SAMCO South Africa Representation & Multi-Country Office

Monthly Statistical Report - UNHCR

as of 31 Dec 2025

Total Population*

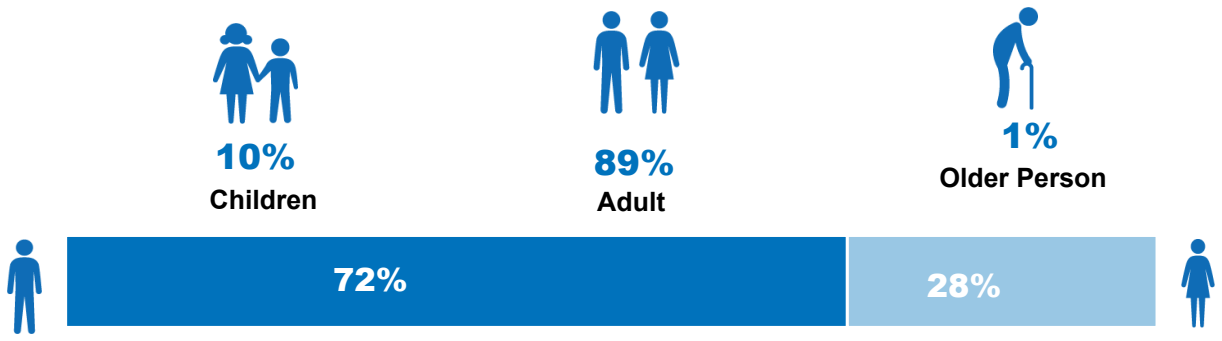
197 560 individuals

Registered in 2025 *	Arrived in 2025
5 282 individuals	**1 515** individuals

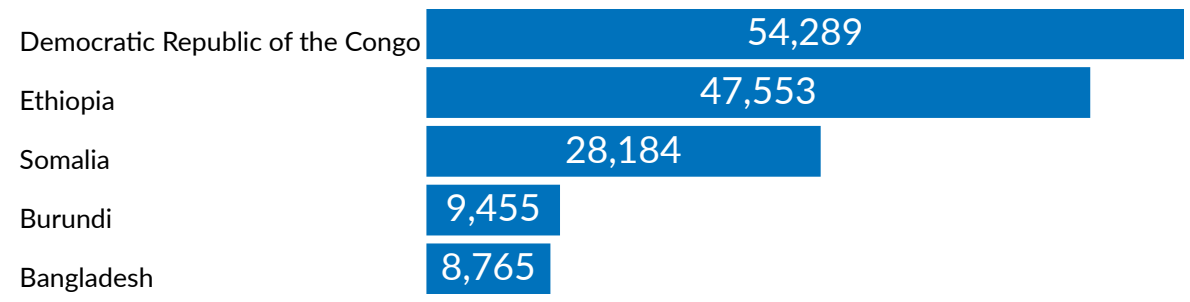
Total Departures in 2025

326 individuals

Demographic Profile



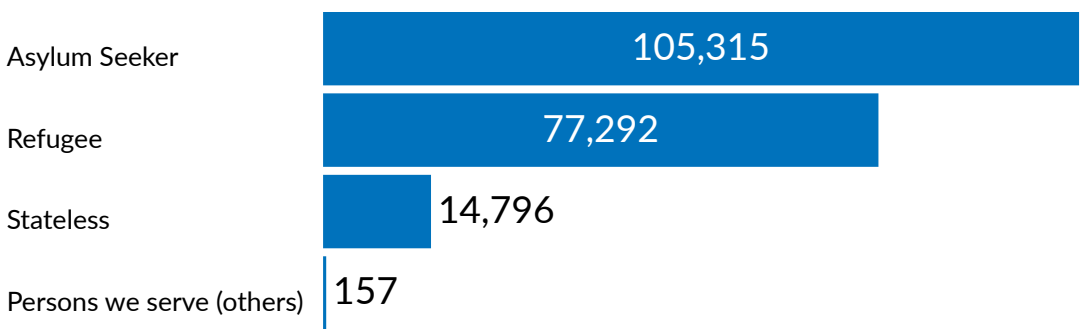
Country of origin



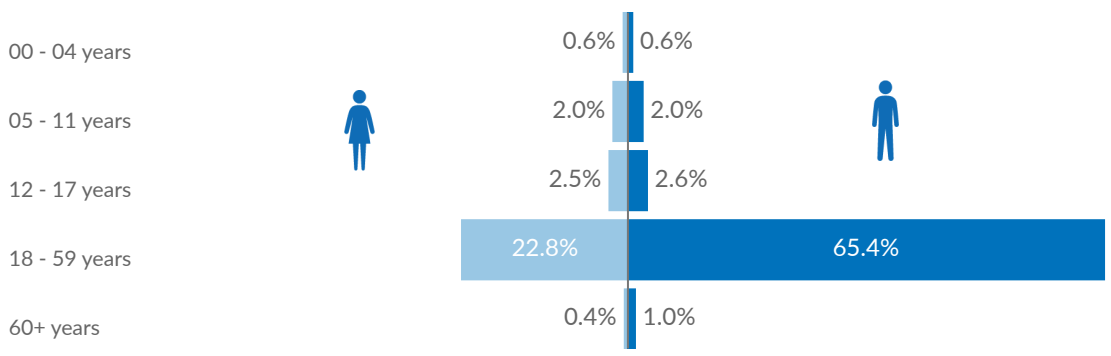
Country of Asylum

Country of Asylum	Asylum Seeker	Refugee	Persons we serve (Others)	Stateless	Total
*South Africa	98 688	68 927	0	0	167 615
**Namibia	1 332	5 483	59	14 796	21 670
Eswatini	3 518	1 421	15	0	4 954
***Madagascar	1 292	89	27	0	1 408
****Botswana	24	856	49	0	929
Lesotho	207	485	7	0	699
Mauritius	237	24	0	0	261
Comoros	17	7	0	0	24
*****Seychelles	0	0	0	0	0
Total	**105 315**	**77 292**	**157**	**14 796**	**197 560**

Legal Status



Demographic Profile



Highlights

Registration: Provided support for VOLREP movements, including biometric enrollment and data transfer requests, ensuring timely assistance. Reviewed Data Protection in partners' 2026 Project Workplans.

Asylum Law and Policy: UNHCR got a rare opportunity to attend the Namibia Refugee Committee (NRC) December sitting to observe proceedings related to the review and endorsement of RSD decisions. Additionally, in collaboration with the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees, UNHCR facilitated a workshop for staff of the Directorate for Refugee Affairs (DRA) in Namibia. The workshop focused on Refugee law and RSD procedures to enhance the capacity of DRA staff and ensure fairness, transparency, and efficiency in national RSD procedures.

Protection: Senior Protection Officer undertook a mission to Comoros in December, visiting both Moroni and Anjouan, to critically assess the national response to mixed movements. The mission's primary focus was to identify significant gaps in policy, legal frameworks, and operational capacity, underscoring the urgent need for establishing systematic, humane, and organized responses for new arrivals, free from detention. Engaging extensively with government officials, UN agencies, and other key stakeholders, the mission sought to gain a deeper understanding of the complex challenges within the Western Indian Ocean Route. A core outcome and key recommendation from this engagement is to proactively enhance and support the Government's role in organizing referral pathways and delivering essential humanitarian assistance for mixed movements, acknowledging the current absence of a national asylum system in Comoros. Furthermore, the mission highlighted the necessity of fostering comprehensive regional engagement, including with key partners like France and Tanzania, to effectively address the intricate dynamics of this Western Indian Ocean Route.

Operational Protection (OPU): Participatory assessments covering women, children and the LGBTIQ+ communities in South Africa (Johannesburg and Pretoria) and Eswatini. Support provided to 9 attendees from SAMCO, at the GRF review. Support provided at the first joint session with UN Agencies on advancing refugee inclusion. Hosted a TFGBV awareness workshop as part of the 16 Days commemorations.

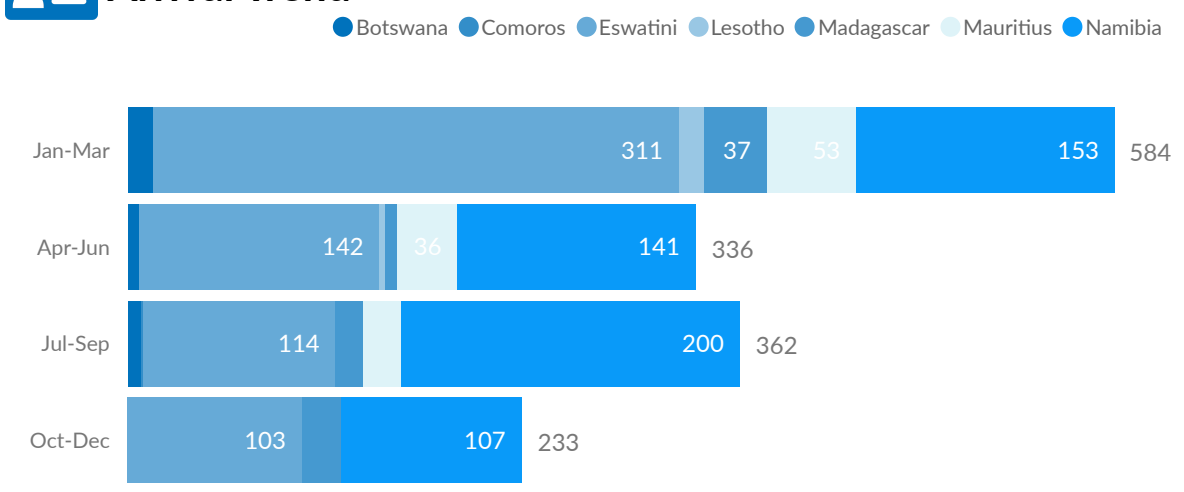
CwC: During December 2025, the main reasons for calling the UNHCR Helpline included Personal Security (124), followed by Social Assistance (115) and Documentation (100). The provinces are Gauteng (172), KwaZulu Natal (148), and Western Cape (63), in that order, with the top callers from COD (358), followed by BDI (76) and then SOM (48). 275 calls were from people requiring services not provided by UNHCR.

Durable Solutions, Resettlement:During the reporting month of December: A total of 7 individuals departed to Canada, from Namibia during the month of December 2025 bringing the total Resettlement departures for 2025 to 326 individuals. 13 individuals were submitted during the reporting month for resettlement consideration towards Canada's allocated quota bringing the total submissions to Canada to 50 individuals, the quota has been successfully filled for 2025.

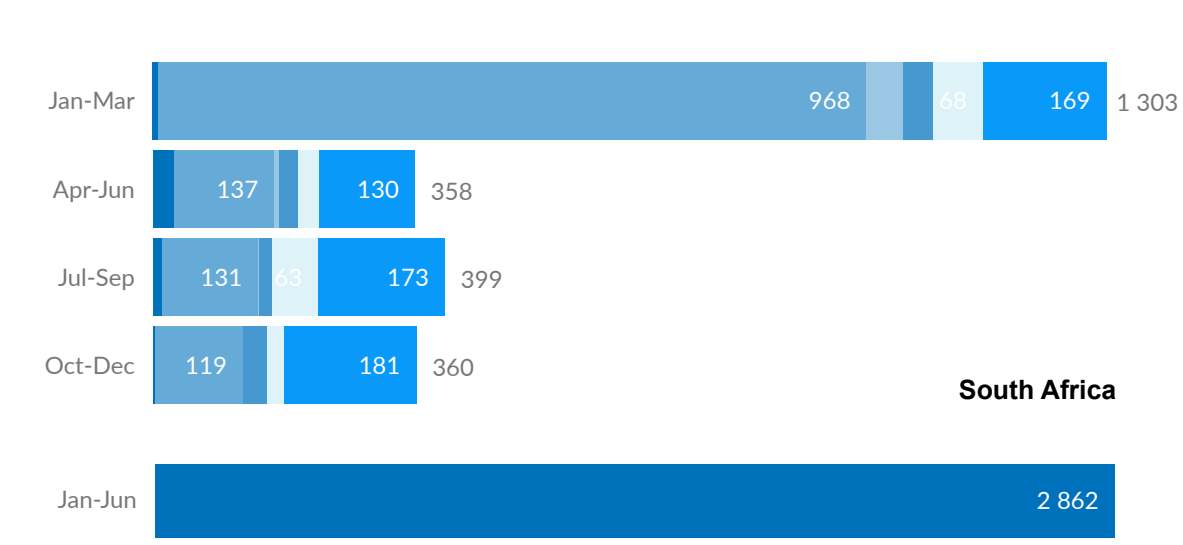
Voluntary repatriation:During the reporting month of December, 156 individuals were successfully assisted in returning to their countries of origin with the following breakdown: 40 individuals to Burundi and 116 individuals to the DRC – of the 116, 16 individuals were repatriated from Namibia. Thus, bringing the total number of returnees to 369 individuals in December 2025.

Complementary pathways: One scholar was accepted by the University of Palermo Italy to commence studies abroad for the 2026 academic year. This scholar is part of the UNICORE 7.0 cohort.

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. one individuals registred in 2025 and resettled*

Creation Date : 31 Dec 2025

Source: - UNHCR Joint Registration Exercise

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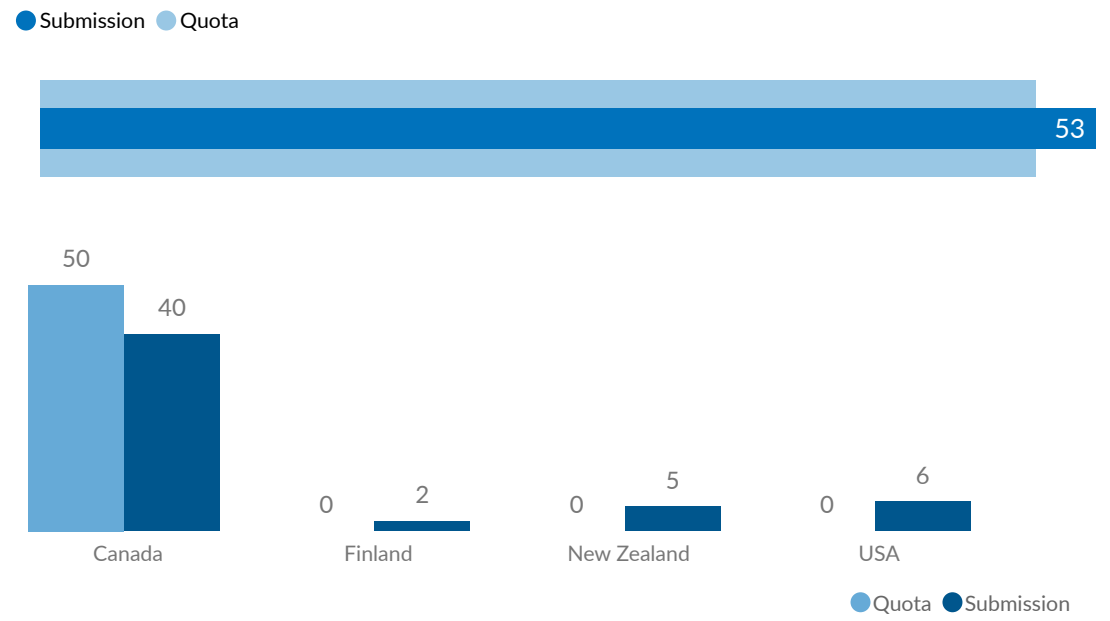
as of 31 Dec 2025

Resettlement

Total Submissions in 2025	Submissions in Dec 2025
53	13
Total Departure in 2025	**Departure in Dec 2025**
326	7

Quota vs Submissions



Voluntary Repatriation

Total Departure in 2025	Total Departure in Dec 2025
369	156

Refugee Status Determination *

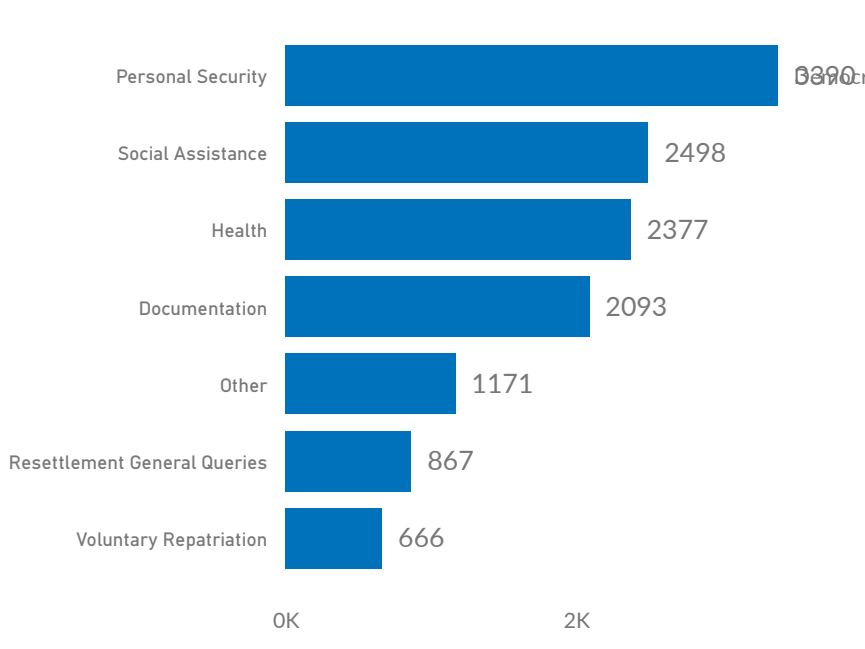
Active RSD Cases	RSD Cases Created in Dec 2025
797	0
First Instance Recognition (YTD)	**Cases Referred to RST**
58%	0

RSD Status

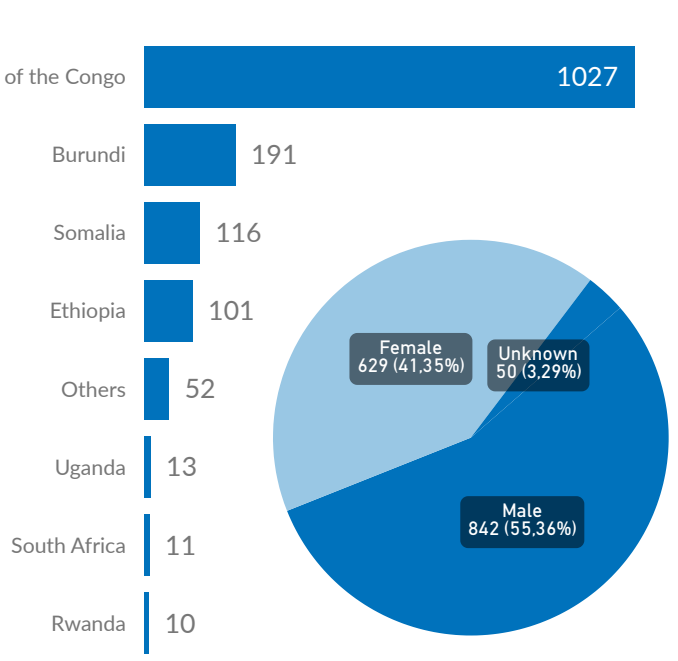
Operational Protection

Helpline Calls Received / Handled	Reception (New Calls)	Referrals	Communications (Return Callers)
1 698 / 745	56	22	544
Child Protection	**Protection Case Conference (PCC)**	**Best Interest Determination (BID)**	**Medical Cases**
0	0	0	0

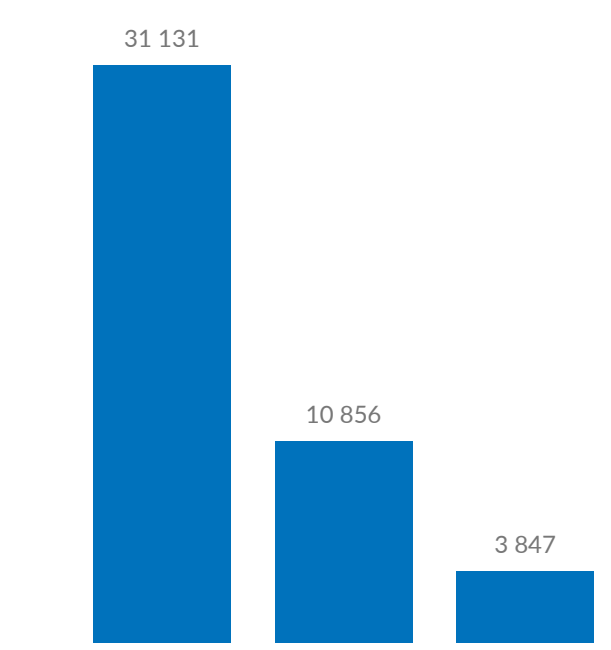
Call received Category (Top 7)



Reception Created by Country of Origin



WhatsApp Channel Followers



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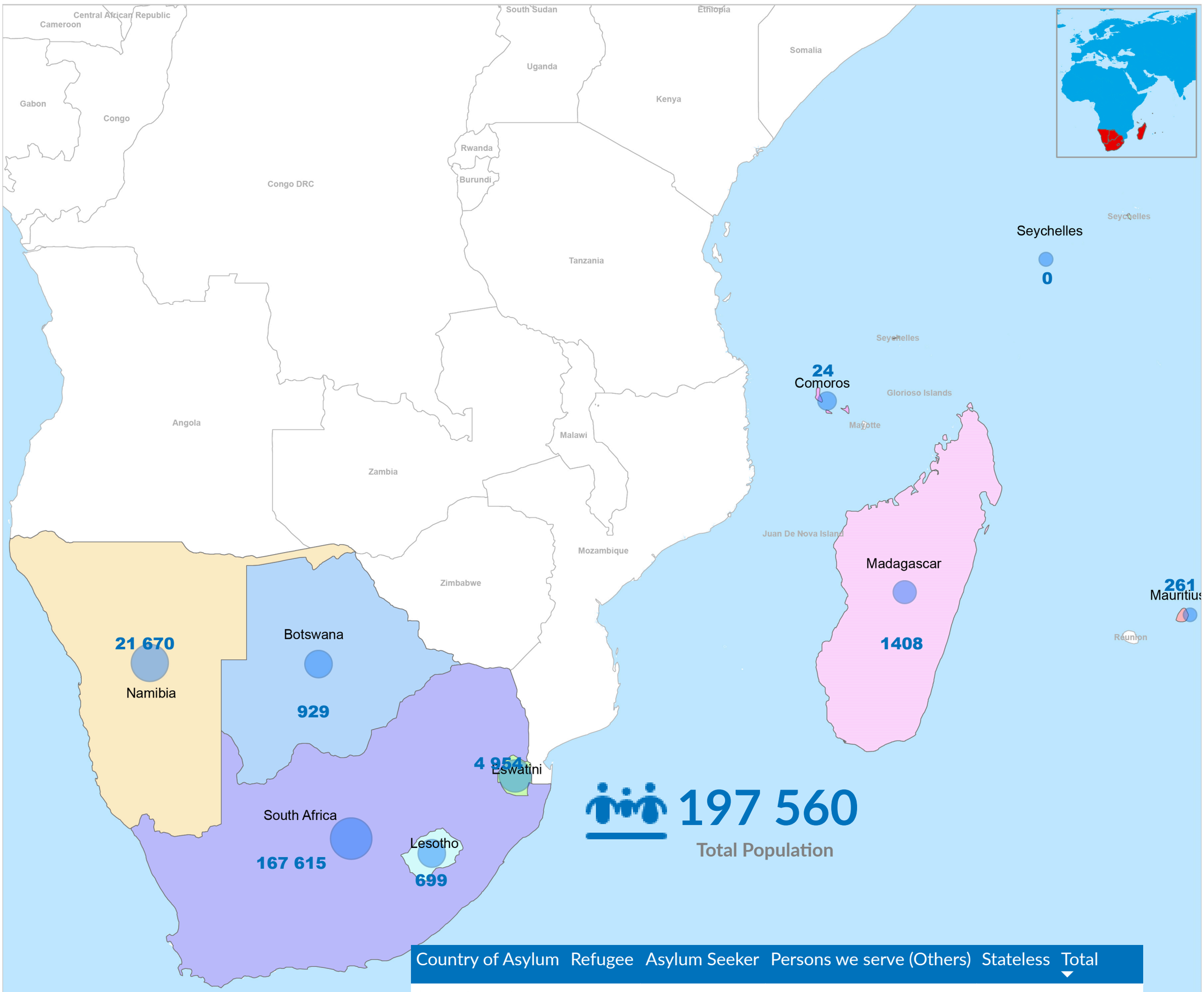
SAMCO South Africa Representation & Multi-Country Office

Monthly Statistical Map Report - UNHCR

as of 31 Dec 2025



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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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SAMCO South Africa Representation & Multi-Country Office

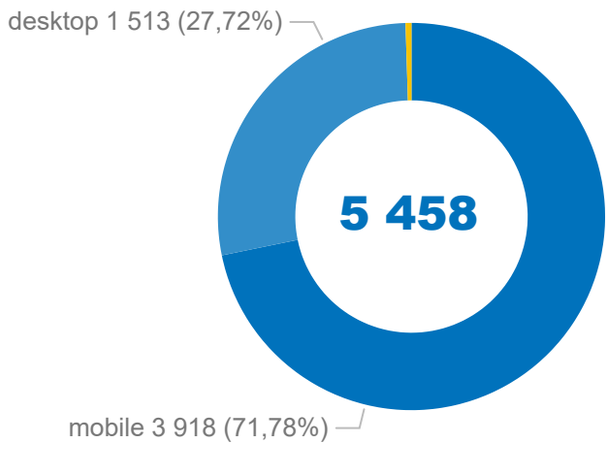
UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

Monthly Help.Unhcr.Org Dashboard

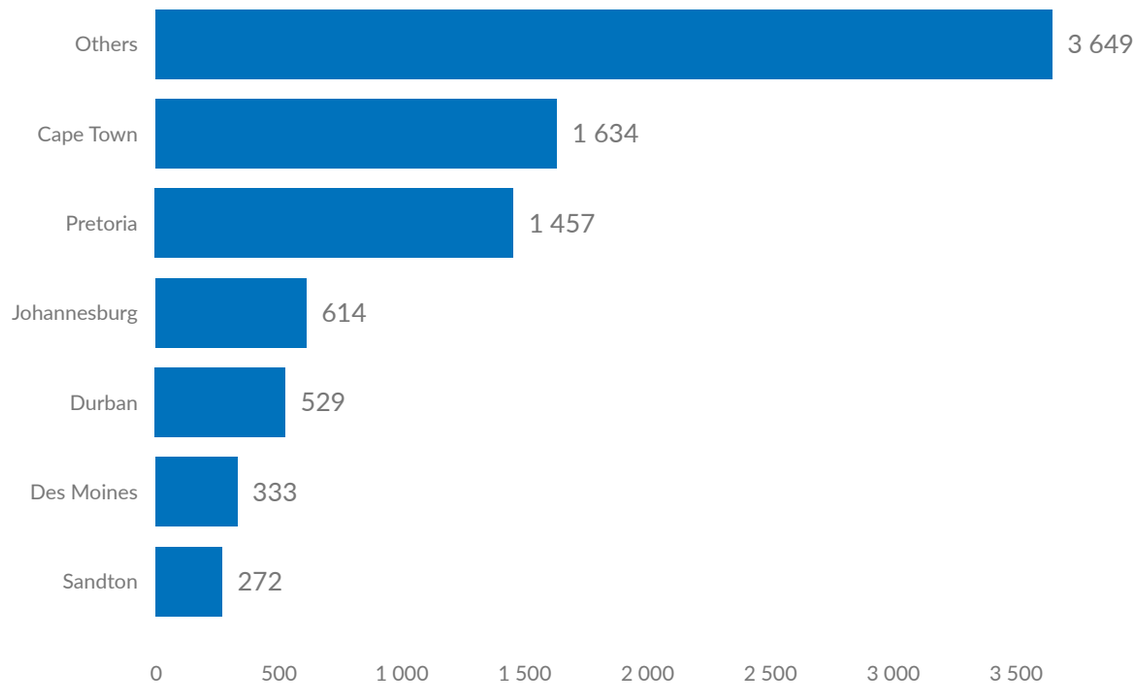
as of 31 Dec 2025

Total Page Views	Total Site Views
9 152	5 458

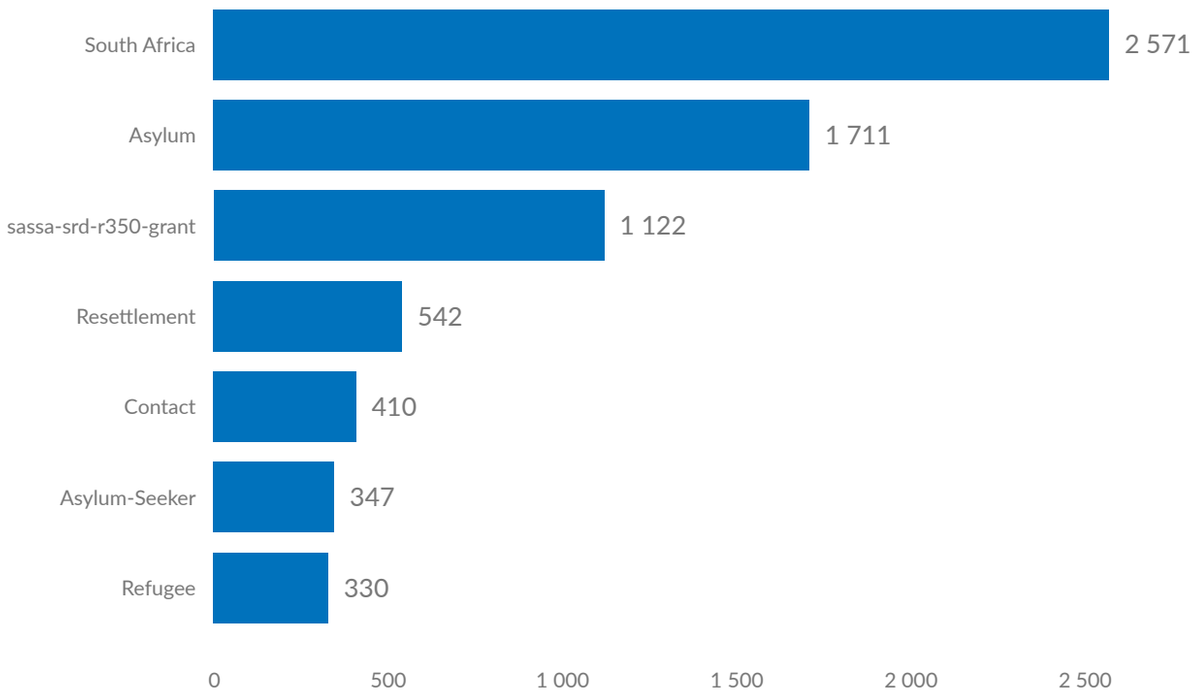
Device Used



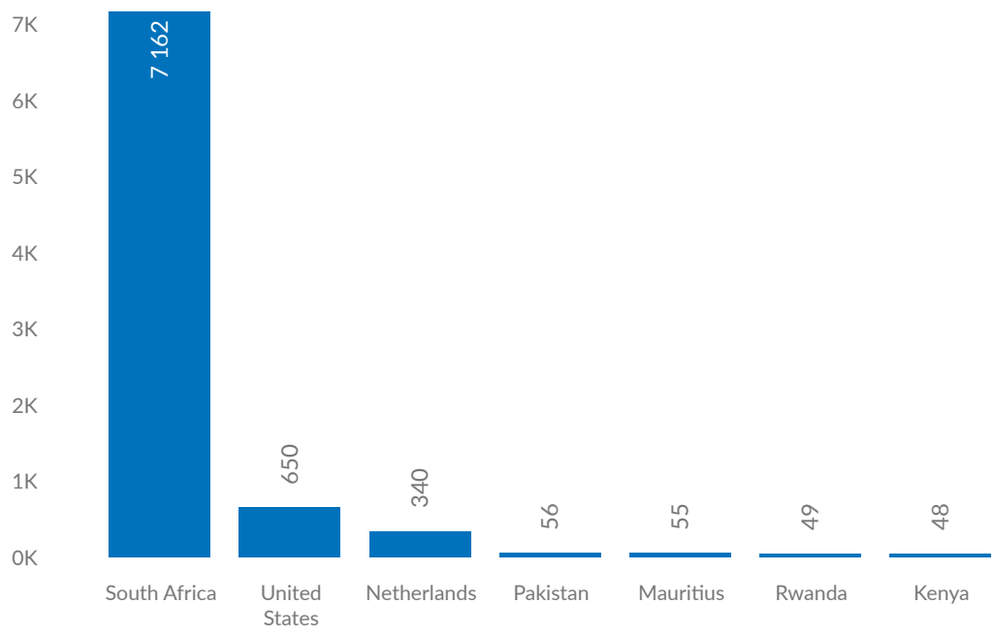
Visited by Cities in South Africa



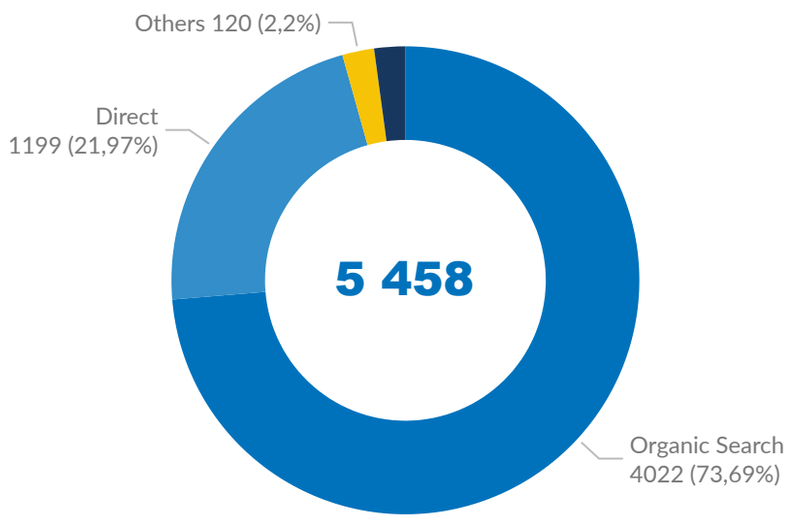
Most Visited Pages (Top 10)



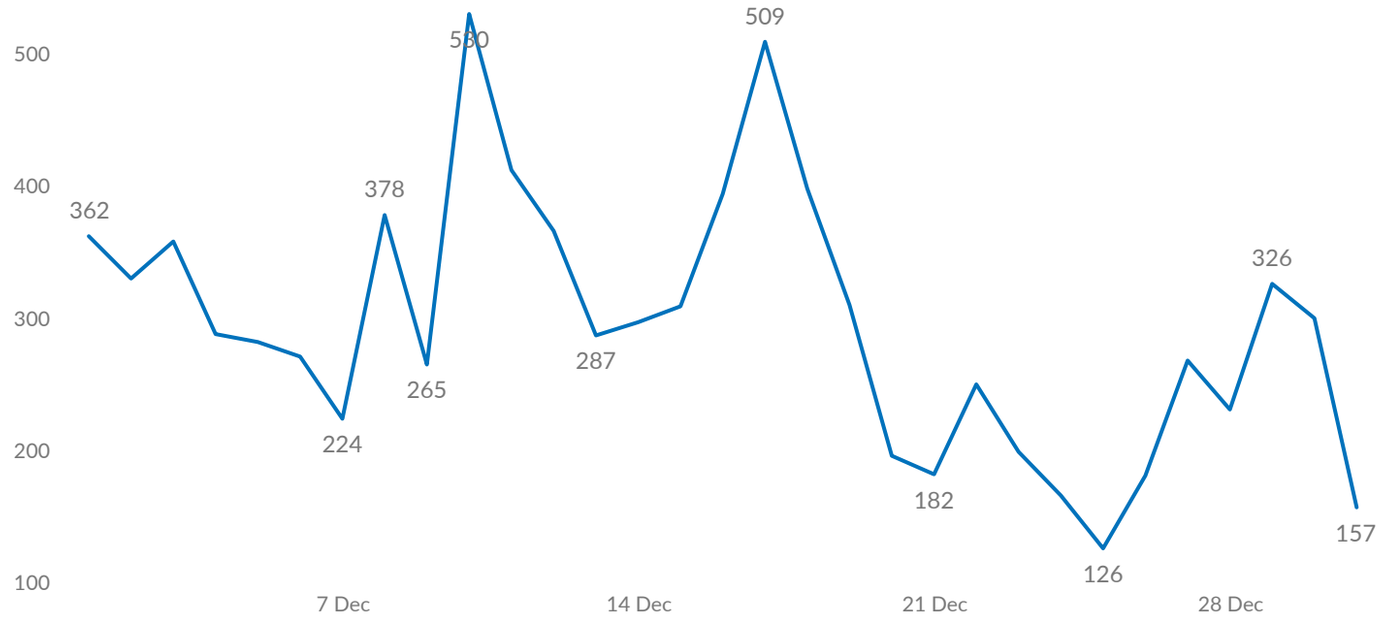
Visited by Countries (Top 7)



Visits to help site by channel



Page Views by date



Month Overview

The Help Site Page for South Africa received 9152 page views during Dec 2025. The most visited sites being Help Asylum Process, SASSA grant and Online Renewal of Permits.

Mailer

3 mailers sent to community leaders