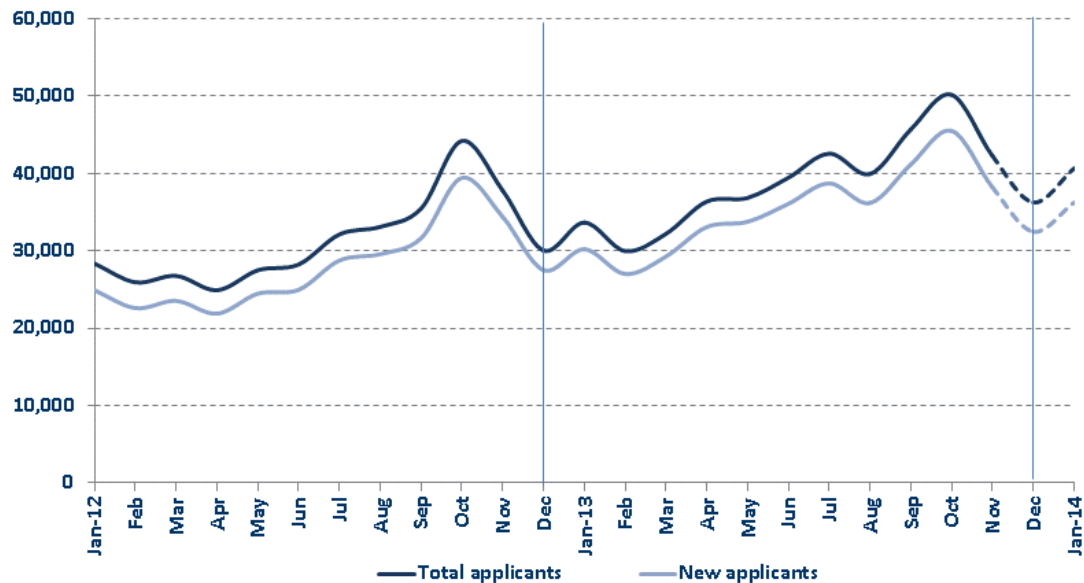


## Asylum Trends Snapshot February 2014

### 1. Number of applicants for international protection in EU+ countries

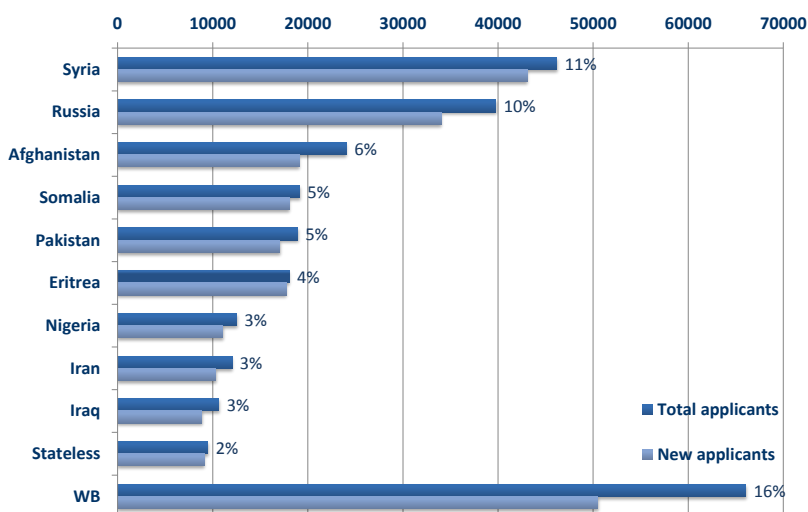
#### Monthly trend total/new applicants 2013 - January 2014



In January 2014, the total number of asylum applicants in EU+ countries (Member States + Norway and Switzerland), increased by approximately 21% compared to December 2013; new asylum applicants increased by 20% compared to the previous month. The total number of asylum applicants in January 2014 was 24% above the level of January 2013.

### 2. Top countries of origin (% of total claims) in EU+ countries

#### January - November 2013



Nationals coming from the Western Balkans countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro and Serbia) continued to represent the largest proportion of asylum applicants in the first eleven months of 2013 while Syria was the single biggest country of origin.

### 3. Latest country of origin trends

#### **Syria**

- The number of Syrians increased in almost all EU+ countries compared to the previous month;
- In December 2013, applications from Syrians were in the top 3 countries of origin in 18 EU+ countries and were thus the most widespread of any country of origin;

#### **Gambia**

- There was a noticeable increase of asylum applicants coming from Gambia in the second half of 2013. The data for January 2014 shows a new highest-ever (since 2008) peak, mainly concentrated in the Southern Mediterranean Member States;

#### **Western Balkans**

- EU+ countries experienced an 8% increase for the total of Western Balkans applicants compared to the previous month;
- Western Balkans asylum applicants represented 18% of the total applicants in the EU+ in January 2014, the majority of whom applied in Germany.