SAMCO South Africa Representation & Multi-Country Office

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Monthly Statistical Report - UNHCR

as of 31 Oct 2025

Total Population*

197,426 individuals

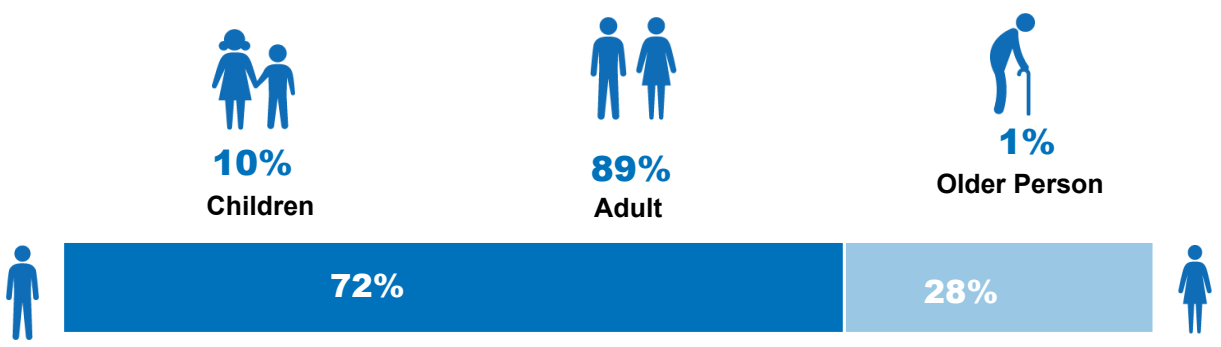
Registered in 2025 *
5,106 individuals

Arrived in 2025
1,344 individuals

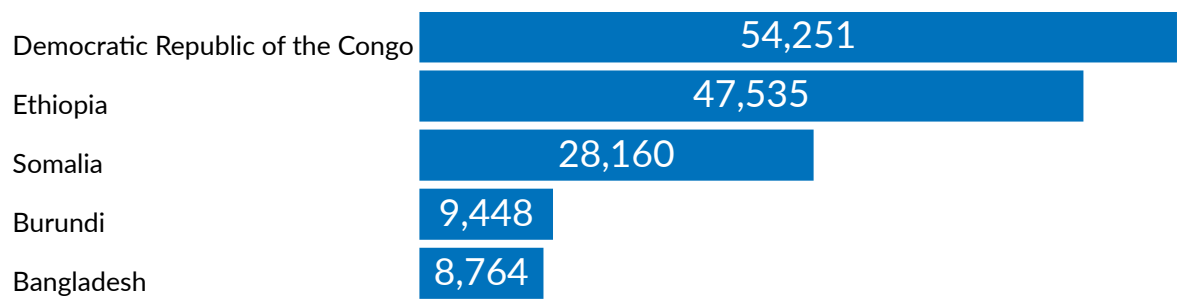
Total Departures in 2025

306 individuals

Demographic Profile



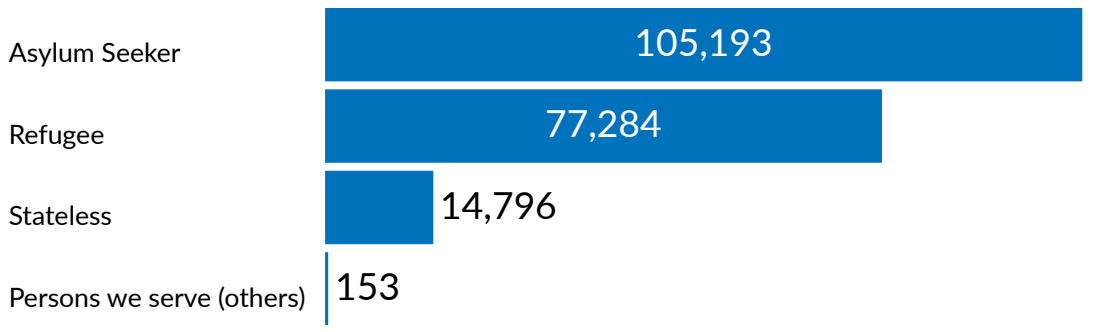
Country of origin



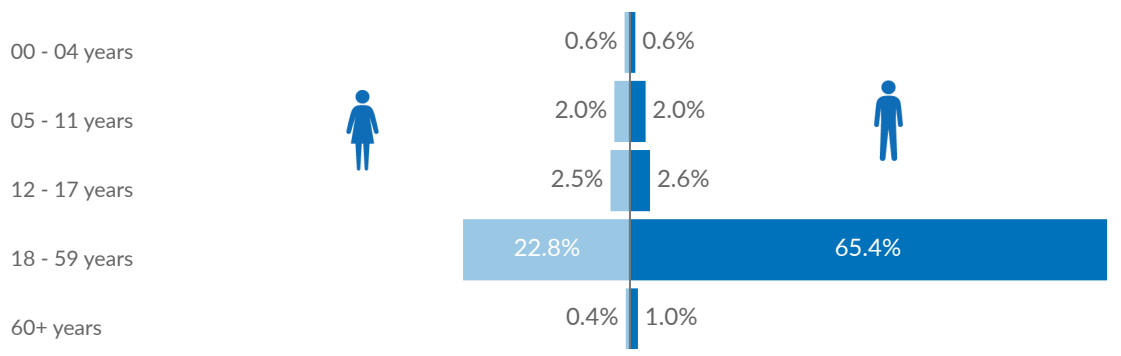
Country of Asylum

Country of Asylum	Asylum Seeker	Refugee	Persons we serve (Others)	Stateless	Total
South Africa	98,688	68,927	0	0	167,615
Namibia	1,315	5,475	59	14,796	21,645
Eswatini	3,436	1,421	15	0	4,872
Madagascar	1,269	89	23	0	1,381
Botswana	24	855	49	0	928
Lesotho	207	485	7	0	699
Mauritius	237	24	0	0	261
Comoros	17	7	0	0	24
Seychelles	0	1	0	0	1
Total	**105,193**	**77,284**	**153**	**14,796**	**197,426**

Legal Status



Demographic Profile



Highlights

Registration: The BIMS user clean-up exercise, conducted in preparation for integrating BIMS with AMP, has been completed. Support was provided to the VOLREP movement to ensure biometric enrolment of individuals repatriating to the DRC.

Asylum Law and Policy: From 13-16 October, UNHCR, together with the International Institute of Humanitarian Law (IIHL), facilitated a technical workshop on RSD for RAASA, SCRA and managers in the Refugee Reception Offices. This was followed by a policy-level dialogue with DHA on 21-22 October, which focused on looking at South Africa's asylum system holistically. IIHL delved into best practices from other countries on managing mixed migration, and several areas in South Africa's asylum system where rethink was needed were identified.

Operational Protection (OPU): Participated in a meeting with Refugee Led Innovation Fund colleagues and the Refugee Welfare Committee of Lesotho. Social cohesion dialogue in collaboration with Department of Social Development and civil society was convened in Durban. It aimed to build the capacity of Community Development Practitioners and stakeholders, sessions included participatory activities such as community mapping and dialogue facilitation. The Protection Working Group was convened in order to discuss situation on the ground regarding access to health and other social cohesion matters. OPU Participated in the IDAHOBIT exhibition at the Desmond Tutu Foundation in Cape Town.

CwC: During October 2025, the main reasons for calling the Helpline included Health (275), followed by Personal Security (246) and Social Assistance (226). The provinces are KwaZulu Natal (470) followed by Gauteng (409), and Western Cape (128) respectively. The top callers from COD (886), then BDI (138) followed by SOM (99). 430 calls were from people requiring services that UNHCR does not provide.

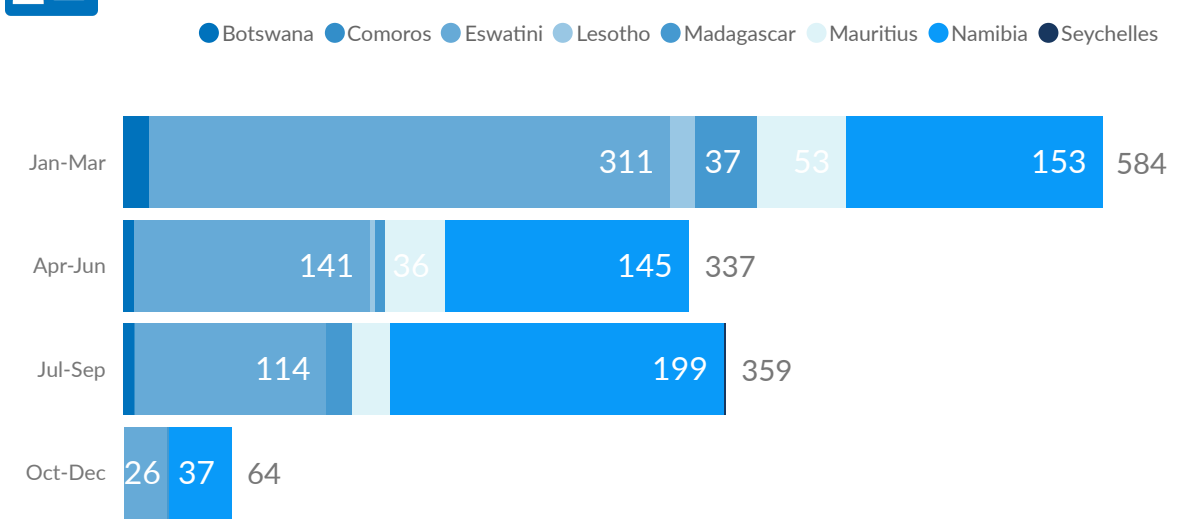
Durable Solutions, Resettlement: Support efforts for an Iraqi case, where one individual was at risk of deportation in Seychelles proved successful and departed to Canada on 26 October 2025 under emergency priority. A total of 2 individuals which were submitted under the Global Unallocated Quota departed in October to Canada bringing the total number of departures to 306.

Voluntary repatriation: In October, 52 individuals repatriated (8 to Burundi, 44 to DRC), bringing total departures to 192. Five convoys are being prepared: 1 from Eswatini to DRC (Kinshasa); 52 to Burundi; 40 to Kinshasa; 107 to Lubumbashi; and 28 from Namibia to DRC. During the reporting period, a total of 28 individuals came forward to express their wish to return voluntarily to their countries of origin.

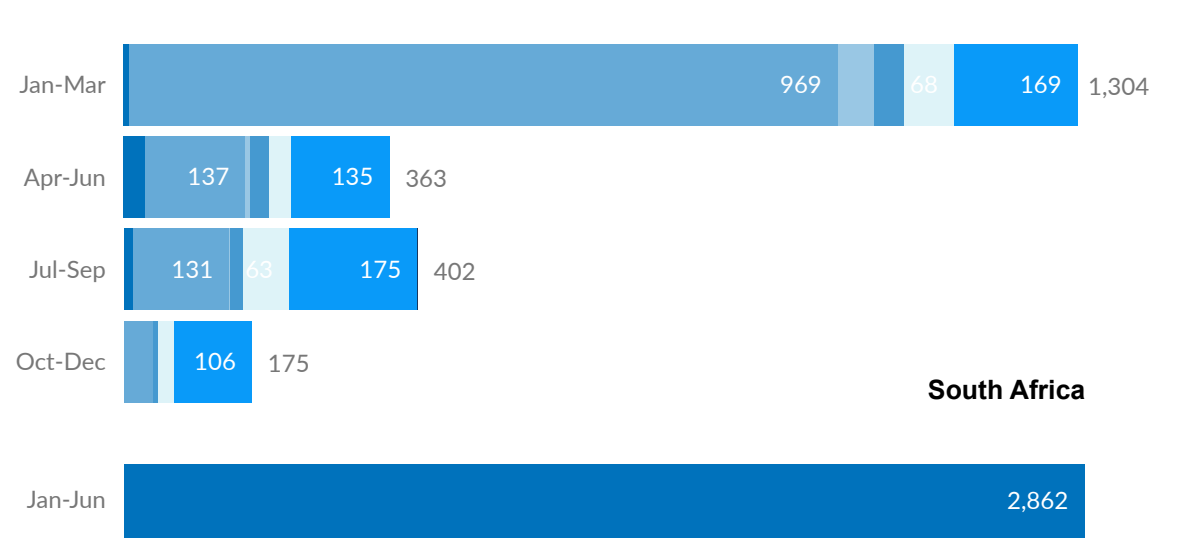
Complementary pathways: Ten individuals have departed through complementary pathways four via education and six via family reunification. UNHCR facilitated reunification for one unaccompanied minor from Comoros to France and a family of six to the U.S, issuing ICRC emergency travel documents. Four refugees departed on education pathways to the U.S. and Italy.

Duolingo University Access Program: The final applicant from the 2025 cohort has received a four-year Convention Travel Document, completing CTD issuance for the cohort. EMPP Project: 1,029 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.*

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

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Creation Date : 31 Oct 2025

Source: - UNHCR Joint Registration Exercise

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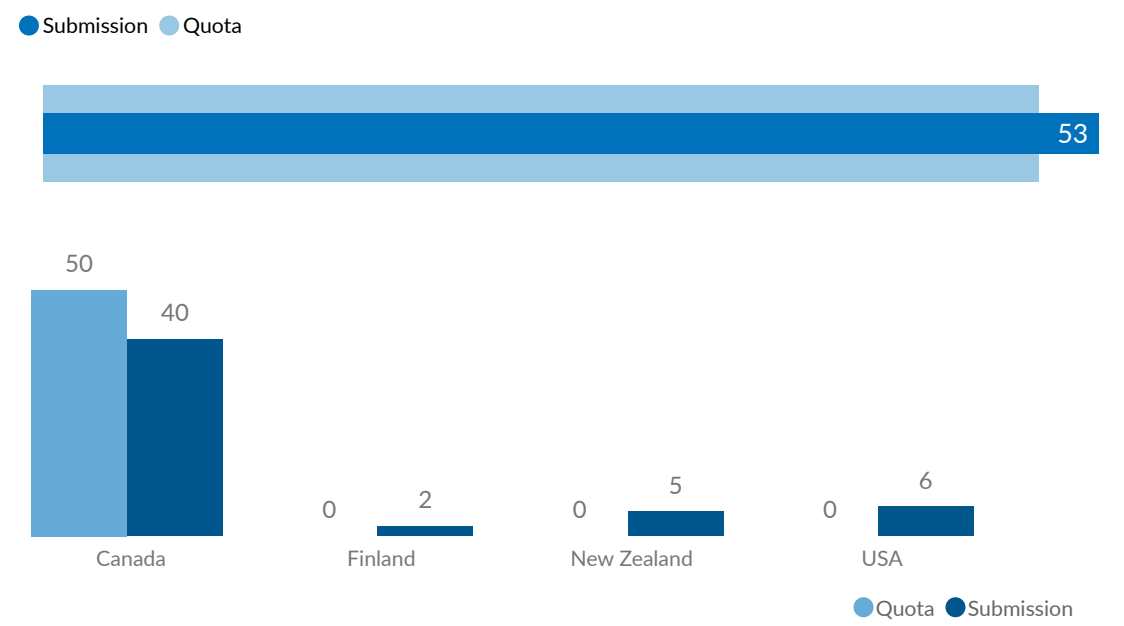
Resettlement

Total Submissions in 2025	Submissions in Oct 2025
53	1

Total Departure in 2025	Departure in Oct 2025
306	2

Quota vs Submissions



Voluntary Repatriation

Total Departure in 2025	Total Departure in Oct 2025
192	52

Refugee Status Determination *

Active RSD Cases	RSD Cases Created in Oct 2025
797	26

First Instance Recognition (YTD)	Cases Referred to RST
58%	1

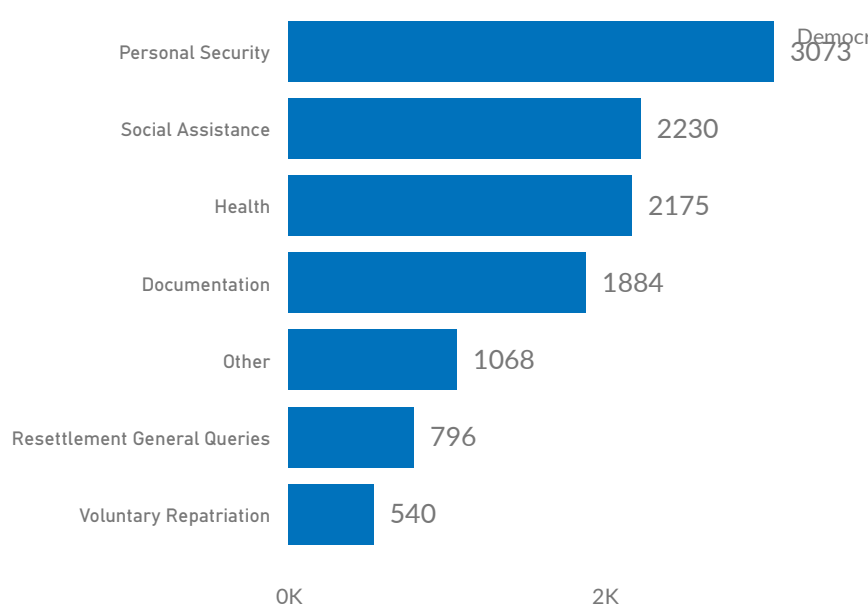
RSD Status

Operational Protection

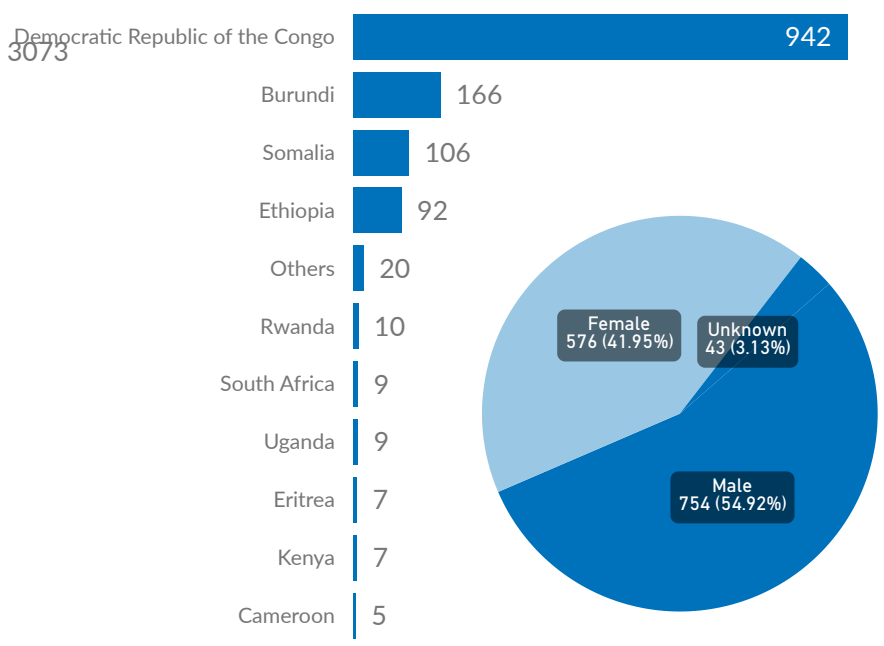
Helpline Calls Received / Handled	Reception (New Calls)	Referrals	Communications (Return Callers)
3,562 / 1,675	123	58	1,245

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

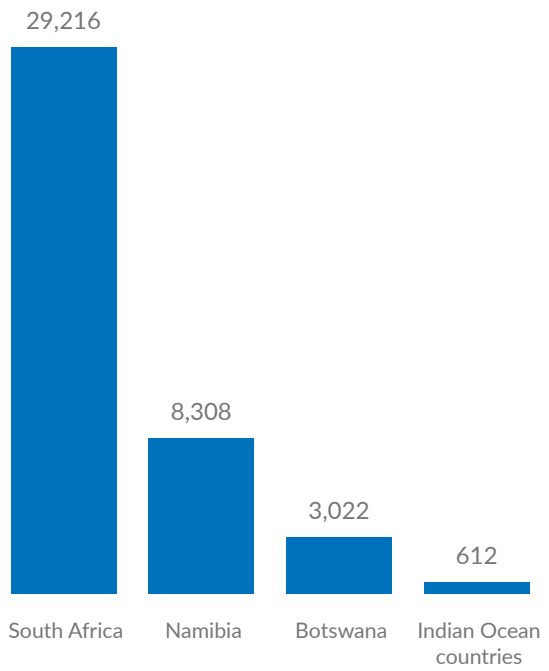
Call received Category (Top 7)



Reception Created by Country of Origin



WhatsApp Channel Followers



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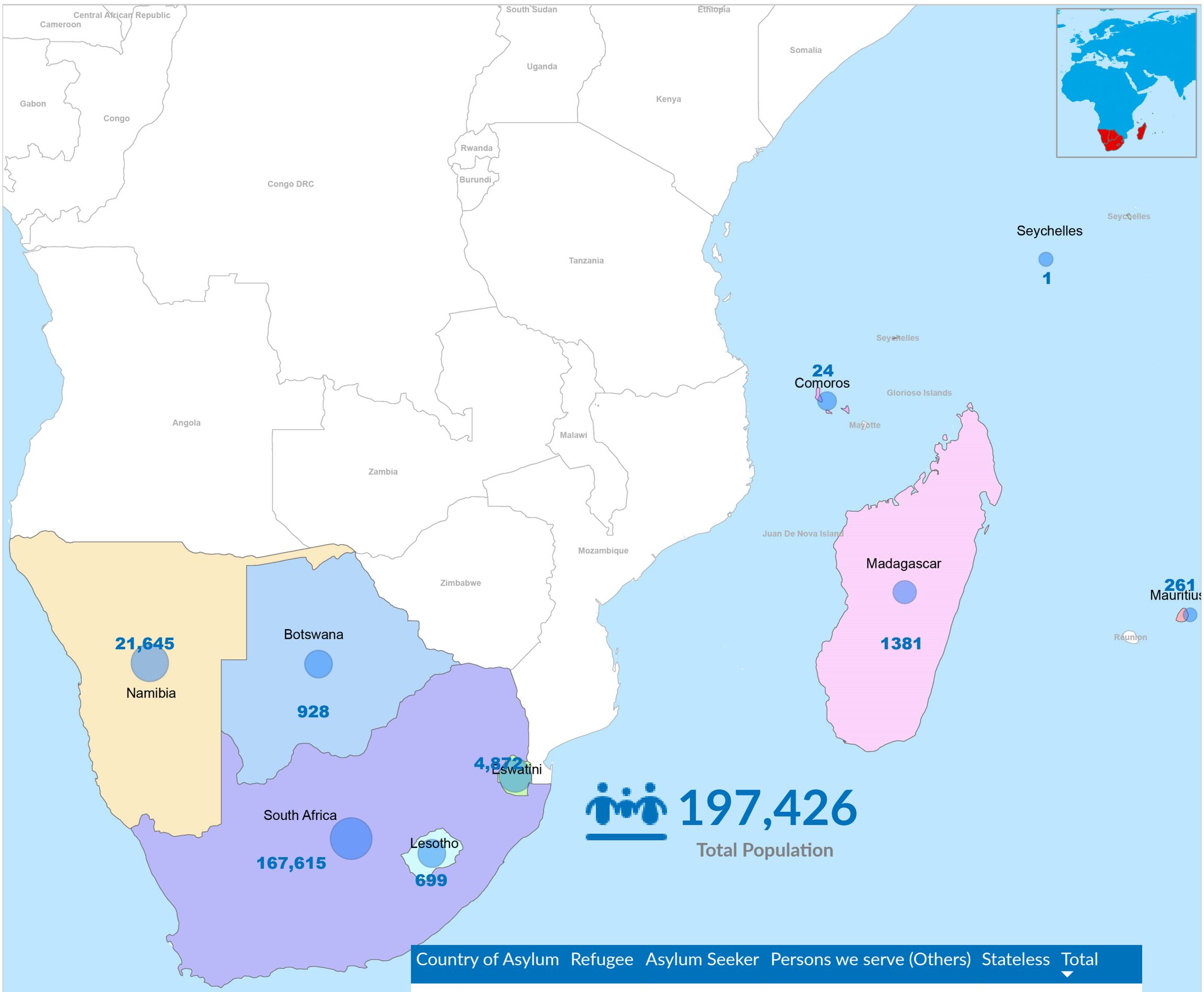
Monthly Statistical Map Report - UNHCR

as of 31 Oct 2025



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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.

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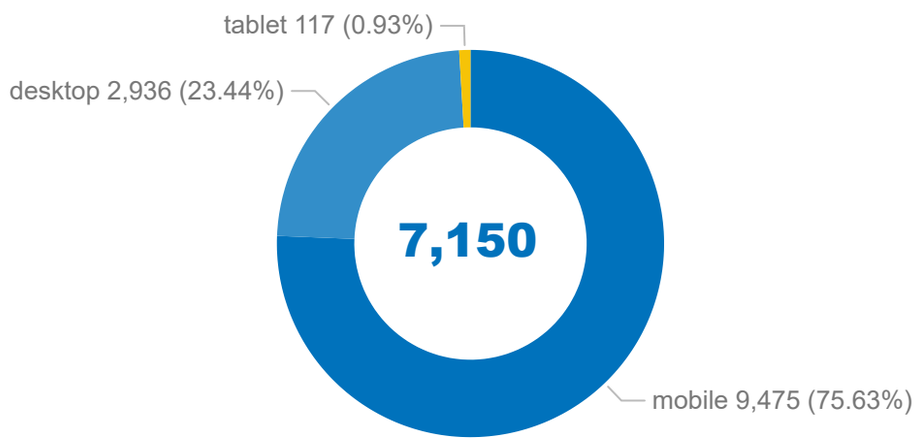
Monthly Help.Unhcr.Org Dashboard

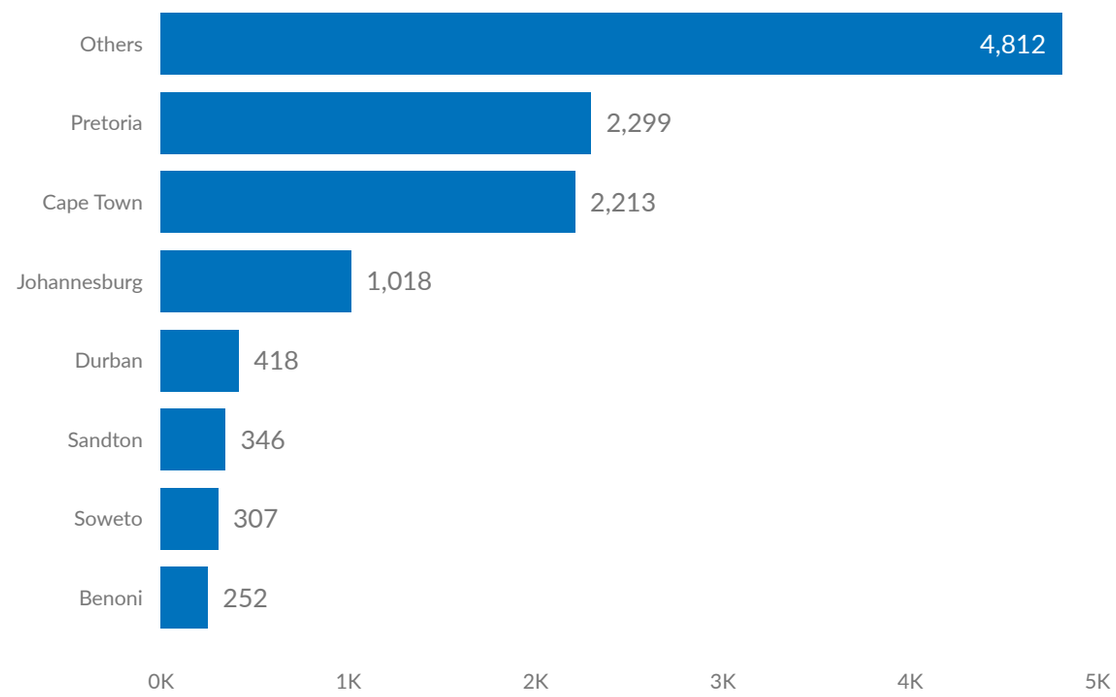
as of 31 Oct 2025

Total Page Views	Total Site Views
12,528	7,150

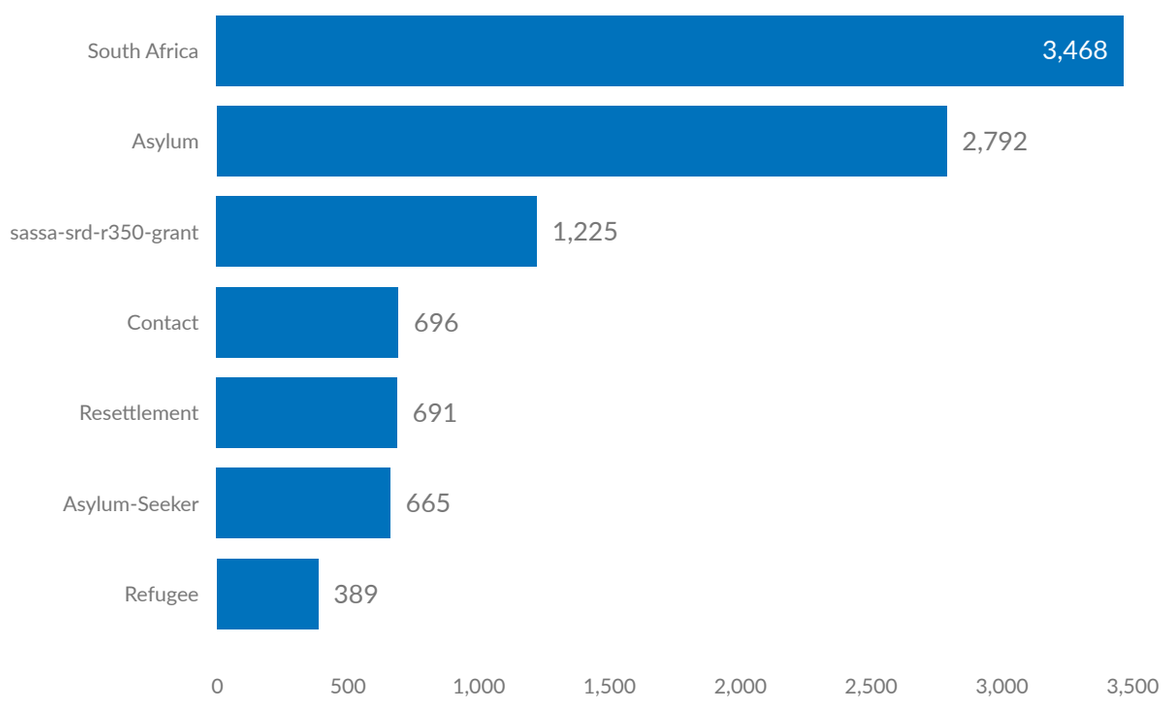
Device Used



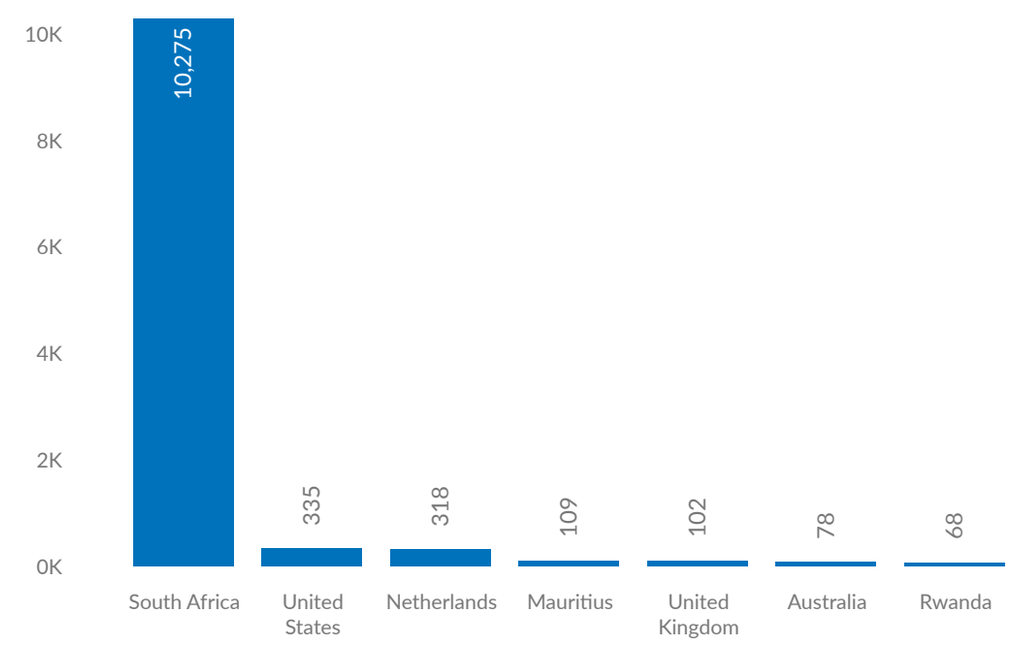
Visited by Cities in South Africa



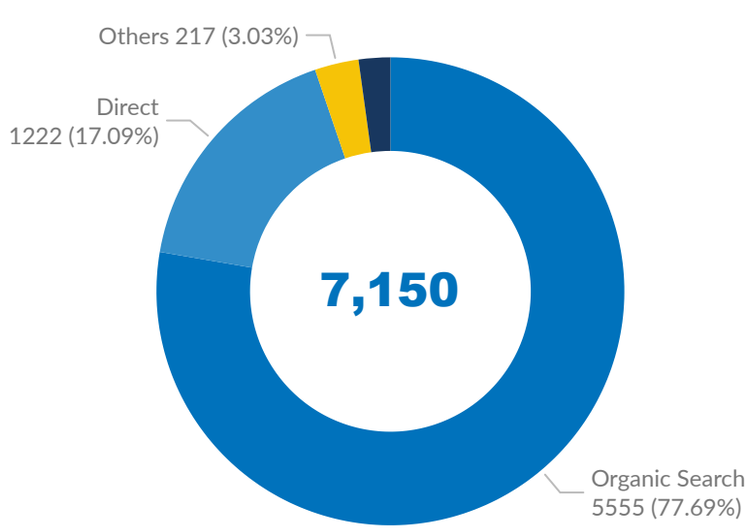
Most Visited Pages (Top 10)



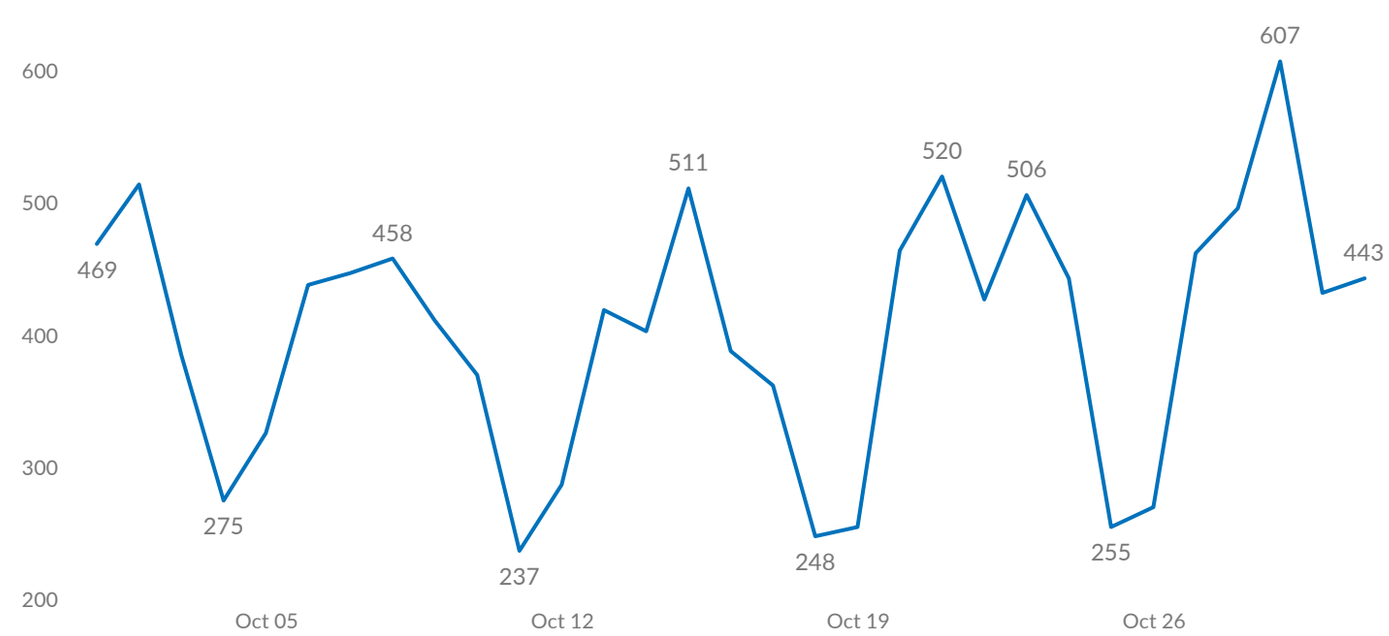
Visited by Countries (Top 7)



Visits to help site by channel



Page Views by date



Month Overview

The Help Site Page for South Africa received 12,528 page views during Oct 2025. The most visited sites being Help Asylum Process, SASSA grant and Online Renewal of Permits.

Mailer

2 mailers were sent on DAAD in Country Programe and Edinburg University Mastercard Scholarships