SAMCO South Africa Representation & Multi-Country Office

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Monthly Statistical Report - UNHCR

as of 30 Sep 2025

Total Population*

197,284 individuals

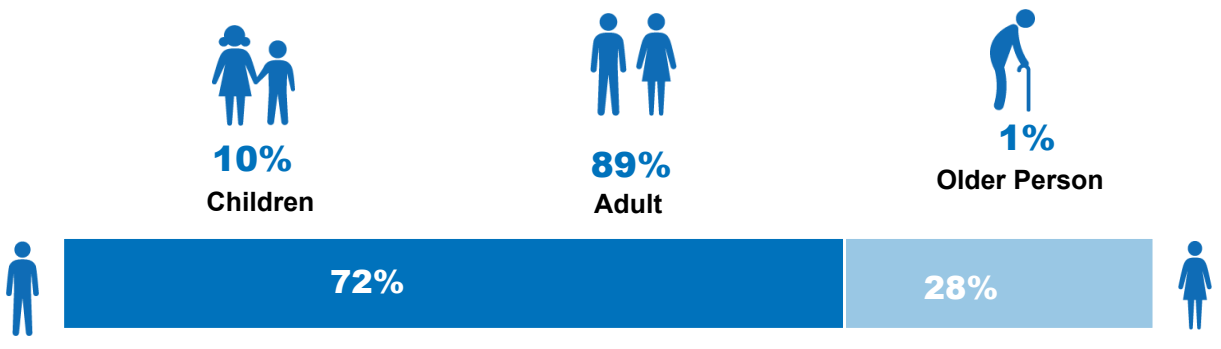
Registered in 2025 *
4,934 individuals

Arrived in 2025
1,188 individuals

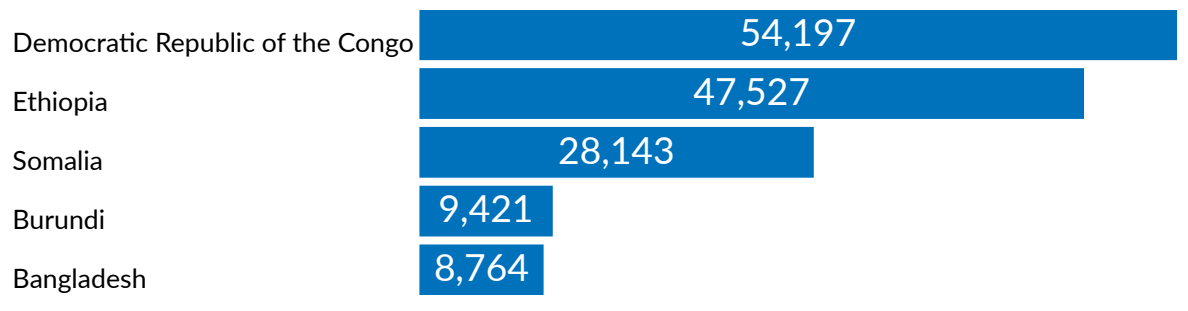
Total Departures in 2025

304 individuals

Demographic Profile



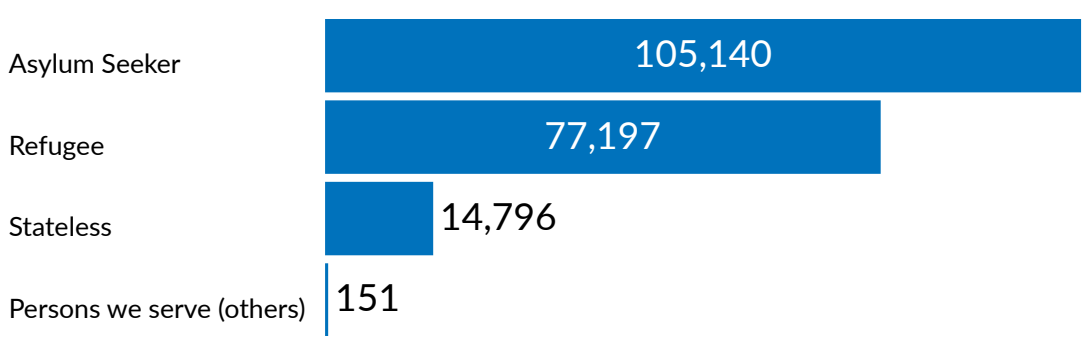
Country of origin



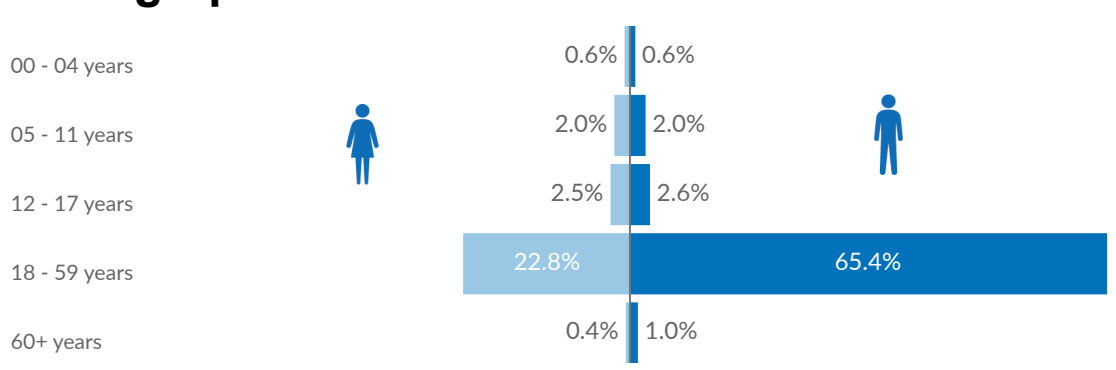
Country of Asylum

Country of Asylum	Asylum Seeker	Refugee	Persons we serve (Others)	Stateless	Total
*South Africa	98,688	68,927	0	0	167,615
**Namibia	1,323	5,394	58	14,796	21,571
Eswatini	3,401	1,418	15	0	4,834
***Madagascar	1,264	89	22	0	1,375
****Botswana	24	853	49	0	926
Lesotho	207	485	7	0	699
Mauritius	215	24	0	0	239
Comoros	17	7	0	0	24
*****Seychelles	1	0	0	0	1
Total	**105,140**	**77,197**	**151**	**14,796**	**197,284**

Legal Status



Demographic Profile



Highlights

Registration: The Eswatini Ministry has officially supported the initiative by providing organizational domain email addresses to assist UNHCR in phasing out the use of private email domains. This phasing out is being implemented to enhance data protection and ensure secure communication. Targeting for Botswana and Namibia for the September and October 2025 cycle has been completed. SAMCO online portal has been designed and published.

Asylum Law and Policy: UNHCR held a capacity-building workshop for members of the Standing Committee for Refugee Affairs (SCRA) on 11 September 2025. The workshop delved into the RSD credibility framework, focusing on how to assess credibility and establish material facts. Program to enhance refugee law programs and expand collaboration with law clinics around the country has started by developing a ***Practitioners Handbook on Refugee Law***, designed to be a comprehensive resource for legal professionals to ensure consistent and accurate application of refugee law principles in South Africa. This initiative will be accompanied by training and education programmes for law clinics on South African and International refugee law.

Operational Protection (OPU): UNHCR recently convened a sports workshop which was attended by government representatives, sporting bodies, UN agencies, civil society, and refugee-led organizations, all underscoring the importance of inclusion in sport and reviewing the implementation of the sports project. Additionally UNHCR convened a co-creation workshop to develop communication strategies to counter anti-foreigner narratives online.

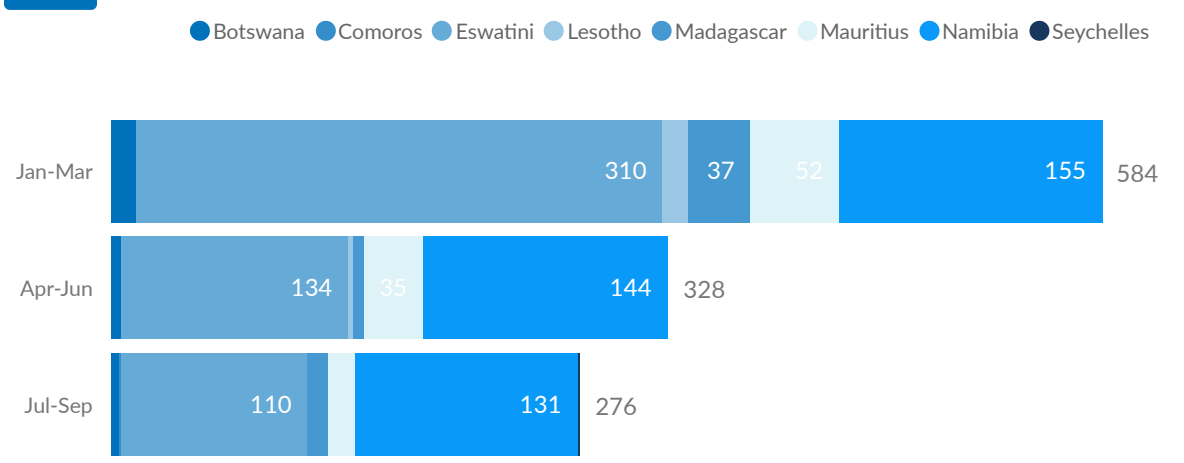
CwC: During September 2025, the main reasons for calling the UNHCR Helpline included Health (223), followed by Personal Security (158) and Social Assistance (129). The provinces are Gauteng (281), KwaZulu Natal (280), and Western Cape (84), in that order, with the top callers from COD (574), followed by BDI (89) and then SOM (64). 233 calls were from people requiring services not provided by UNHCR.

Durable Solutions, Resettlement: A total of 52 RST submissions* were received, comprising 39 from Canada, 5 from New Zealand, 2 from Finland, and 6 from the United States. In addition, there were 304 RST departures, including 214 to Canada, 6 to Australia, 72 to New Zealand, and 12 to the United States. Seven RST departures occurred in September 2025.

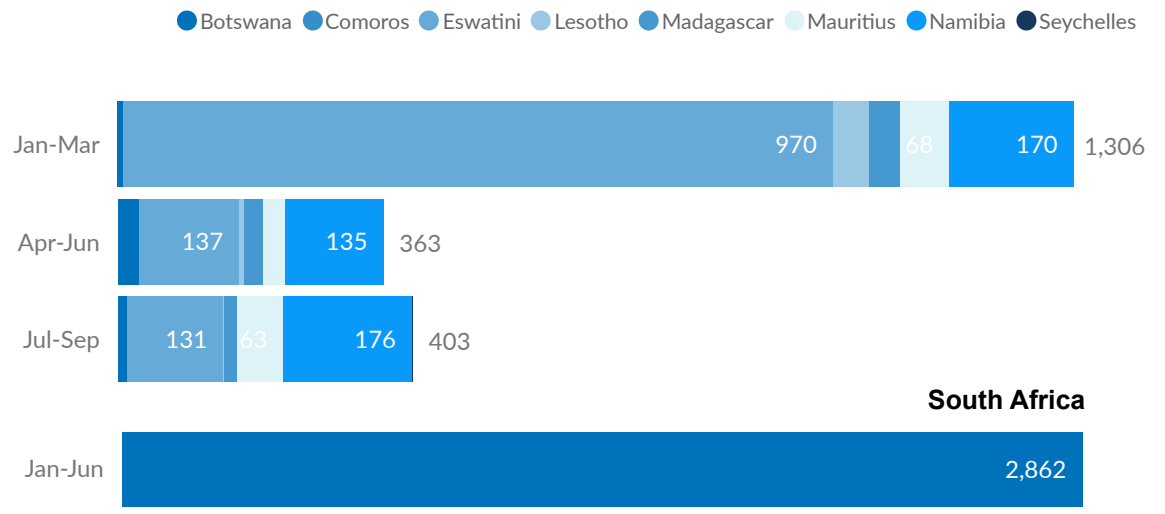
Voluntary repatriation: During the reporting month of September, a total of 29 individuals were successfully assisted in returning to Burundi, bringing the cumulative number of departures to 140. Preparations are currently underway for four convoys, including the departure of 22 individuals from South Africa to Lubumbashi, DRC; 23 individuals from South Africa to Kinshasa, DRC; 3 individuals from Eswatini to Nigeria, Ethiopia, and Uganda; and 1 individual from Lesotho to the DRC.

Complementary pathways: In 2025 ten individuals have successfully departed through complementary pathways (four through education pathways and six through family reunification). UNHCR facilitated family reunification for one unaccompanied minor in Comoros to France and a family of 6 to the United States - issuing an ICRC emergency travel documents for their departure, whereas four refugees have departed on education pathways to the USA and Italy. Duolingo University Access Program: The final applicant from the five (5) newly selected cohort has been issued a four-year Convention Travel Document (CTD). This marks the successful completion of CTD issuance for the 2025 cohort. Lastly, in the EMPP project, 1029 individuals are registered in the Talent Beyond Boundaries catalogue, with 16 matched for recruitment opportunities.

Arrival Trend



Registration Trend



** Figures on Active population in South Africa is provided by DHA for the Annual Statistical Report as of 30 Jun 2025. There is 2% decrease in the total population in South Africa during the period of between Dec 2024 to Jun 2025. A total of 2,862 individuals were officially registered during the reporting period.*

*** The number of stateless persons in Namibia was confirmed by the Director of the National Population Register.*

**** In Madagascar, the figure of 100,000 stateless persons was reported by a partner organization but has not yet been confirmed by the government.*

***** Botswana government reported 13 asylum seekers need to go through Government RSD process.*

******four individuals registered by UNHCR were deported by Immigration authorities in 2024.*

Creation Date : 30 Sep 2025

Source: - UNHCR Joint Registration Exercise

SAMCO South Africa Representation & Multi-Country Office

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Monthly Statistical Report - UNHCR

as of 30 Sep 2025

Resettlement

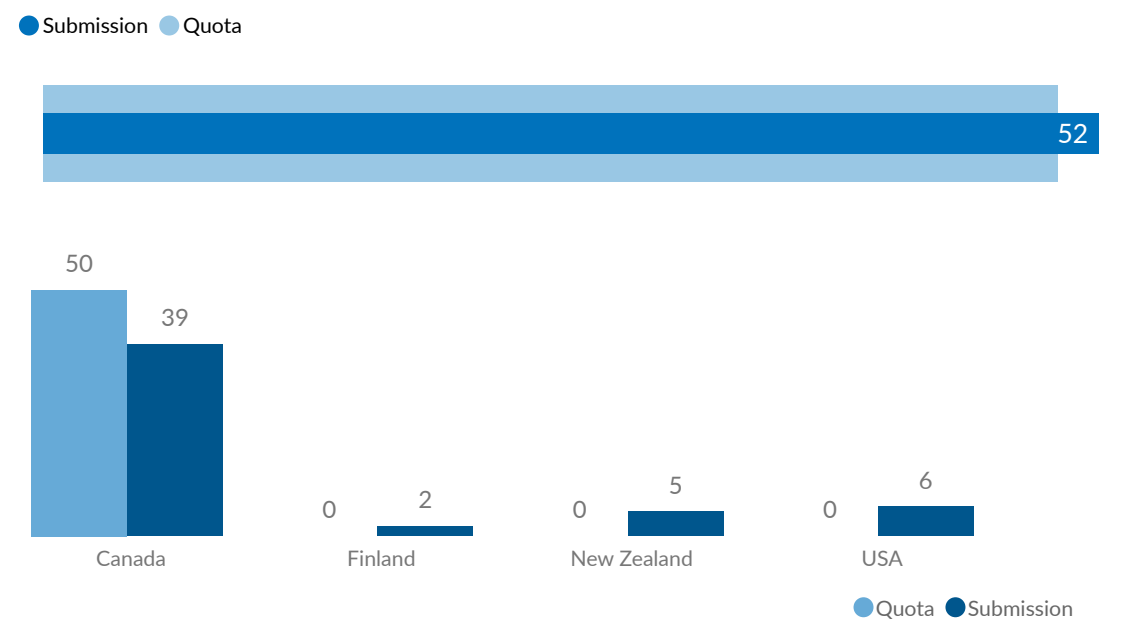
Total Submissions in 2025	Submissions in Sep 2025
52	0

Total Departure in 2025	Departure in Sep 2025
304	7

Voluntary Repatriation

Total Departure in 2025	Total Departure in Sep 2025
140	29

Quota vs Submissions



Refugee Status Determination *

Active RSD Cases	RSD Cases Created in Sep 2025
771	33

First Instance Recognition (YTD)	Cases Referred to RST
56%	0

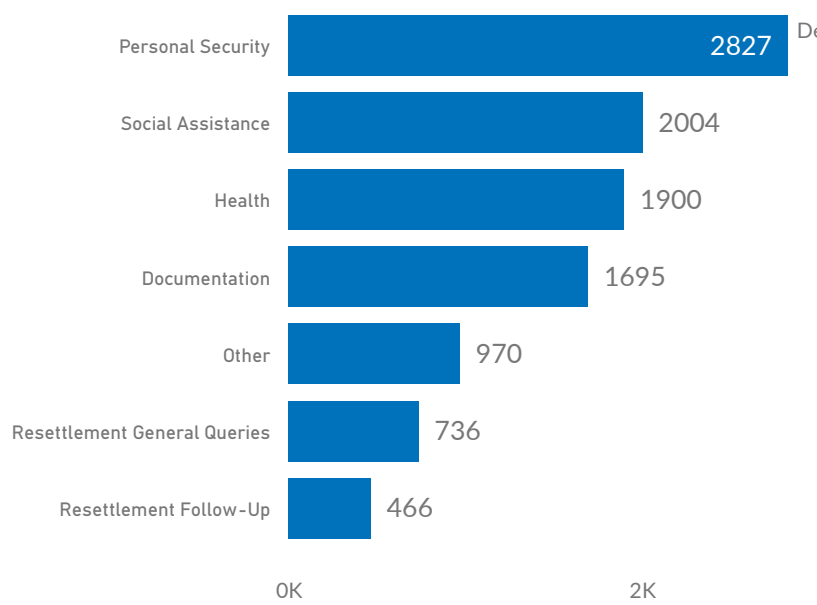
RSD Status

Operational Protection

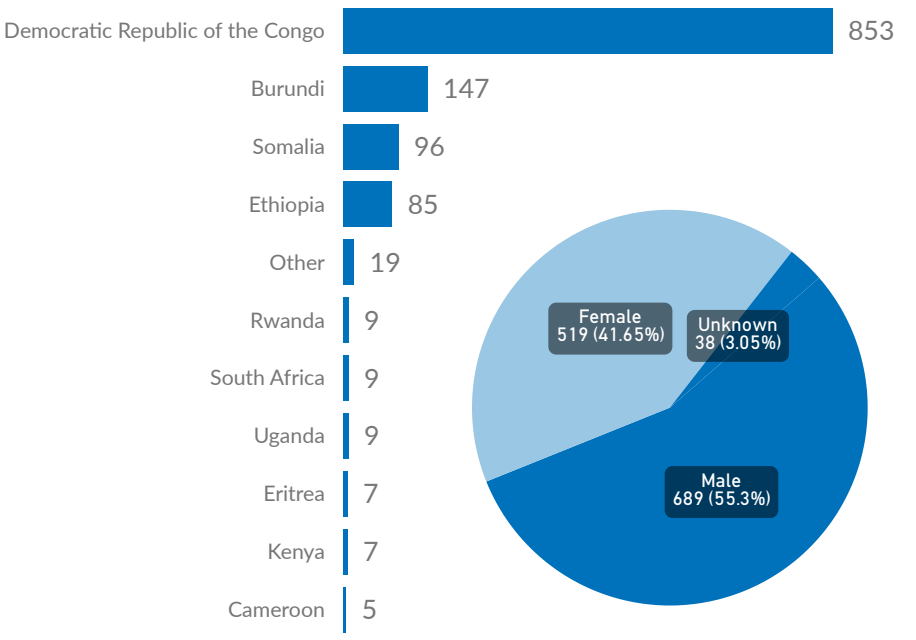
Helpline Calls Received / Handled	Reception (New Calls)	Referrals	Communications (Return Callers)
2,532 / 1,042	76	12	773

Child Protection	Protection Case Conference (PCC)	Best Interest Determination (BID)	Medical Cases
0	1	1	0

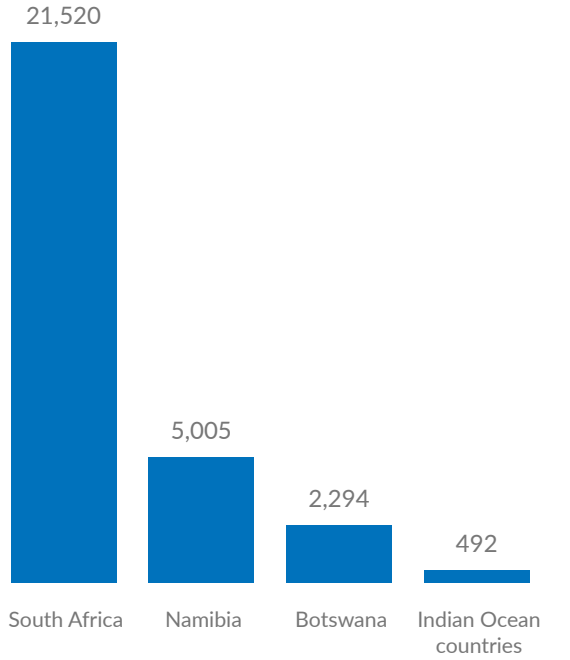
Call received Category (Top 7)



Reception Created by Country of Origin



WhatsApp Channel Followers



Creation Date : 30 Sep 2025

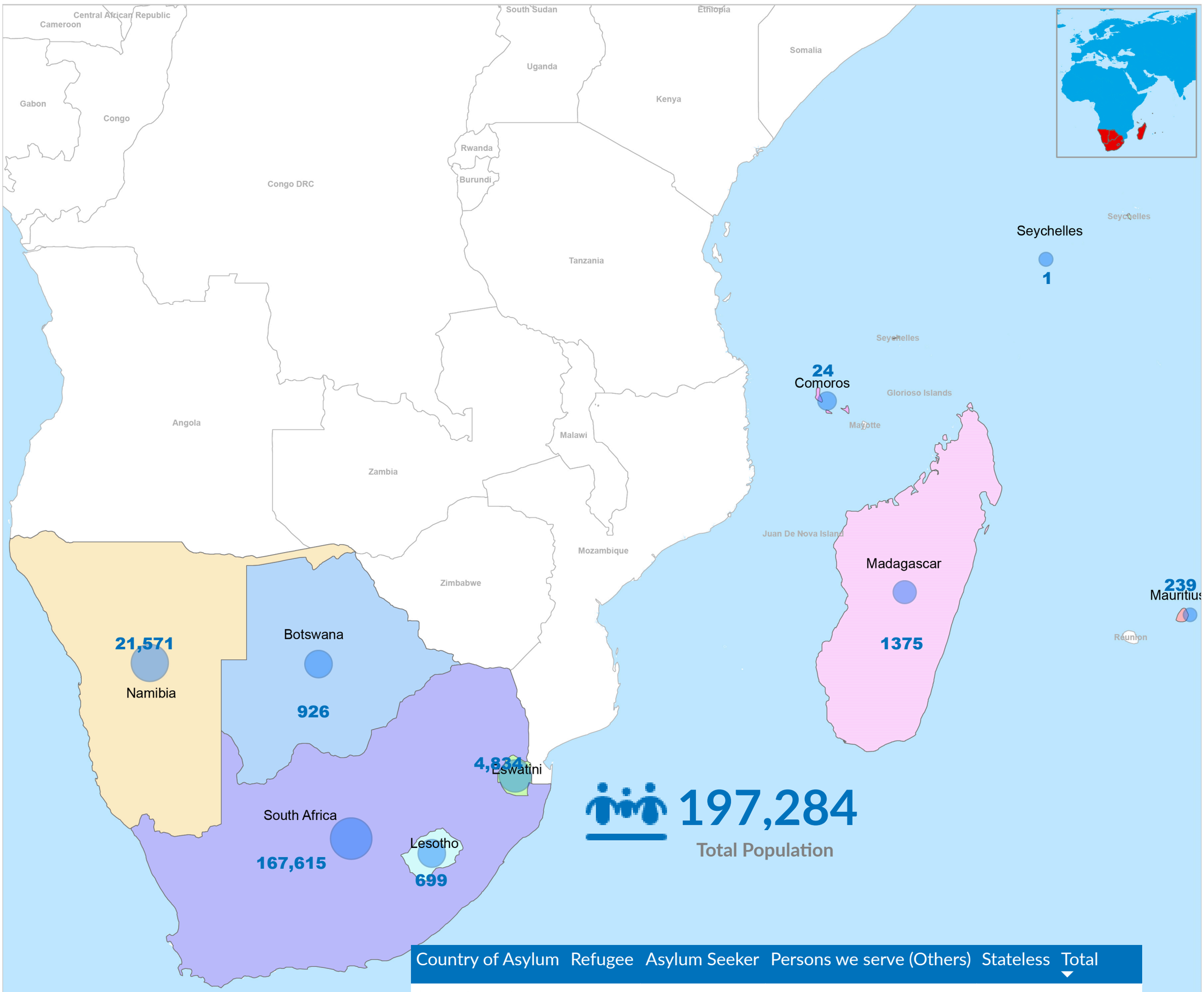
Source: - UNHCR Joint Registration Exercise

SAMCO South Africa Representation & Multi-Country Office

UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

Monthly Statistical Map Report - UNHCR

as of 30 Sep 2025



Country of Asylum	Refugee	Asylum Seeker	Persons we serve (Others)	Stateless	Total
*South Africa	68,927	98,688	0	0	167,615
**Namibia	5,394	1,323	58	14,796	21,571
Eswatini	1,418	3,401	15	0	4,834
***Madagascar	89	1,264	22	0	1,375
****Botswana	853	24	49	0	926
Lesotho	485	207	7	0	699
Mauritius	24	215	0	0	239
Comoros	7	17	0	0	24
*****Seychelles	0	1	0	0	1
Total	**77,197**	**105,140**	**151**	**14,796**	**197,284**

N W E S

540 270 0 KM

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

** Figures on Active population in South Africa is provided by DHA for the Annual Statistical Report as of 30 Jun 2025. There is 2% decrease in the total population in South Africa during the period of between Dec 2024 to Jun 2025. A total of 2,862 individuals were officially registered during the reporting period.*

*** The number of stateless persons in Namibia was confirmed by the Director of the National Population Register.*

**** In Madagascar, the figure of 100,000 stateless persons was reported by a partner organization but has not yet been confirmed by the government.*

***** Botswana government reported 13 asylum seekers need to go through Government RSD process.*

******four individuals registered by UNHCR were deported by Immigration authorities in 2024.*

Creation Date : 30 Sep 2025

SAMCO South Africa Representation & Multi-Country Office

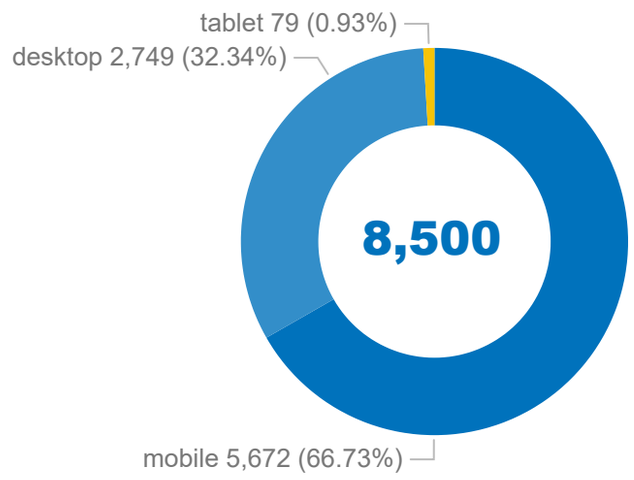
UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

Monthly Help.Unhcr.Org Dashboard

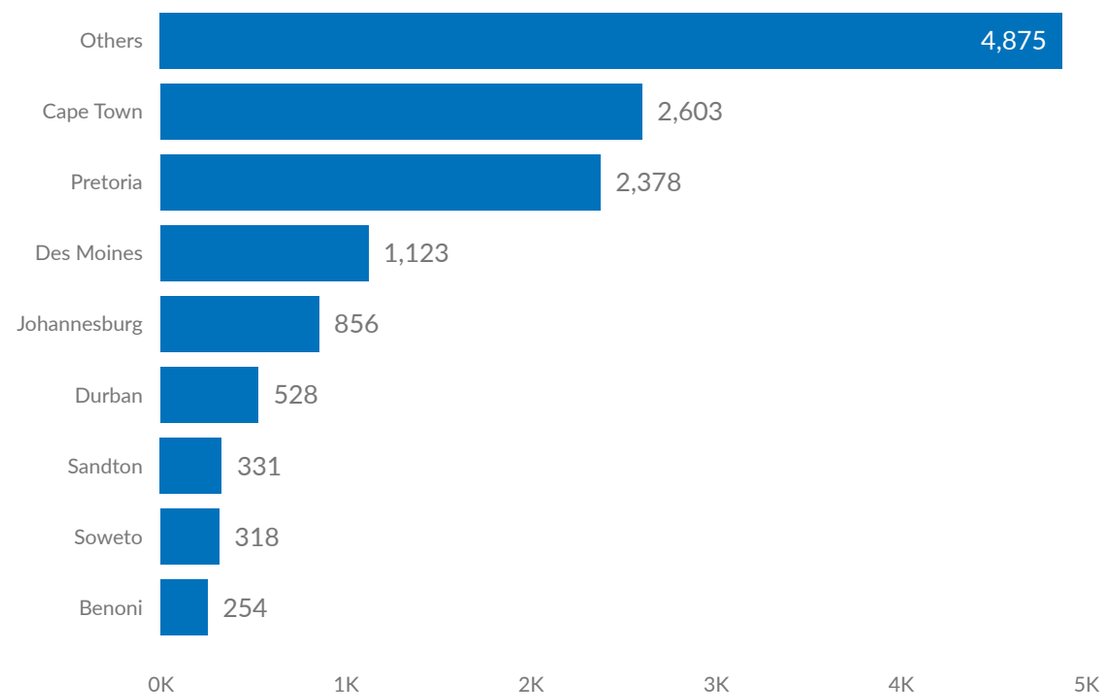
as of 30 Sep 2025

Total Page Views	Total Site Views
14,215	8,500

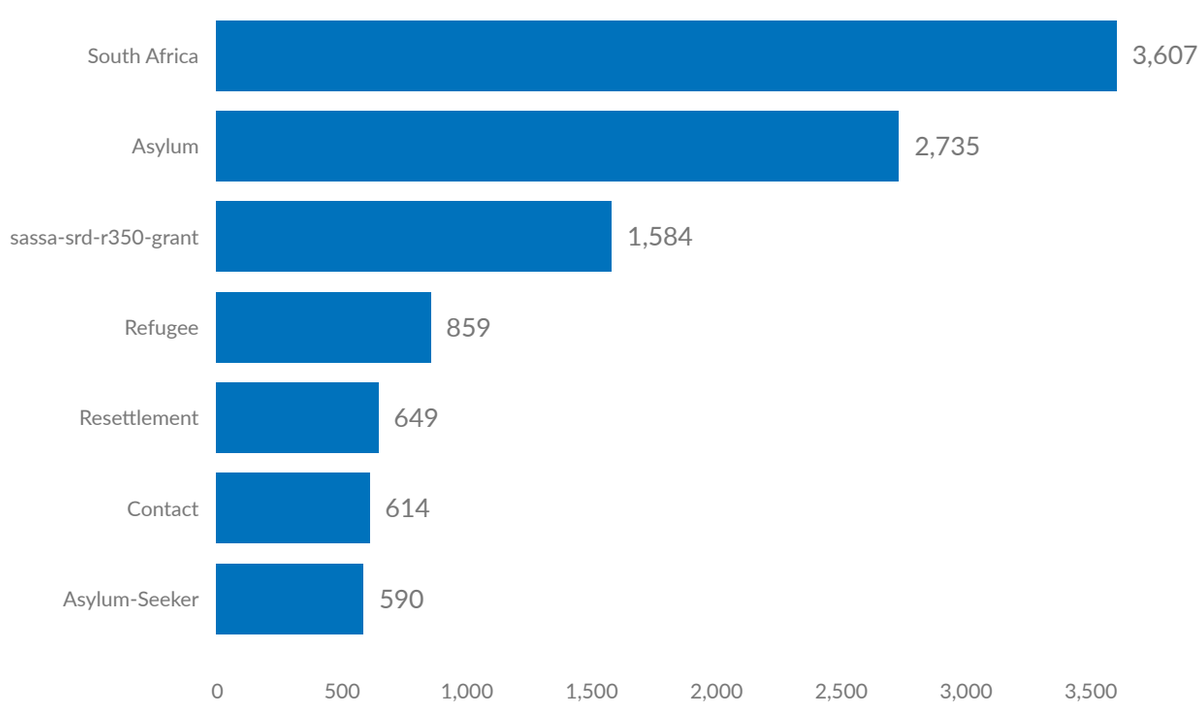
Device Used



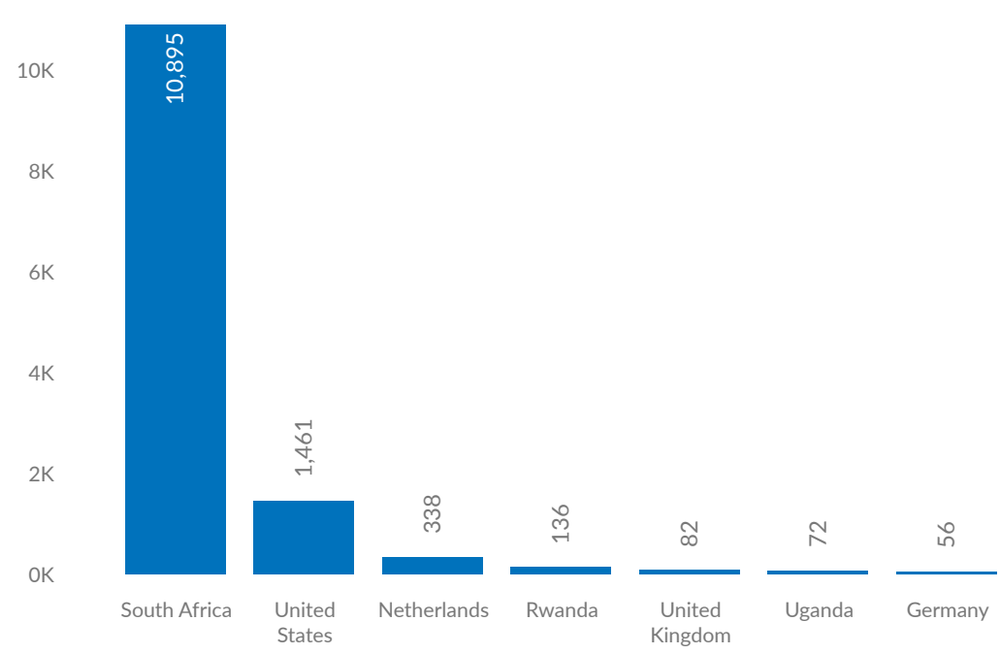
Visited by Cities in South Africa



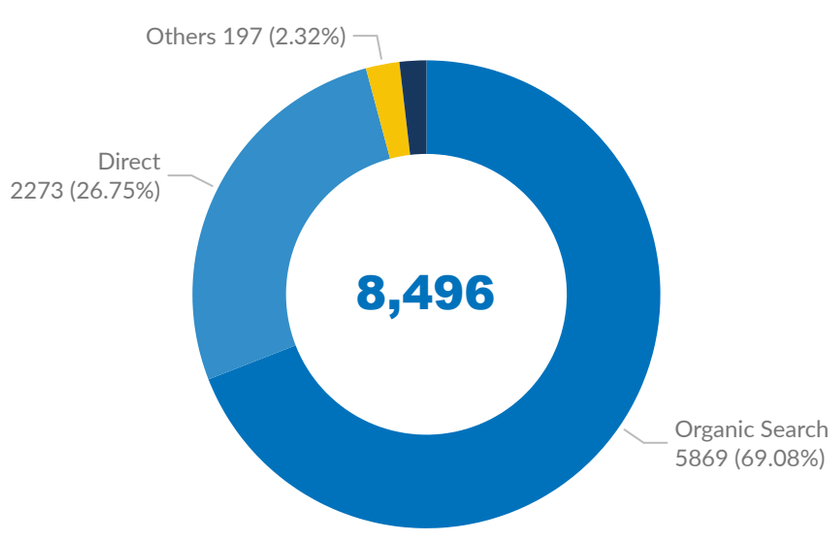
Most Visited Pages (Top 10)



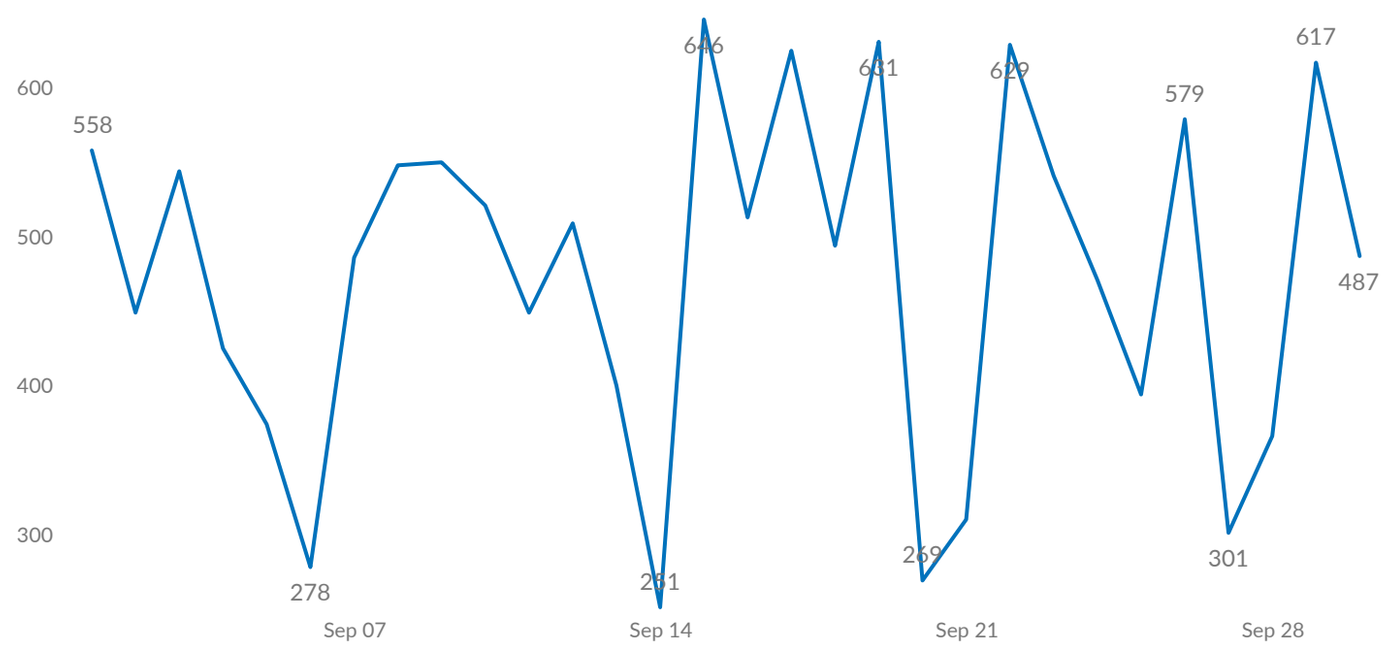
Visited by Countries (Top 7)



Visits to help site by channel



Page Views by date



Month Overview

The Help Site Page for South Africa received 14,215 page views during Sep 2025. The most visited sites being Help Asylum Process, SASSA grant and Online Renewal of Permits.

Mailer

During the reporting month, no mailer was sent .