Summary of Key Trends observed

- In May 2021, 2,103 persons in mixed movements arrived in the region, which is 19% lower than in the previous month (2,610). The total cumulative number (10,423) of new arrivals in 2021 is lower to the trends observed in 2020 (15,398) and 2019 (15,431) for the same period.

- Furthermore, 76 asylum applications were filed in May compared to 130 in April representing decrease of 41.5%. Since January 2021, only 6% of the 7,230 persons who expressed intentions to seek asylum have lodged asylum claims.

- In May, two positives first-instance decisions were taken (zero refugee status and two complementary form of protection). Since the beginning of the year, 63 applications were rejected, and 1,512 asylum applications were closed after the applicants absconded the asylum procedure.

- In May the authorities in the Western Balkans region conducted 26 interviews out of which 58% were conducted in Serbia. The number of interviews conducted in May 2021 is higher than in May 2020 (9 interviews).

- At the end of May 2021, 593 decisions were still pending which is half compared to the situation in 2020.

- In 2021, 22% (91) of all applications have been submitted by women and 26% (108) by children, including 23 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC).
RBE - Western Balkans - Asylum Statistics - Monthly Analysis
As of 31 May 2021

Monthly New Applications

Monthly New Asylum Applications by Country of Asylum

- Kosovo*: 29
- Serbia: 19
- Montenegro: 16
- Albania: 4
- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 4
- North Macedonia: 4

Monthly New Intentions to Seek Asylum by Reporting Country

- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 1815
- Montenegro: 380
- Serbia: 112

Monthly First Instance Decisions

Monthly Decisions by Type of Decision

- Otherwise closed: 111
- Rejected: 8
- Subsidiary Protection: 2

Monthly Type of Decisions by Nationality

- Type of decision: N/A, Rejected, Subsidiary Protection

Monthly New Asylum Applications by Country of Origin (Top 10)

- Algeria: 9
- Morocco: 8
- Pakistan: 8
- Burundi: 7
- Syria: 7
- Turkey: 7
- Bangladesh: 6
- Congo, Republic of: 4
- Iraq: 4
- Iran: 3
- Libya: 3

Monthly Interviews by Country of Asylum

- Serbia: 15
- Montenegro: 3
- North Macedonia: 3
- Kosovo*: 2
- Albania: 0

Monthly Decisions by Country of Asylum and Type of Decision

- Type of decision: N/A, Rejected, Subsidiary Protection

Monthly Otherwise Closed Applications by Nationality (Top 10)

- Iraq: 14
- Morocco: 14
- Afghanistan: 13
- Iran: 10
- Cameroon: 8
- Pakistan: 8
- Syria: 8
- Algeria: 6
- Libya: 6
- Palestine: 6

Average Length of Procedure (days) by Country

- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 452

Total Pending Asylum Applications by Country of Asylum

- Bosnia and Herzegovina: 200
- Montenegro: 167
- Serbia: 100
- Kosovo*: 91
- North Macedonia: 35
- Albania: 0

Kosovo*: Designations of Kosovo* are without prejudice to positions on status, and are in line with the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).

Data source: SEE Regional Asylum Statistics and UNHCR data available at https://popstats.unhcr.org. For further information or any questions concerning this factsheet please contact: Gabriel MATHIEU, mathieu@unhcr.org

In most cases, data for this factsheet is provided by country level governmental institutions. Retroactive changes in data may occur.

*disaggregated figures by age/gender are not always available

Key figures*

- 76 New Applications
- 2 Women
- 4 Children including: Unaccompanied or separated child(ren)
- 593 Pending opened asylum applications

Albania has not provided any pending cases information for August