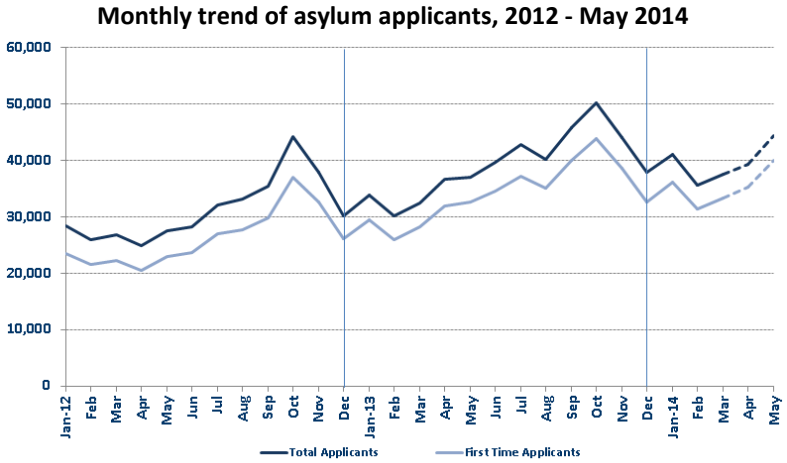
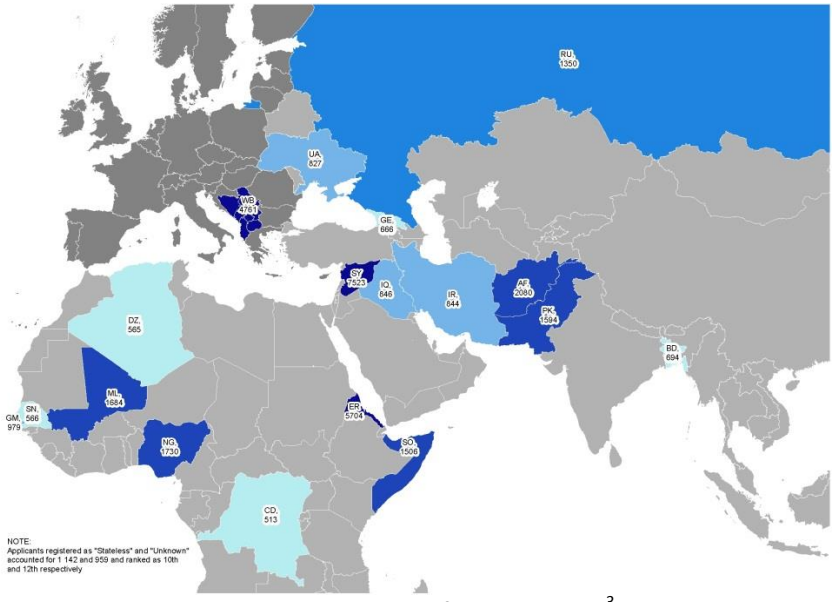
Latest Asylum Trends and Main Countries of Origin

1. Number of applicants[1] for international protection in EU+[2]



The total number of asylum applicants in the EU+, increased by 13% in May compared to April 2014; first-time asylum applicants also increased by 14%. In May 2014 the largest number of applicants was reported by Germany, Sweden, Italy, France and the Netherlands.

2. Top 25 Countries of Origin in EU+ in May 2014



As the map shows in dark blue, Syrians, Eritreans and nationals from all six WB[3] states were the largest groups of asylum applicants in the EU+ in May. Eritreans exceeded WB nationals for the first time.

[1] No data available for 2014 for Austria; No data for May 2014 for Ireland
[2] EU28 plus Norway and Switzerland
[3] Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2), Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo (1) (This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244/99 and the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Kosovo declaration of independence)

3. Latest Country of origin trends

Syria

- In May 2014 the number of Syrian nationals who lodged an application for international protection in the EU+ countries rose by 23% compared to April and set the second highest monthly peak, after the one registered in October 2013. In May, Syria was in the Top 3 of sixteen EU+ countries.

Eritrea

- Eritreans applying for international protection in the EU+ continued to grow and increased by 84% in May compared to the previous month, setting a new monthly highest. In May the main destination countries for Eritrean applicants were The Netherlands, Germany, Sweden and Norway.

Ukraine

- Ukrainian citizens persisted to apply for international protection in the EU+ in May and displayed a 25% increase compared to April. The flow remains widely distributed throughout the EU+.