

Bosnia and Herzegovina

2,090 migrants and asylum-seekers arrived irregularly in BiH in July, roughly on par with the number of arrivals recorded during the previous month (2,273) and in July 2021 (2,236). 95,431 arrivals have been recorded since the start of the mixed movement in January 2018.

1,984 persons (95%) arriving in July expressed an intention to seek asylum with the Service for Foreigners' Affairs (SFA). The majority declared to be from Afghanistan (29%), Bangladesh (21%), Pakistan (11%) and Burundi (10%).

5 Refugee Status Determination (RSD) interviews were conducted in July, all of them in UNHCR's Information Centre.

5 decisions* were issued in July: **3** granting subsidiary protection while **2** were negative decisions. **8** asylum applications were otherwise closed (7 cases involving 8 persons suspended).

5 asylum claims were registered with the Sector for Asylum in July (3 cases involving 5 persons), all of them were conducted in UNHCR's Information Centre in Sarajevo.

294 days was the average length of the asylum procedure for first-instance decisions** issued in July.

23 days was the average amount of time persons waited to register*** an asylum claim for those claims registered in July.

1,738 asylum-seekers and migrants were accommodated in reception facilities at the end of July, while 450 persons are estimated to be squatting outside of formal accommodation, mostly in Una-Sana Canton.

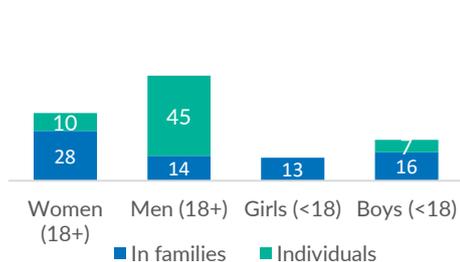
20% of asylum claim registrations scheduled in UNHCR's Info Centre for July were conducted.

KEY INDICATORS AS OF END OF JULY 2022

- 133** registered asylum-seekers pending processing and decision, of which 53% (71 people) involved persons in families
- 29** people awaiting registration of their asylum claim with the assistance of UNHCR/Vaša Prava BiH
- 45** refugees in the country, of which **8** are from outside of the former Yugoslavia
- 79** persons under subsidiary protection in BiH
- 50** identified stateless persons and persons at risk of statelessness are being assisted by UNHCR

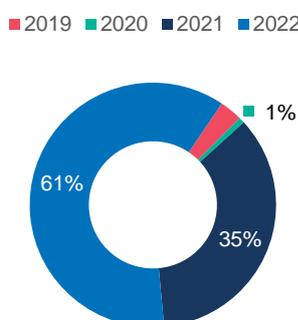
ASYLUM CLAIMS PENDING PROCESSING AND FINAL DECISION AT THE END OF JULY – TOTAL: 133

AGE AND GENDER

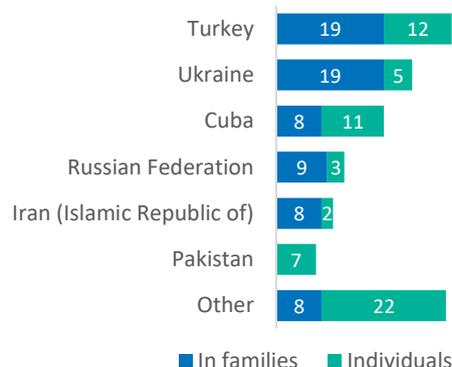


- 7 Unaccompanied or separated children
- 10 Single adult females
- 29 Children in families

PER YEAR OF REGISTRATION

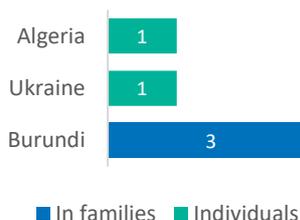


TOP-SIX COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN



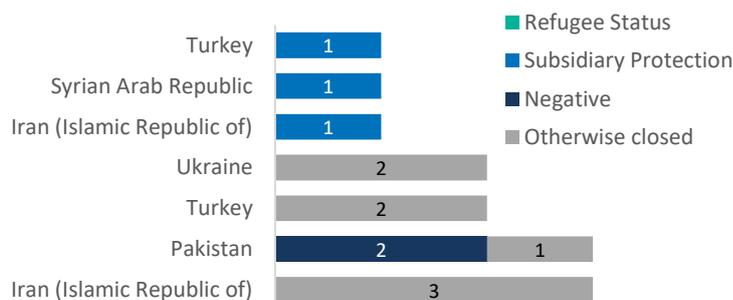
ASYLUM-CLAIM REGISTRATIONS AND DECISIONS IN JULY 2022

REGISTRATIONS PER COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

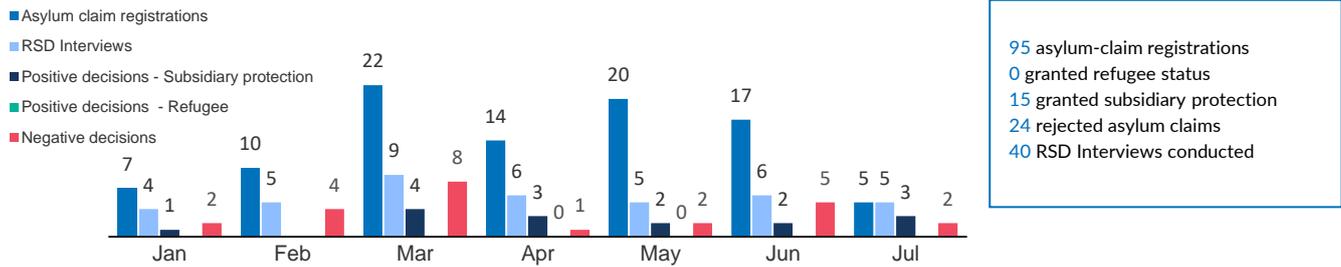


- 1 Unaccompanied or separated children (UASC)
- 0 Single adult females
- 1 Child in families

DECISIONS* PER COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (ALL INSTANCES)



* Decisions are not necessarily final and binding

REGISTRATIONS AND PROCESSING IN 2022

PROTECTION MONITORING EXERCISE

In July 2022, UNHCR conducted a systematic protection monitoring exercise through 200 interviews with migrants and asylum seekers in TRCs Borići, Ušivak and Blažuj. The exercise is part of the Regional Protection Monitoring System (RPMS) that focuses on balanced collection of both quantitative and qualitative protection information. The collected information will be analyzed taking into consideration demographic profile of the population on the move, including age, gender and diversity aspects as well as specific needs. It will also look into prevalence of protection incidents, including cross border dynamics, particularly regarding access to asylum and territory as well as patterns, drivers and routes of onward movements. The results of the analysis will be used to inform and support UNHCR's protection actions, planning and advocacy with the authorities.

Most interviewees were from Afghanistan, Cuba and Bangladesh, and a majority of them has left their countries of origin more than six months ago. Also a majority of interviewees indicated that the main reason for leaving their countries was threats to their lives. The second most invoked reason is limited access to employment, while the third is the generalized violence and insecurity. It can be noted that 59% of respondents said they had no information about asylum in BiH.

BURUNDI IN FOCUS

In July, 190 persons from Burundi irregularly arrived in the country, comparing to June when there were 374 arrivals, 141 in May and 17 in April. It is a significant increase in comparison with 2021 when just one arrival from Burundi was recorded. All persons from Burundi that arrived in BiH so far have expressed intention to seek asylum in BiH. In July, three persons from Burundi registered asylum claims in BiH, which were the first registrations for Burundi nationals. The protection rate of Burundian asylum seekers in the European Union reached 65% in 2021, including both refugee status and subsidiary protection (source EUAA). The number of applicants from Burundi in the EU started to increase in 2015, with an average of 900 applications per year since then, mostly in Belgium and France (source Eurostat).

In 2015 was the start of political tensions in Burundi, after an electoral crisis led to important demonstrations. The UN Commission of Inquiry on Burundi declared it "has reasonable grounds to believe that crimes against humanity have been committed and continue to be committed in Burundi since April 2015", in a context of serious human rights violations, including extrajudicial executions, arbitrary arrests and detention, torture, sexual violence, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and enforced disappearances (source OHCHR).

AVERAGE PROCESSING TIME 2018-2022, as of 31 July**


Average processing time (days) from registration of asylum-claim to first-instance decision made at case level (not individual). The data only includes decisions made at first instance and does not factor in appealed decisions. *Waiting time for registrations is calculated as the number of days between AISA issuance and the date when asylum claim was registered, at case level, excluding registrations conducted in Immigration Centre or prison.

75 days
 Average waiting time to register an asylum claim*** for those claims which were registered in 2022, as of 31 July

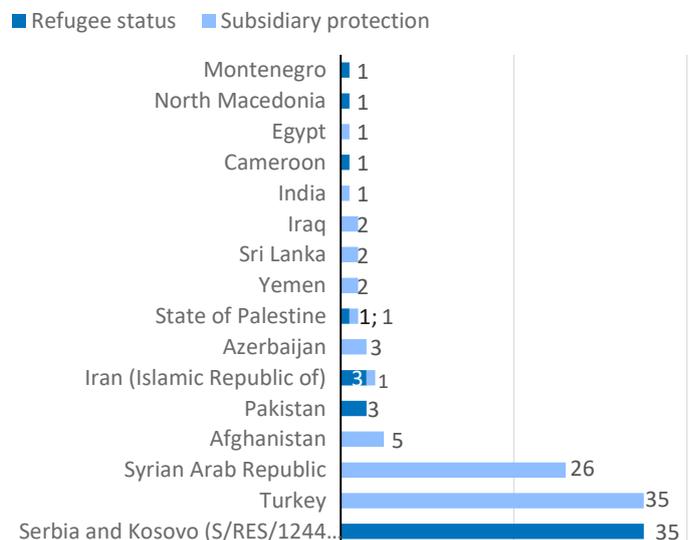
305 days
 Average time (days) from registration of asylum claim to RSD interview for RSD interviews held in 2022, as of 31 July

322 days
 Average processing time** for first instance decisions issued in 2022, as of 31 July

ASYLUM PROCESSING ACTIVITIES DURING 2018-2022

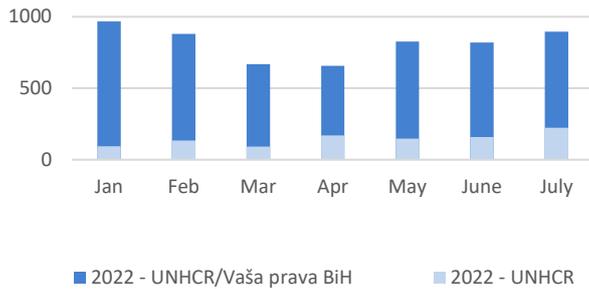
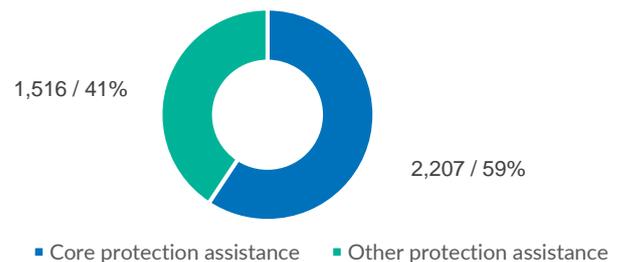
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Applications	1,572	785	245	167	95
Refugee ^x status granted	0	3	1	5	0
Subsidiary protection ^x status granted	16	41	31	28	15
Rejected applications ^x	45	35	54	49	24
Otherwise closed [*]	741	1,059	546	184	96

^{*}Decisions are not necessarily final and binding

PERSONS UNDER INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION IN BIH: Country of origin


ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY UNHCR IN JULY

- 672 legal aid and information assistances provided by UNHCR and Vaša Prava BiH.
- 263 other protection assistances provided by UNHCR/BHWI to asylum-seekers (informal education, occupational/recreational activities).
- 369 core protection assistances provided by UNHCR/BHWI to asylum-seekers (psychosocial assistance, protection assistance for UASC, GBV activities).
- 224 protection and information on access to asylum in BiH assistances provided by UNHCR senior protection liaison assistants.

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY UNHCR - 2022
PROVISION OF LEGAL INFORMATION AND AID

PROTECTION ASSISTANCE TO ASYLUM-SEEKERS IN 2022 - UNHCR/BHWI


UNHCR BiH continually supports the joint UN social media campaign #NoToHate, which is part of wider efforts to counter hate speech in digital space.



UNHCR BiH partnered with Sarajevo Film Festival (SFF) with a panel discussion for filmmakers on "presentation of people forced to flee in contemporary cinema" planned for 16 August

OTHER NEWS IN JULY

- On 4 July, through its Facebook page, UNHCR BiH expressed gratitude to the US Government and the American people for support of half a million dollars in 2022 in response to UNHCR's 2022 Global Appeal. The same post was used to congratulate 4 July Independence Day. [More](#).
- Vouchers assistance for Ukrainian refugees in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the period from August to December 2022 will be realized in cooperation between UNHCR, Catholic Relief Services and the Društvo Crvenog krsta/križa BiH/Red Cross Society of B&H. Defining the Cooperation Protocol and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the implementation of vouchers assistance were ongoing throughout July. [More](#).

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 UNHCR Representation in Bosnia and Herzegovina is grateful for the support of [Austria](#) | [European Union](#)