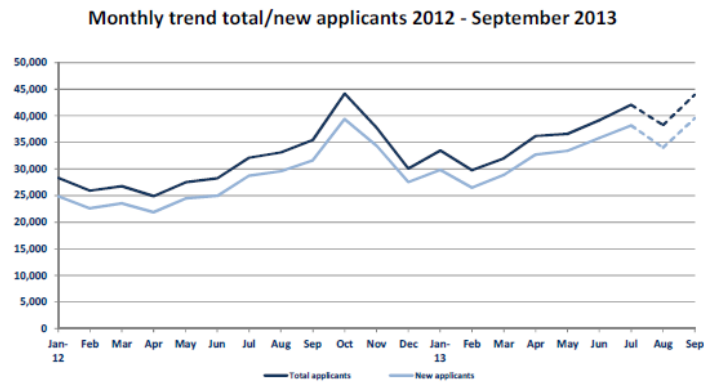


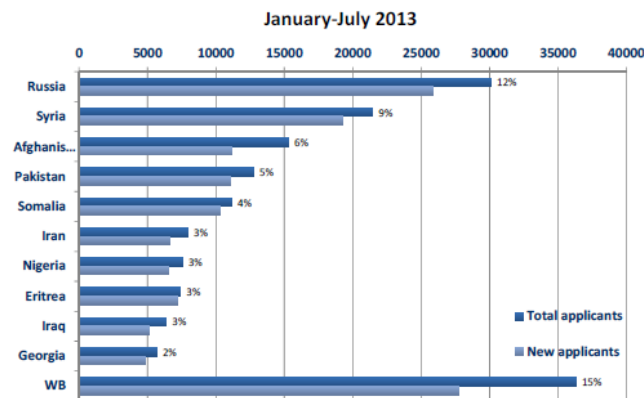
Asylum Trends Snapshot October 2013

1. Number of applicants for international protection in the EU+



The overall total applications in September were 24% higher than the same month in 2012 and approximately equal to numbers seen in October 2012, which were the greatest seen for any month since EU-level data collection began in 2008.

2. Top Countries of Origin (% of total claims) in EU+ countries



For total applications (to July 2013), Western Balkans citizens continued to make the largest proportion of claims in the EU+.

3. Latest Country of origin trends

Syria

- In September 2013, applications continued to be made in a significant number of EU+ states, leaving Syria in the Top 3 countries of origin for 18 Member States and Associated countries;
- There was a sharp increase in asylum claims by Syrians in Bulgaria in August and September 2013.

Russia

- After a very steep rise in applicants holding Russian passports (mainly Chechens and mainly to Germany and Poland) from March to May 2013, an equally steep decline has now taken place.

Eritrea

- After having risen very steeply in July and August, applications from Eritreans declined in September 2013

Western Balkans

- Applications from Western Balkans (WB) countries saw a sharp increase in September (35%) compared to the previous month and absolute numbers of applicants remain higher than in previous years;
- Germany received the vast majority of claims for asylum in EU + countries made by WB citizens in the month of September.