by 23% to **14,115** from 18,225 in Q1 and was **27% lower** than in Q2 2003 (19,345).
- The proportion of appeals dismissed rose to 78% in Q2 from 76% in Q1, whilst the proportion of appeals allowed fell to 20%, from 22% in Q1.

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



- ♦ As at 30 June 2004, there were an estimated 9,000 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 30 June 2004, was 22,600 (9,900 at the Adjudicator Tier, 7,300 applications for permission to appeal to the Tribunal, and 5,400 Tribunal Appeals).
- **Timeliness of case processing, up to and including appeals at Immigration Appellate Authority and Immigration Appeal Tribunal**
 - ♦ 63% of applications received in the period April to December 2003 had a final decision, up to and including appeals at the IAT, within 6 months.

Applications to European Countries 2002 and 2003

In Total 346,600 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 (20.4%), UK (17.6%) and Germany (14.5%). The table below shows the number of applications made to European Countries in 2002 and 2003[†]

	Number of applicants (Including dependants)		% Change	% of Total
	2002	2003		
Italy	7,300	13,500	85%	3.85%
Luxemburg	1,000	1,600	60%	0.46%
Greece	5,700	8,200	44%	2.34%
France	58,100	62,000	7%	17.69%
Spain	6,200	5,900	-5%	1.68%
Sweden	33,000	31,400	-5%	8.96%
Finland	3,400	3,200	-6%	0.91%
Belgium	21,400	19,300	-10%	5.51%
Norway	17,500	15,600	-11%	4.45%
Austria	39,400	32,400	-18%	9.25%
Switzerland	26,100	20,800	-20%	5.94%
Denmark	5,900	4,600	-22%	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	103,100	60,000	-42%	17.12%
Portugal	200	100	-50%	0.03%
TOTAL EU	429,700	350,400	-19%	100%

- Asylum applications to European Countries, including dependants, per 1,000 population 2003[†]

	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	60,000	1.0
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
Total EU	350,500	1.0

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

[†] Figures rounded to the nearest 100

Asylum seekers and refugees worldwide

- At the start of the year 2004, the number of people of concern¹ in the world was 17.1 million. They included 9.7 million refugees (57%), 985,500 asylum seekers (6%), 1.1 million returned refugees (6%), 4.4 million internally displaced persons (26%) and 912,200 others of concern (5%).
- The global refugee population dropped from 10.6 million to 9.7 million, principally because of the return of nearly 650,000 Afghans from neighbouring Pakistan and Iran.
- There were nearly 290,000 new refugees registered in 2003. Major exoduses occurred from Sudan (112,200), Liberia (86,800), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (30,000), Côte d'Ivoire (22,200), Somalia (14,800) and Central African Republic (13,000).
- During 2003, 809,000 people applied for asylum worldwide. Combined with applications still pending from previous years, the overall total awaiting decision was 985,500 at the end of 2003. Iraqi nationals, who were the largest single group of claimants in 2002, fell to sixth position while the number of Afghans seeking asylum continued to drop, to eighth place.
- The top five refugee hosting countries are: Pakistan (estimate: 1.1 million), Iran (estimate: 985,000), Germany (960,000), Tanzania (650,000) and the United States (estimate: 452,500). All five saw declines of between 2 and 25 percent in refugee numbers.
- The table below shows estimated number of asylum seekers, refugees and others of concern as at 1st of January 2004 compared to a year earlier*:

Region	1 st January 2003	1 st January 2004
Asia	9,378,900	6,187,800
Africa	4,593,200	4,285,100
Europe	4,531,500	4,242,300
Northern America	1,061,000	978,100
Latin America &	1,047,200	1,316,400
Caribbean Oceania	79,100	74,400
TOTAL	20,690,900	17,084,100

- As shown on the table above the number of people 'of concern' stood at just over 17 million as at 1st January 2004, down from more than 20 million the year before – the lowest total in at least a decade.
- The numbers for Asia fell by more than 30 percent, down to 6.2 million from more than 9.3 million a year earlier. But many people also headed back to their homes in Angola, Liberia, and Sierra Leone – the African nations that recently found peace after long periods of civil war.

¹ These are people concern to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and they included asylum seekers, refugees, internally displaced people, returned refugees, and stateless persons

• The figures are provided by UNHCR

The table below shows the estimated number of refugees and total persons of concern worldwide:

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF REFUGEES AND PERSONS OF CONCERN WORLDWIDE ^{1*} (all figures as at 31 December of each given year)		
Year	Refugees	Total Population of Concern
1980	8,446,000	—
1981	9,706,000	—
1982	10,310,000	—
1983	10,610,000	—
1984	10,717,000	—
1985	11,851,000	—
1986	12,620,000	—
1987	13,113,000	—
1988	14,331,000	—
1989	14,716,000	—
1990	17,378,000	—
1991	16,837,000	—
1992	17,818,500	—
1993	16,306,000	—
1994	15,734,000	—
1995	14,896,000	—
1996	13,357,000	—
1997	12,008,000	19,788,000
1998	11,481,000	19,892,000
1999	11,687,000	20,624,000
2000	12,130,000	21,871,000
2001	12,117,000	19,871,000
2002	10,594,000	20,691,000
2003	9,672,000	17,084,100

The table below shows the asylum applications submitted in selected industrialized countries in 2003:

ASYLUM APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED IN SELECTED INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES [in 2003]		
Country of Asylum	Main Countries of Origin	Asylum Application
United Kingdom	Somalia / Iraq / China / Zimbabwe / Iran / Turkey	61,100
United States ²	China / Colombia / Mexico / Haiti / Indonesia	60,700
France	Turkey / China / D.R. Congo / Russian Fed. / Algeria	59,800
Germany	Turkey / Serbia and Montenegro / Iraq / Russian Fed. / China	50,600
Austria	Russian Fed. / Turkey / India / Serbia and Montenegro / Afghanistan	32,400
Canada	Pakistan / Mexico / Colombia / China / Costa Rica	31,900
Sweden	Serbia and Montenegro / Somalia / Iraq / Stateless / Bosnia and Herzegovina	31,300
Switzerland	Serbia and Montenegro / Turkey / Iraq / Algeria / Georgia	20,800
Belgium	D.R. Congo / Russian Fed. / Serbia and Montenegro / Iran / Cameroon	16,900
Norway	Serbia and Montenegro / Afghanistan / Russian Fed. / Somalia / Iraq	16,000
Netherlands	Iraq / Iran / Afghanistan / Somalia / Liberia	13,400
Czech Republic	Russian Fed. / Ukraine / Slovakia / China / Viet Nam	11,400
Slovakia	Russian Fed. / India / China / Armenia / Afghanistan	10,400

* The figures are provided by UNHCR

Please note that as the UNHCR update their full records on a yearly basis only, in the interim quarter we will use this section to provide a selection of relevant worldwide statistics.