

2015 ASYLUM STATISTICS: ANALYSIS AND TRENDS FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY TO DECEMBER

**PRESENTATION TO THE PORTFOLIO
COMMITTEE OF HOME AFFAIRS**

1. Purpose

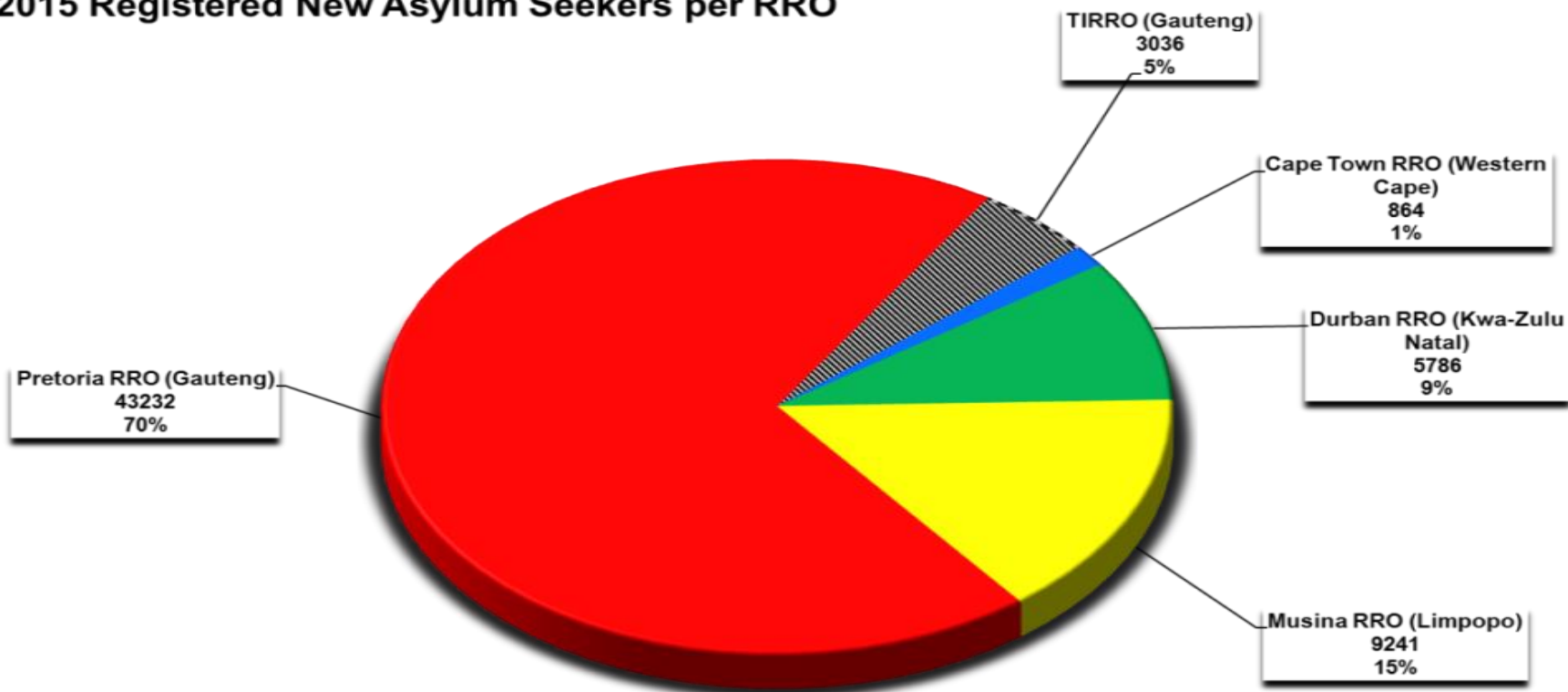
- To provide the Portfolio Committee with an overview of the **2015 Asylum Trends** (calendar year)
- To consider trends analysis in terms of refugee status determination (Adjudication at Refugee Reception Offices) which ultimately should lead to:
 - Refugee Status Determination in terms of:
 - ↳ *Unfounded cases for appeal (**Refugee Appeal Board**)*
 - ↳ *Manifestly Unfounded cases for review and refugee status withdrawal (**Standing Committee for Refugee Affairs**)*
 - Consider the performance of the statutory bodies (RAB and SCRA)
 - Local integration through the issuance of Refugee Identity Document and Refugee Travel Documents
 - Exit from the asylum regime of finally failed asylum seekers in terms of:
 - ↳ *Referral to Inspectorate for deportation*



2015 Calendar Year Registered New Arrivals

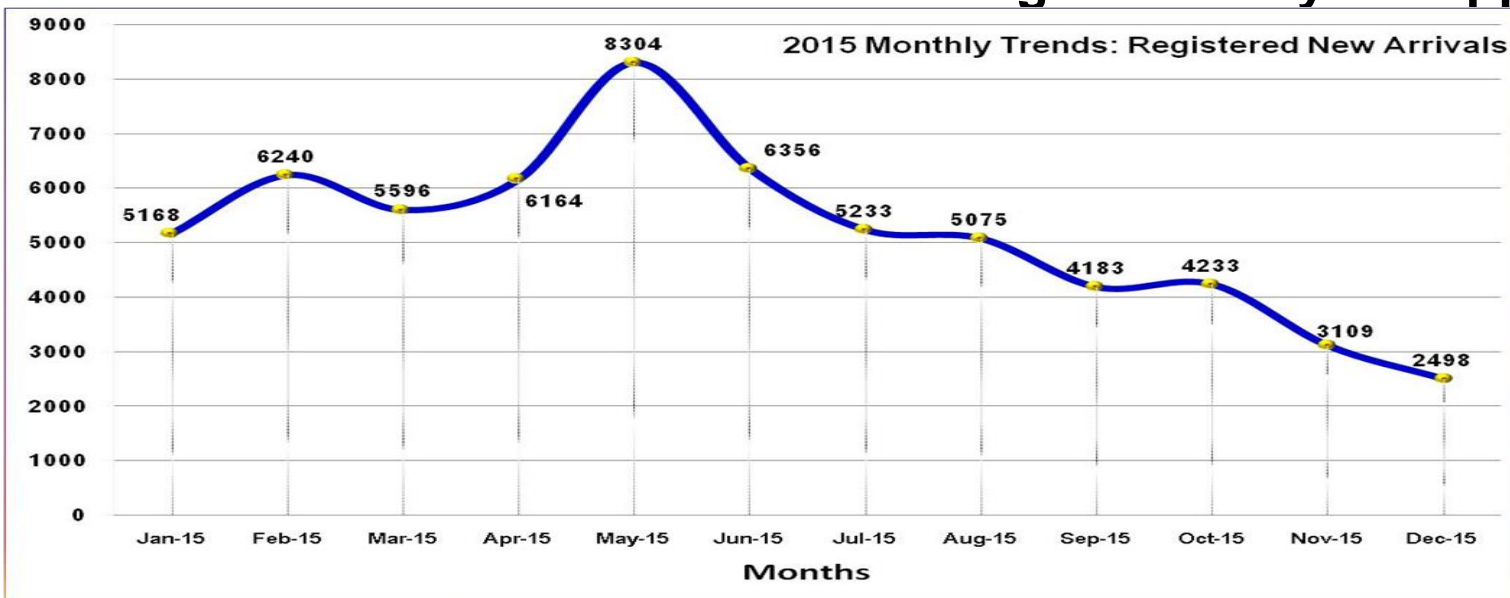
2. REGISTERED ASYLUM SEEKERS: JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2015

2015 Registered New Asylum Seekers per RRO

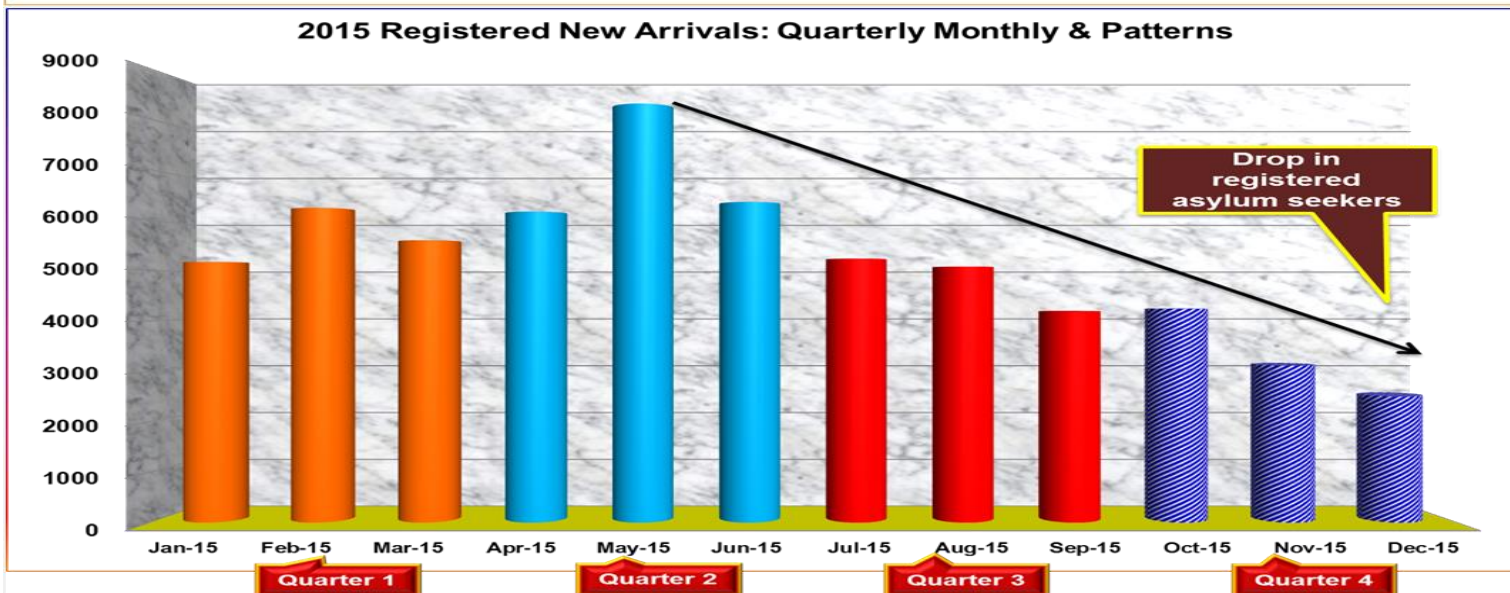


- This could explain why the Gauteng province (which not only is the hub of the South African economy but also includes the **Pretoria Refugee Reception Office** (also known as Marabastad and TIRRO) remains the nucleus of asylum. **Pretoria RRO** accounted for 70% of registered asylum seekers. **TIRRO** accounted for 5%. **Musina RRO** accounted for 15%. **Durban RRO** accounted for 9%. **Cape Town RRO** accounted for 1%

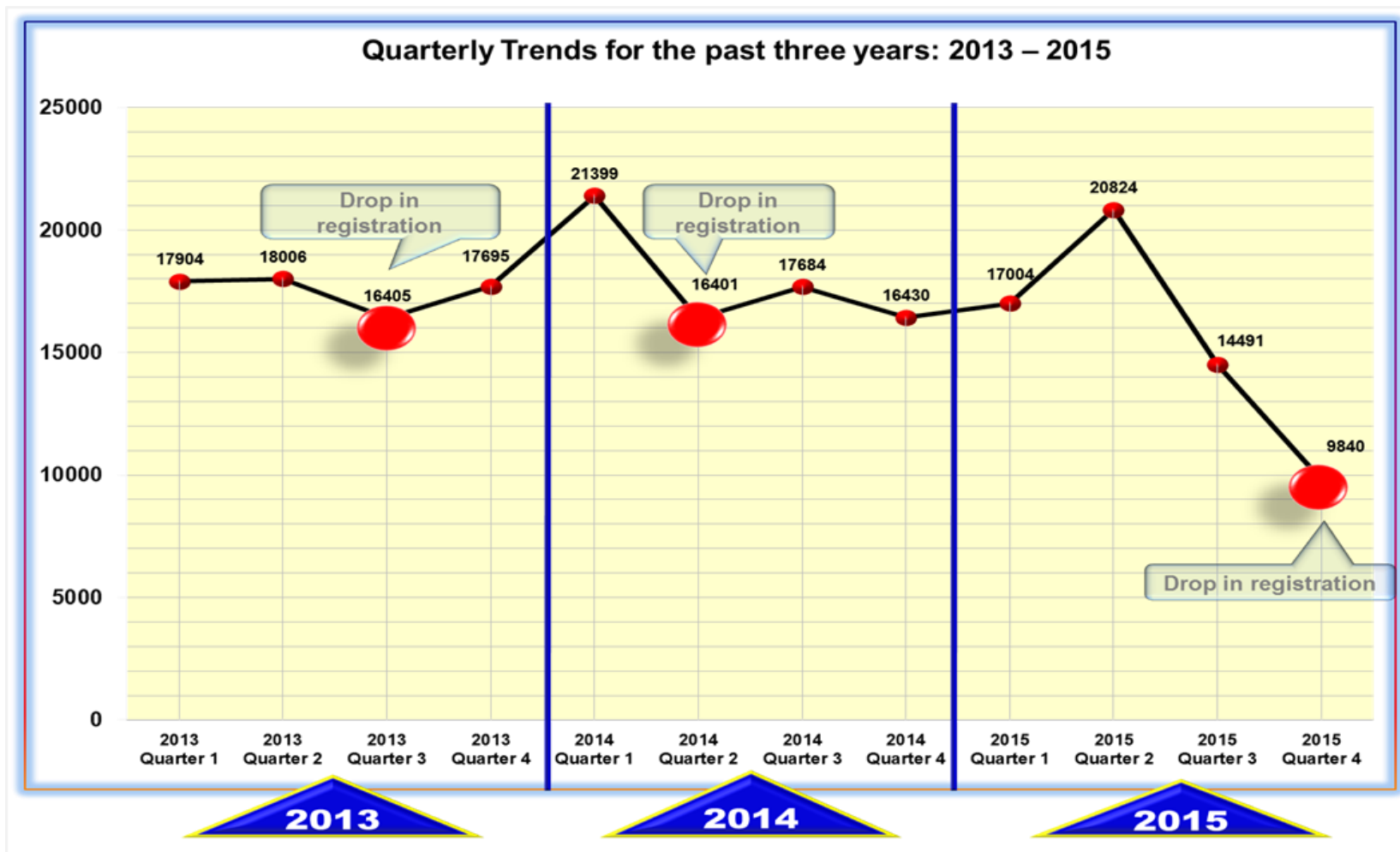
3. New Arrivals Trends: Decline in number of registered asylum applicants



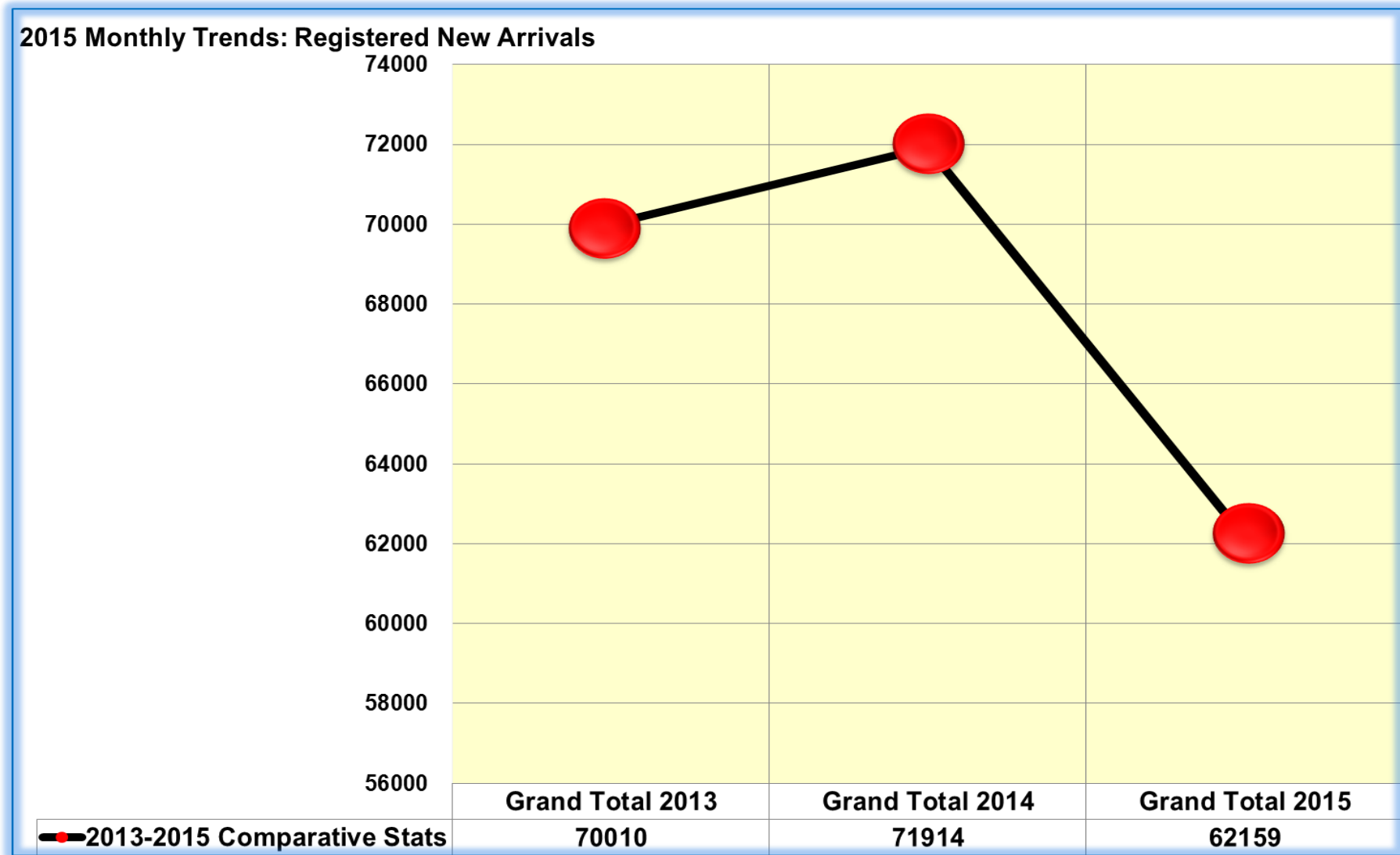
Monthly fluctuating trends in registered asylum applicants point to a decline in the registration of new asylum seekers.



4. Past Three Years Cumulative Quarterly Trends New Arrivals: 2013 – 2015 paint a picture of decline in registration of new asylum seekers.



5. Past Three Years Cumulative Quarterly Trends New Arrivals: 2013 – 2015 paint a picture of decline in registration of new asylum seekers Cont.

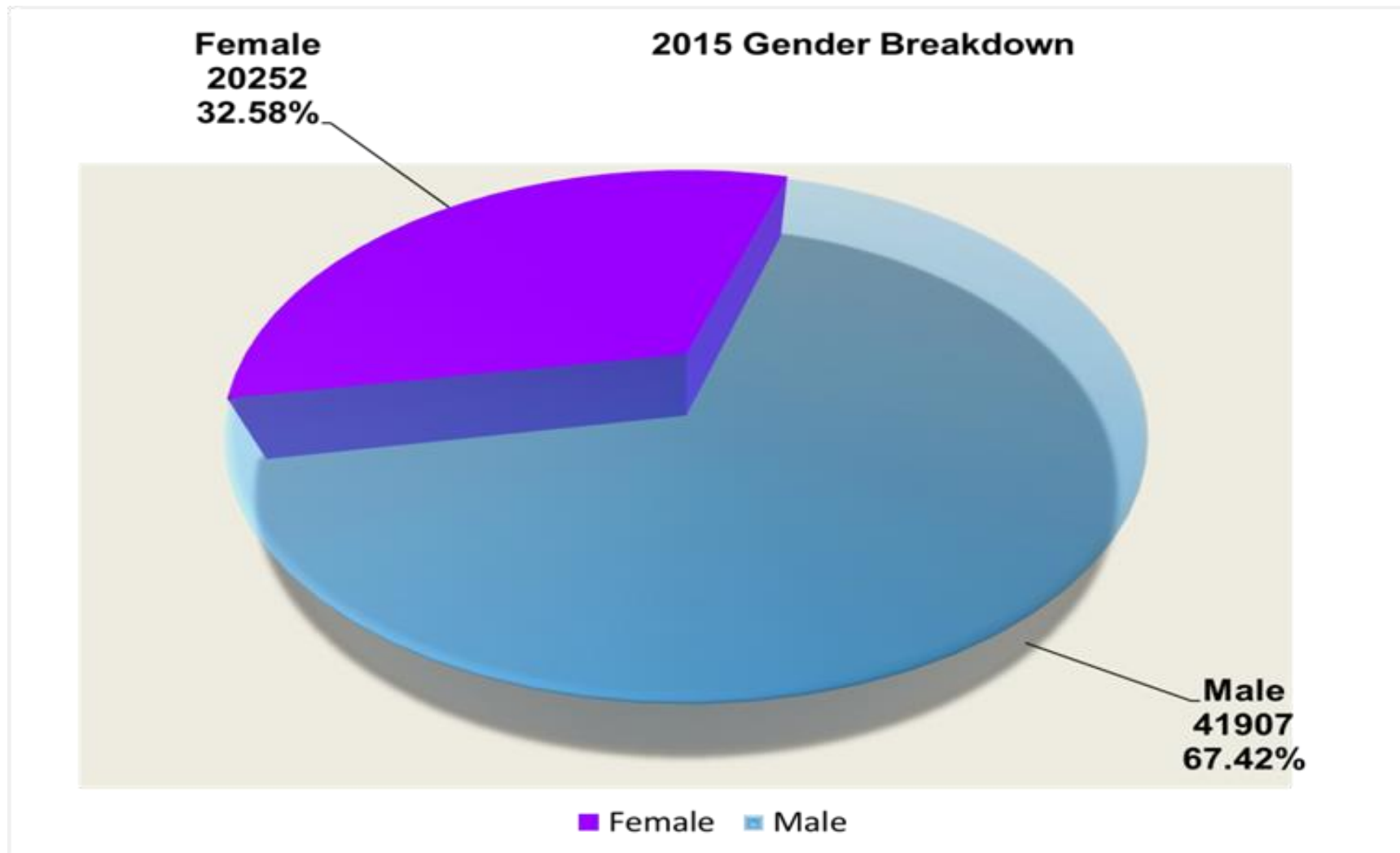


6. Registered Asylum Seekers for the past ten (10) years

Cumulative Registered Asylum Seekers by Year: 2006 - 2015



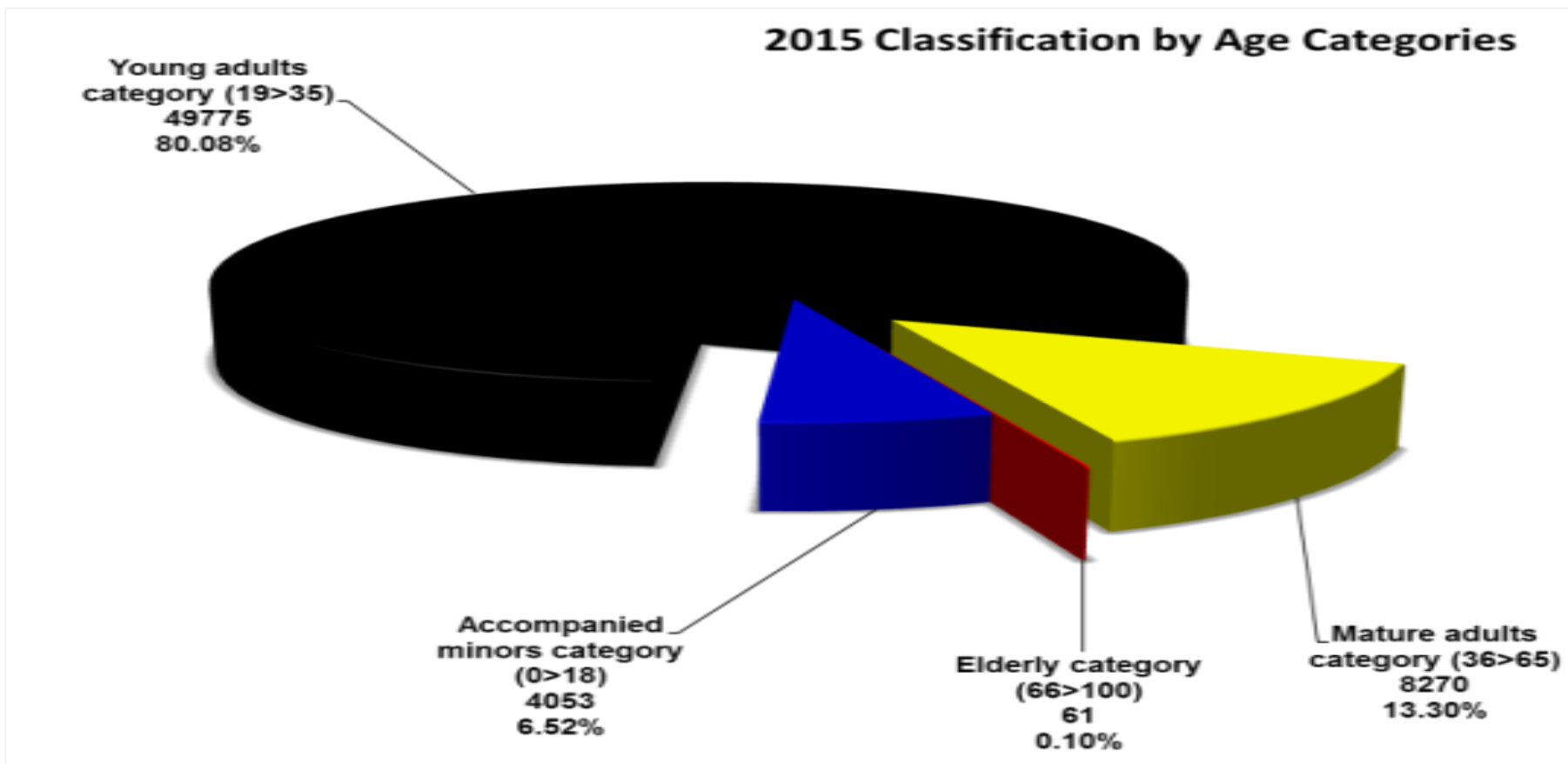
7. Gender Breakdown shows that the asylum regime in South Africa is male dominated



8. 2015 Top Ten Countries by Gender Breakdown

2016 Top Ten Countries by Gender Breakdown				
	Female		Male	
1	Zimbabwe	9 751	Ethiopia	8 124
2	DRC	2 821	Zimbabwe	8 034
3	Nigeria	1 233	Nigeria	5 321
4	Ethiopia	1 198	DRC	3 534
5	Ghana	799	Bangladesh	3 290
6	Malawi	712	Pakistan	2 448
7	Somalia	497	India	1 728
8	India	336	Malawi	1 660
9	Burundi	345	Somalia	1 582
10	Mozambique	332	Ghana	979





















9. Age Group Classification






- The age analysis once again confirms a strong inflow of ‘young asylum population’ as more young people keep on seeking asylum in South Africa
- Indications are that the ‘young adults’ category’ is a mixed basket of various skills which include **highly-skilled, semi-skilled** and **low-skilled migrants** who knowingly or unwittingly find their way into the asylum regime.

10. Top Ten Countries

2015 Top 10 Asylum Seekers Sending Countries

Country of Origin	Region	2015 Top 10	Position Movement Indicator	General Observation vis-à-vis 2015 Quarter 3	2014 Top 10	2015 Top 10 general observation vis-à-vis 2014 Top 10
1 Zimbabwe	 SADC	17,785		<i>Still the top asylum seeker sending country</i>	20,405	<i>Registered number decreased in 2015</i>
2 Ethiopia	 Eastern Africa	9,322		<i>Maintained position 2</i>	10,176	<i>Registered number decreased in 2015</i>
3 Nigeria	 West Africa	6,554		<i>Maintained position 3</i>	7,431	<i>Registered number decreased in 2015</i>
4 DRC	 SADC	6,355		<i>Maintained position 4</i>	8,029	<i>Registered number decreased in 2015</i>
5 Bangladesh	 South Central Asia	3,331		<i>Moved up from position 7</i>	5,110	<i>Registered number decreased in 2015</i>
6 Pakistan	 South Central Asia	2,596		<i>Maintained position 6</i>	2,460	<i>Registered number increased in 2015</i>
7 Malawi	 SADC	2,372		<i>Moved down from position 5</i>	2,310	<i>Registered number increased in 2015</i>
8 Somalia	 Eastern Africa	2,079		<i>Maintained position 8</i>	2,595	<i>Registered number decreased in 2015</i>
9 India	 South Central Asia	2,064		<i>Maintained position 9</i>	1,781	<i>Registered number increased in 2015</i>
10 Ghana	 West Africa	1,778		<i>Maintained position 10</i>	2,271	<i>Registered number decreased in 2015</i>

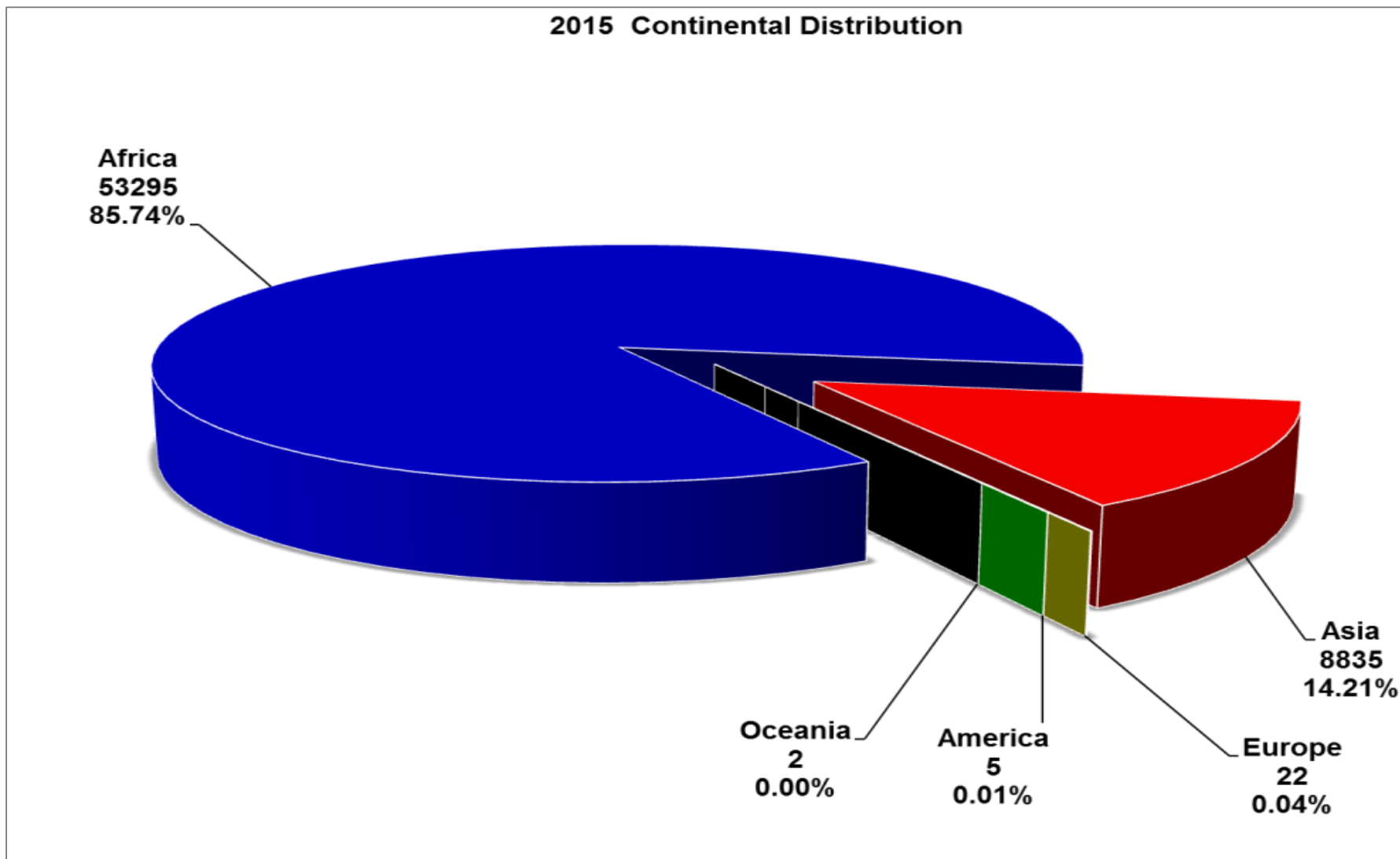
Total Top 10		54,236	Out of 62 159 New Applications Registered			
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Notes		Stagnant position as in 2015 Quarter 3
		Moved Up the standing in comparison with 2015 Quarter 3
		Moved Down the standing in comparison with 2015 Quarter 3

11. Top 15 Countries

TOP FIFTEEN SENDING AFRICAN COUNTRIES			
NO.	COUNTRY	REGION	FIGURE
1	Zimbabwe	SADC	17 785
2	Ethiopia	East Africa	9 322
3	Nigeria	West Africa	6 554
4	DRC	SADC	6 355
5	Malawi	SADC	2 372
6	Somalia	East Africa	2 079
7	Ghana	West Africa	1 778
8	Burundi	East Africa	1 151
9	Mozambique	SADC	954
10	Uganda	East Africa	947
11	Congo Braz	Central Africa	560
12	Cameroon	Central Africa	553
13	Tanzania	SADC	518
14	Lesotho	SADC	510
15	Senegal	West Africa	245
TOTAL			51 683

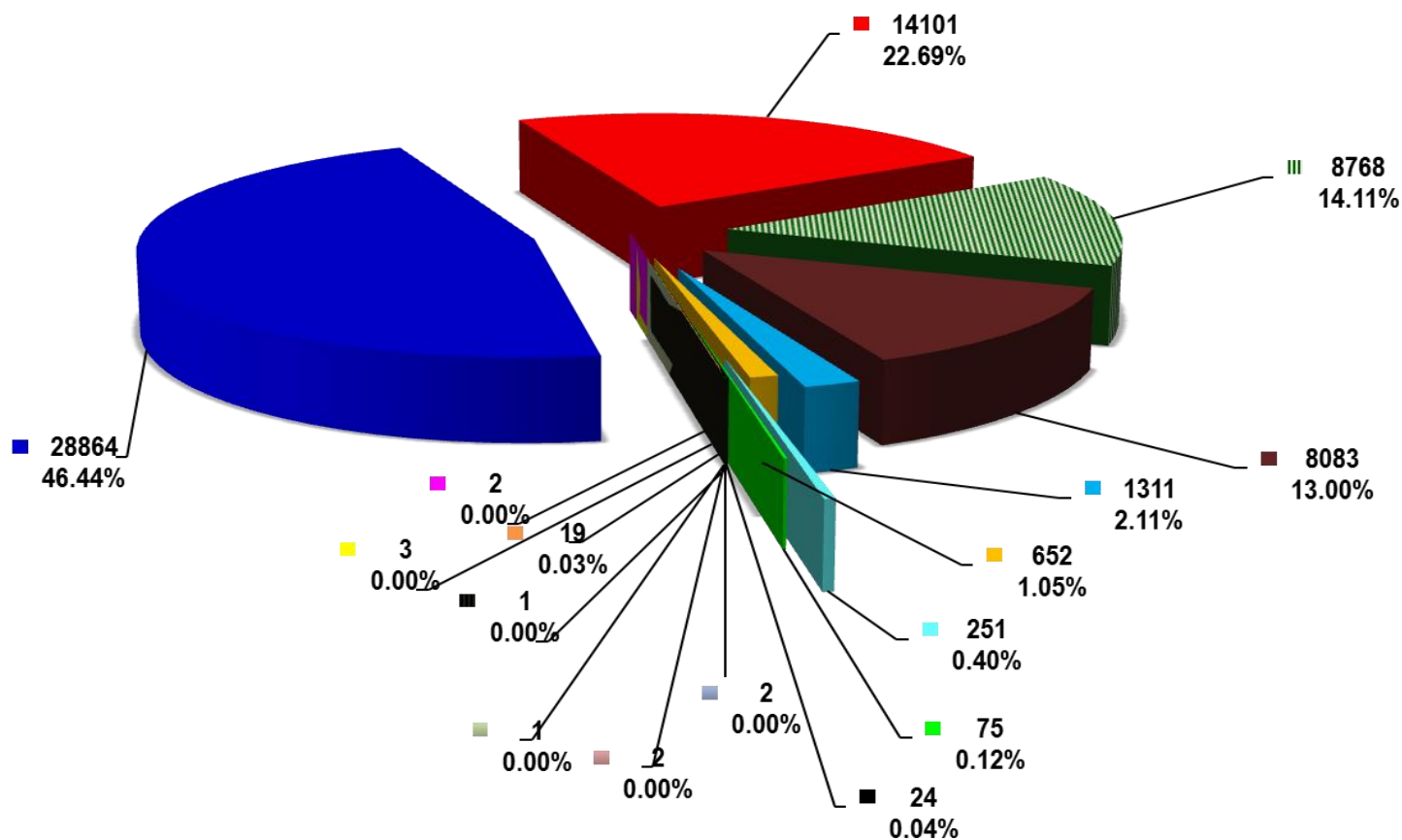
12. Whole of Africa vs Rest of the World



13. Regional Classification

2015 Regional Classification

- SADC
- Eastern Africa
- ▨ West Africa
- South Central Asia
- Central Africa
- Eastern Asia
- Northern Africa
- Middle East
- South East Asia
- Eastern Europe
- Carribean
- Western Europe



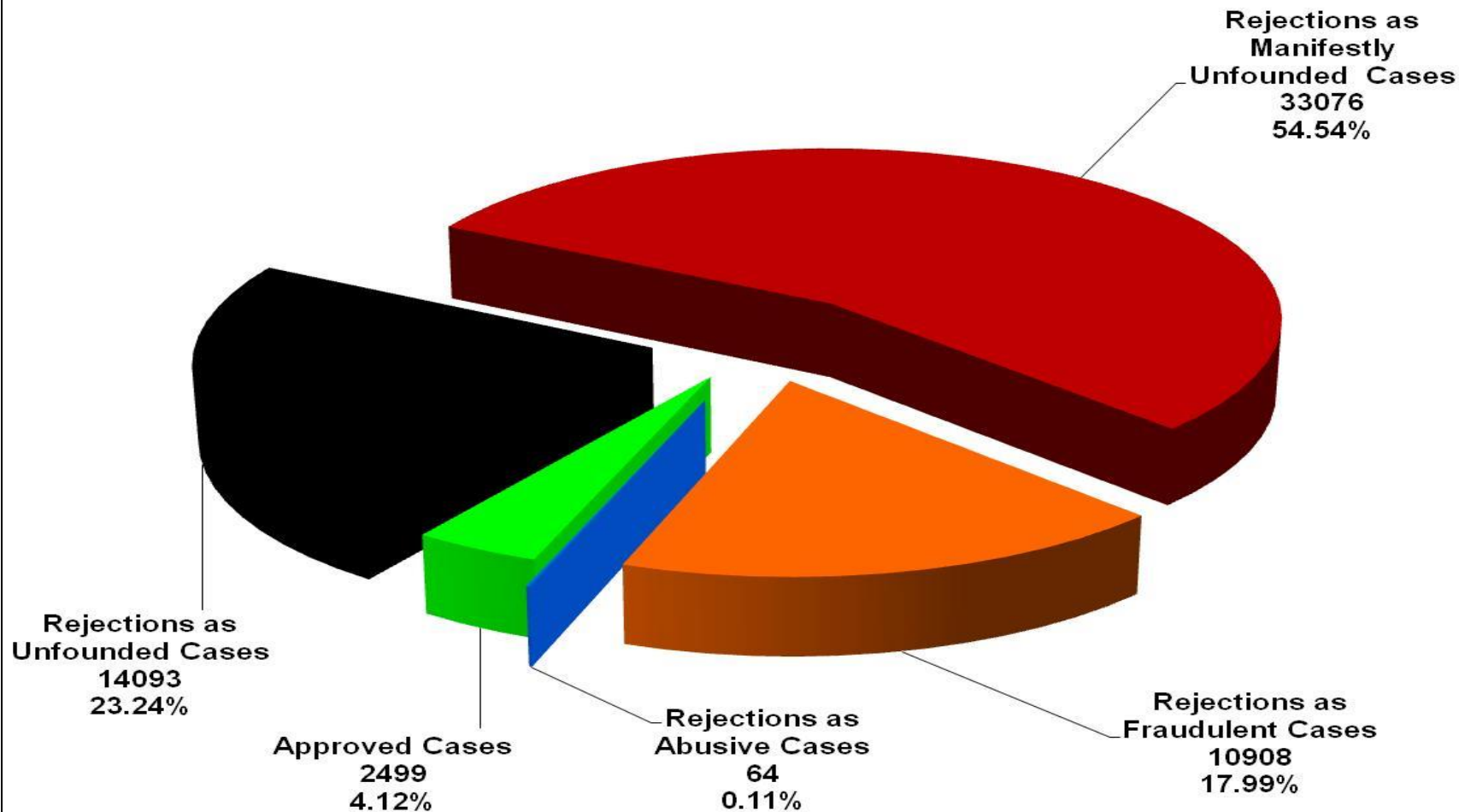
2015 Refugee Status Determination

14. 2015 Refugee Status Determination (RSD) Overview: January – December

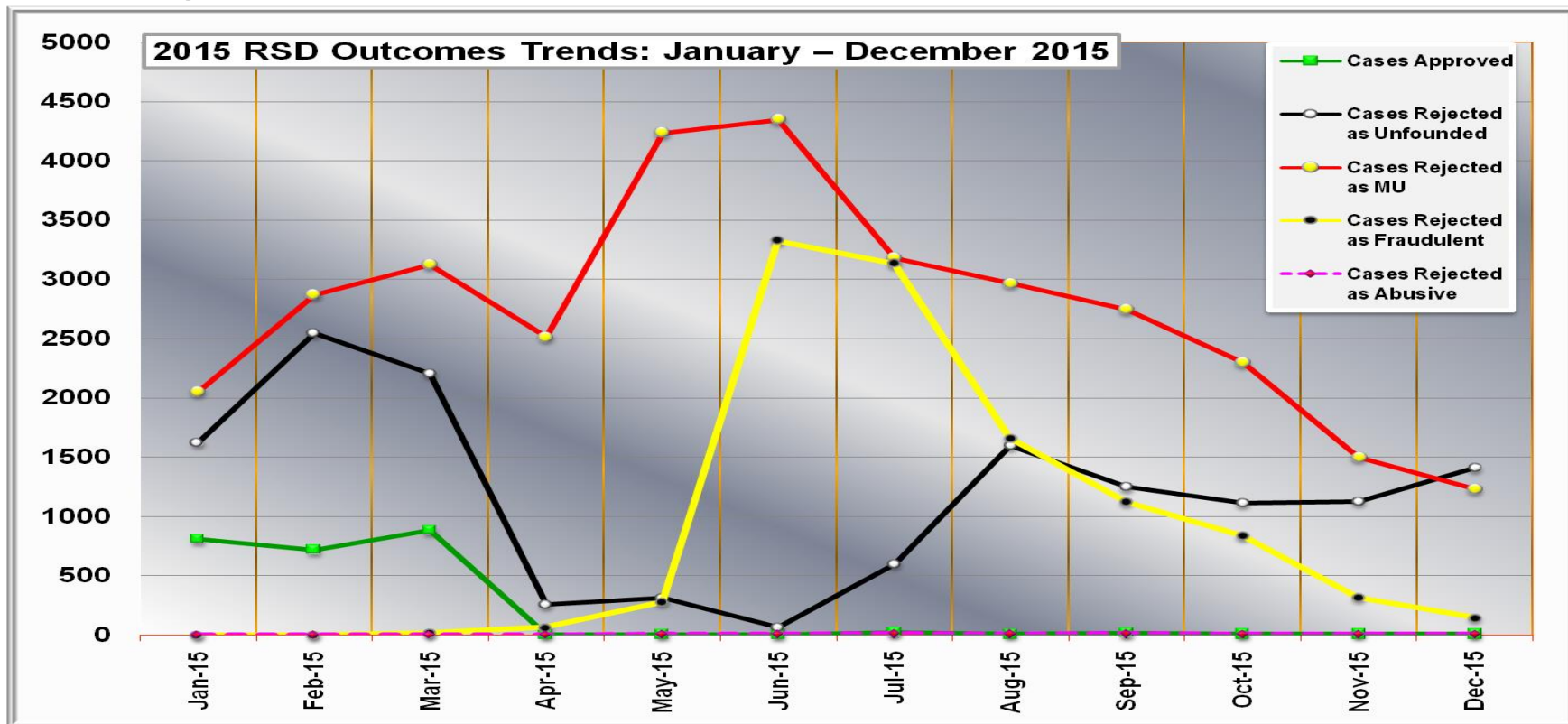
2015 RSD Decisions Overview									
Period		REJECTED Applications In terms of:					Total Rejections	APPROVED Applications In terms of:	2015 Grand Total RSD Decisions per Month
		Section 24(3)(b) of the Refugees Act No 130 of 1998				Section 24(3)(c) of the Refugees Act No 130 of 1998		Section 24(3)(a) of the Refugees Act No 130 of 1998	
		Abusive application	Fraudulent application	Manifestly Unfounded	Total MU	Unfounded		Asylum granted	
2015 Quarter 1	Jan-15	1	0	2053	2054	1622	3676	807	4483
	Feb-15	2	0	2871	2873	2543	5416	716	6132
	Mar-15	1	19	3126	3146	2204	5350	883	6233
Quarterly Total		4	19	8050	8073	6369	14442	2406	16848
2015 Quarter 2	Apr-15	1	66	2514	2581	255	2836	6	2842
	May-15	7	282	4233	4522	315	4837	6	4843
	Jun-15	7	3324	4346	7677	66	7743	3	7746
Quarterly Total		15	3672	11093	14780	636	15416	15	15431
2015 Quarter 3	Jul-15	10	3131	3180	6321	600	6921	24	6945
	Aug-15	9	1660	2968	4637	1594	6231	8	6239
	Sep-15	12	1124	2749	3885	1246	5131	15	5146
Quarterly Total		31	5915	8897	14843	3440	18283	47	18330
2015 Quarter 4	Oct-15	4	836	2301	3141	1112	4253	10	4263
	Nov-15	6	319	1502	1827	1127	2954	11	2965
	Dec-15	4	147	1233	1384	1409	2793	10	2803
Quarterly Total		14	1302	5036	6352	3648	10000	31	10031
2015 Total RSD Decisions at RRO Level		64	10908	33076	44048	14093	58141	2499	60640

15. Refugee Status Determination Breakdown

2015 RSD Outcome Rates

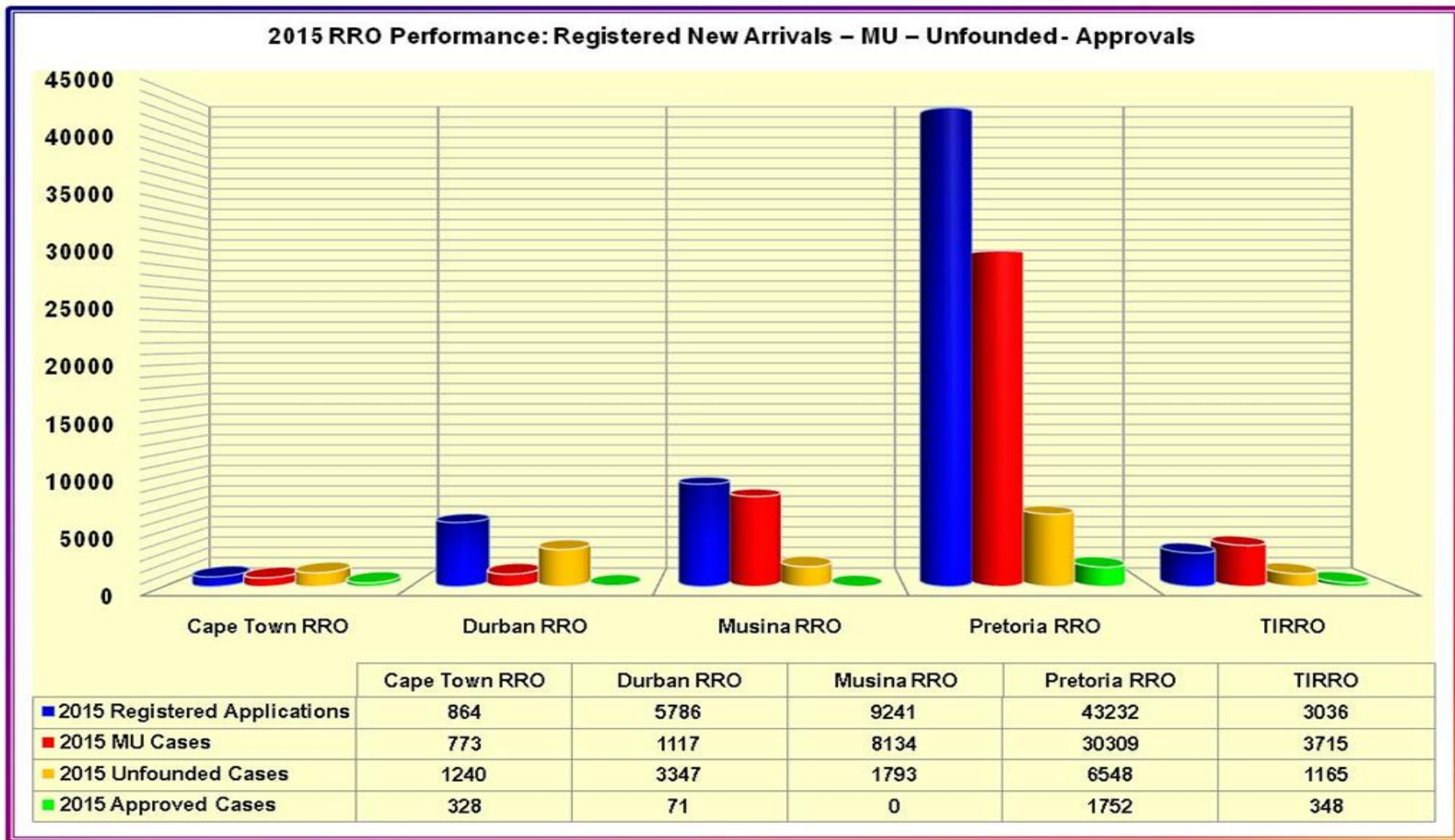


16. Refugee Status Determination Breakdown



- The 2015 RSD monthly trends shows a considerable decrease in approvals. Whilst number of rejections of asylum cases as fraudulent increased sharply.
- Since late March the department introduced the monitoring mechanism of RSDO decisions through Standing Committee for Refugees Affairs (SCRA).
- Following the implementation of the monitoring mechanism most approvals were mainly family joining.
- Approvals before then were informed by a variety of reasons that might be outside the protocols and conventions for protection.

17. 2015 RRO Performance: New Registration and Refugee Status Determination



18. Refugee Status Determination (RSD) Outcomes: 2011-2015

Refugee Status Determination (RSD) Outcomes: 2011 - 2015						
RSD Outcome	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total per RSD Outcome
Manifestly Unfounded	20 275	31 965	35 402	36 958	44 048	168 648
Unfounded	16 875	25 037	25 553	29 545	14 093	111 103
Approvals	6 803	6 226	7 286	9 230	2 499	32 044
Total RSD Outcomes per year	43 953	63 228	68 241	75 733	60 640	311 795

- Following the SCRA process of monitoring the quality of RSDOs adjudication and decisions, RSD figures shifted drastically from approvals and unfounded towards manifestly unfounded decisions; thus, confirming the department's assertion that most new asylum applications are not genuine asylum seekers but rather persons seeking employment or other socio-economic opportunities in the country.
- However, this intervention has since been discontinued given capacity challenges at SCRA to monitor this area of work.

19. Focus on 2015 Approvals

2015 Approved Cases per Age Group, Country of Origin, Gender and RRO



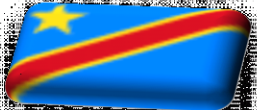


Age Groups	Country of origin	FEMALE					MALE					Grand Total
		Cape Town	Durban	Pretoria	TIRRO	FEMALE Total	Cape Town	Durban	Pretoria	TIRRO	MALE Total	
0-7 Age group	1 Congo	1				1					0	1
	2 DRC	1		2		3	3	2	1		6	9
	3 Ethiopia	2		1		3	3				3	6
	4 Somalia	9				9	8				8	17
✓	SubTotal	13	0	3	0	16	14	2	1	0	17	33
8-12 Age group	1 Congo	1			1	2					0	2
	2 DRC		4	2		6	1	2		1	4	10
	3 Ethiopia	1	1	1		3					0	3
	4 Somalia	3			1	4	3				3	7
✓	SubTotal	5	5	3	2	15	4	2	0	1	7	22
13-18 Age group	1 Burundi		1			1		2			2	3
	2 Congo			8		8			5		5	13
	3 DRC	4	4	9	1	18	2	2	13	3	20	38
	4 Eritrea					0			1		1	1
	5 Ethiopia	1	2	1		4	1		6	3	10	14
	6 Somalia	2		1	1	4	5		4	3	12	16
	7 Zimbabwe	1	1			2					0	2
✓	SubTotal	8	8	19	2	37	8	4	29	9	50	87
19-35 Age group	1 Burundi		1			1	2				2	3
	2 Congo	3		53	6	62	2		73	12	87	149
	3 DRC	21	13	164	24	222	27	15	175	31	248	470
	4 Eritrea		2	13		15			19	2	21	36
	5 Ethiopia	5	8	143	15	171	61	1	586	120	768	939
	6 India			1		1					0	1
	7 Kenya			1		1				1	1	2
	8 Palestine			1		1					0	1
	9 Rwanda	2				2	1		1		2	4
	10 Somalia	13	1	71	11	96	118		247	85	450	546
	11 Sudan					0			1		1	1
	12 Syria			1		1			1		1	2
	13 Turkey			1		1			1		1	2
	14 Uganda	1				1	3				3	4
	15 Zambia	1				1					0	1
	16 Zimbabwe	1				1					0	1
✓	SubTotal	47	25	449	56	577	214	16	1104	251	1585	2162
36-65 Age group	1 Congo			9		9			11	5	16	25
	2 DRC	1	2	25	5	33	5	3	37	6	51	84
	3 Eritrea			3		3			4		4	7
	4 Ethiopia		1	5		6	4		22	7	33	39
	5 Palestine					0			1		1	1
	6 Rwanda	1	1			2					0	2
	7 Somalia			6	1	7	4		19	3	26	33
	8 Syria					0		1			1	1
✓	SubTotal	2	4	48	6	60	13	4	94	21	132	192
67-100 Age group	1 DRC			2		2		1			1	3
✓	SubTotal	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	3
2015 Approvals Grand Total		75	42	524	66	707	253	29	1228	282	1792	2499
%		3.00%	1.68%	20.97%	2.64%	28.29%	10.12%	1.16%	49.14%	11.28%	71.71%	100%

20. 2015 Approvals Monthly Trends

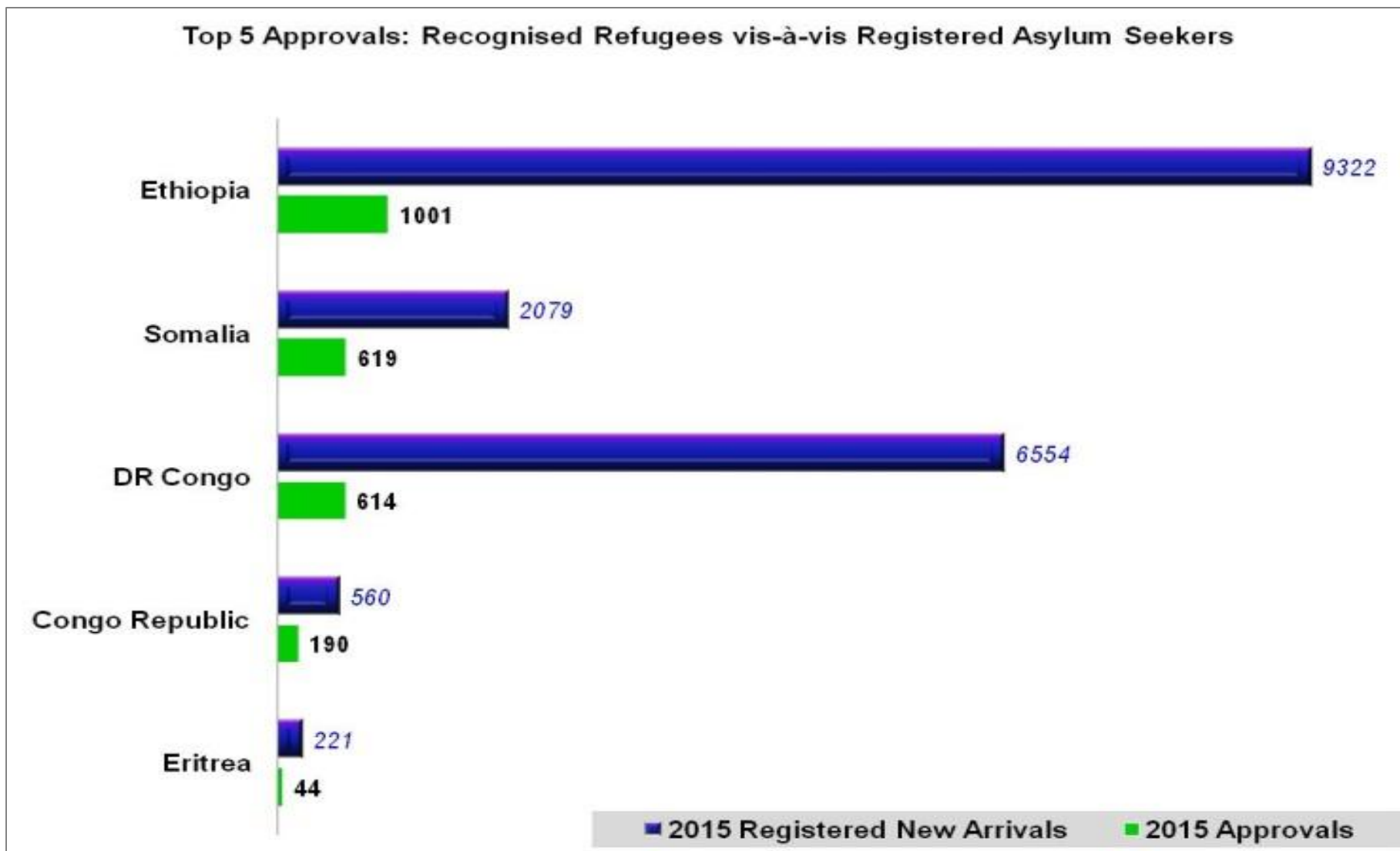


21. Top Five Nationality: Approvals

2015 Top Five Nationality Recognised as Refugees














Nationality	Grand Total	Breakdown per RRO			
		Cape Town RRO	Durban RRO	Pretoria RRO	TIRRO
1  Ethiopians (Ethiopia)	1001	78	13	765	145
2  Somalis (Somalia)	619	165	1	348	105
3  DR Congolese (DRC)	614	65	48	430	71
4  Congolese (Congo Republic)	190	7	0	159	24
5  Eritreans (Eritrea)	44	0	2	40	2
2015 Total Top Five Nationalities Recognised as Refugees	2468	Out of 2 499 overall approvals			

22. Top Five Approvals Vis-à-vis Registered Asylum Seekers



23. Focus on SADC Countries: 2015 Registered New Arrivals and Approvals

SADC Countries: 2015 Registered New Arrivals and Approvals

Country	2015 SADC Registered New Arrivals per RRO						2015 SADC Approved Cases per RRO					
	Cape Town RRO	Durban RRO	Musina RRO	Pretoria RRO	TIRRO	Grand Total	Cape Town RRO	Durban RRO	Musina RRO	Pretoria RRO	TIRRO	Grand Total
1  Zimbabwe	64	107	6582	10197	834	17784	2	1		0	0	3
2  DRC	436	1755	1095	2827	242	6355	65	48		430	71	614
3  Malawi	2	50	598	1621	101	2372	0	0	0	0	0	0
4  Mozambique	0	6	79	787	82	954	0	0	0	0	0	0
5  Tanzania	0	164	9	324	21	518	0	0	0	0	0	0
1st Layer Total	502	2082	8363	15756	1280	27983	67	49	0	430	71	617
6  Lesotho	0	1	3	479	27	510	0	0	0	0	0	0
7  Angola	1	11	0	163	0	175	0	0	0	0	0	0
8  Zambia	1	2	17	122	8	150	1	0	0	0	0	1
9  Swaziland	0	0	2	28	1	31	0	0	0	0	0	0
10  Botswana	0	0	0	7	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
2nd Layer Total	2	14	22	799	36	873	1	0	0	0	0	1
11  Madagascar	0	0	0	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
12  Mauritius	0	0	1	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
13  Namibia	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
3rd Layer Total	0	0	1	7	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
SADC Grand Total	504	2096	8386	16562	1316	28864	68	49	0	430	71	618

24. SADC Age and Gender Focus

SADC Approved Cases per Age Groups, Gender and Country									
Gender and Country			0-7	8-12	13-18	19-35	36-65	67-100	Grand Total per Gender and Country
			<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Age Group</i>	
FEMALE	1	DRC	3	6	18	222	33	2	284
	2	Zambia	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
	3	Zimbabwe	0	0	2	1	0	0	3
Female Total per Age Group			3	6	20	224	33	2	288
MALE	1	DRC	6	4	20	248	51	1	330
Male Total per Age Group			6	4	20	248	51	1	330
Grand Total			9	10	40	472	84	3	618

2015 Statutory Bodies Performance (Appeals and Reviews)

25. REFUGEE APPEALS BOARD (RAB): 2015 APPEAL CASES

Centre	Cases finalised with decisions	Confirmed Unfounded	Upheld	Condonation Dismissed	Condonation Granted	No Show Decisions	Referred Back to RRO	Rescheduled
PTA	750	491	62	197	245	87	28	168
Musina	157	149	8	0	1	4	0	49
Durban	618	571	41	6	1	3	0	720
CT	42	36	6	0	0	0	0	734
PE	165	160	1	4	0	15	1	61
TOTAL	1 732	1 407	118	207	247	109	29	1 732
2015 Performance				1732				
2015 Caseload				14 093				
2015 Deficit/Backlog				12 361 (The deficit adds to the previous years backlog)				

26. BREAKDOWN OF REVIEW CASES

Centre	Upheld	Set Aside	Referred Back to RRO
PTA	8806	1547	1310
Musina	5499	11	280
Durban	611	93	235
CT	1446	120	240
PE	522	6	89
TOTAL	16 884	1777	2154
2015 Performance	20 815 (some cases done in 2015 might be from previous years)		
2015 Caseload	44 048		
2015 Deficit/Backlog	23 233		

27. BREAKDOWN OF REVIEW CASES

STANDING COMMITTEE FOR REFUGEE AFFAIRS

SECTION 27(C) AND 36 STATISTICS FROM JANUARY - DECEMBER 2015

2015	Refugee Certification				Refugee Status Withdrawal	
	New sec 27 (C) applications received	Sec 27 (C) considered	Certification granted	Certification not granted	Certification not granted and status withdrawn	Certification not granted and status not withdrawn
JAN	53	85	37	42	6	0
FEB	183	371	172	107	92	0
MAR	303	216	66	77	73	0
APR	226	226	33	97	86	10
MAY	202	202	36	19	145	2
JUNE	154	154	37	26	87	4
JULY	199	199	82	83	24	10
AUG	131	131	26	45	50	10
SEPT	114	114	27	33	47	7
OCT	215	215	68	94	50	3
NOV	187	187	67	45	67	8
DEC	137	137	33	13	75	16
TOTAL	2104	2237	684	681	802	70

28. Immigration Status Change: From Refugees to Permanent Residence Holders

Section 27 (C) Statistics by Year informed by people who have already applied and acquired permanent residency in South Africa														
Months	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Grand Total
January	1	16	8	7	10	5	115	116	9	60	1	54	26	428
February	3	3	4	3	4	8	86	111	12	58	13	15	153	473
March	6	10	12	8	15	13	92	116	84	37	3	23	89	508
April	1	14	3	26	16	10	26	40	32	42	5	197	47	459
May	2	11	4	19	15	10	108	40	38	12	3	61	90	413
June		1	1	12	22	10	3	2	32	25	7	148	13	276
July	1	7	5	3	33	24	196	215	101	8	19	14	60	686
August	1	10	2	6	14	28	208	48	104	9	3	223	12	668
September	7	11	5	2	2	28	81	92	145	38	20	61	15	507
October	5	33	6	9	20	27	123	33	178	4	9	109	26	582
November	8	35	9	1	4	57	141	40	172	1	8	90	39	605
December	5	8	7	2	8	6	45	16	6	15	18	60	45	241
Grand Total	40	159	66	98	163	226	1224	869	913	309	109	1055	615	5846

- Refugee Certification issued in terms of Section 27(C) of the Refugees Act speaks to refugee durable solutions and provides for application for an “Immigration Permit” or “Permanent Residence (PR)
- In that, refugees who have been issued with certification are permitted to apply for Permanent Residence (PR) in the prescribed manner (in compliance with PR requirements and processes).
- Once PR is granted, the applicant is allowed to apply for a South African Identity Document designed for Non-Citizens.
- The applicant must have 5 full years continuous residence in the Republic of South Africa as a formally recognized refugee not as an asylum seeker.
- **Note:** Not all PR holders applied for Identity Document.

2015 Refugee Identity Documents and Travel Documents

29. Refugee Identity Documents

STATISTICS ON REFUGEE IDENTITY DOCUMENTS: JANUARY - DECEMBER 2015																	
Year	Months	Applications for Refugee ID Received								Refugee ID Books Issued: Dispatched to RROs							
		Pretoria	TIRRO	Cape Town	Durban	Musina	Port Elizabeth	Monthly Grand Total	Quarterly Total	Pretoria	TIRRO	Cape Town	Durban	Musina	Port Elizabeth	Monthly Grand Total	Quarterly Total
2015	January		741	278	74	0	82	1175	3497		120	341	175		60	696	3599
	February		720	235	125	3	63	1146			826	364	215	13	199	1617	
	March		563	444	101	0	68	1176			782	305	90		109	1286	
	April		160	395	48	0	40	643	3118		137	359	44		36	576	1098
	May		238	248	50	0	56	592			203	223	48		48	522	
	June		1317	286	187	0	93	1883								0	
	July		376	584	488	0	128	1576	4163							0	882
	August		408	456	362	0	92	1318			203	223	43	0	48	517	
	September		454	487	243	0	85	1269			0	140	177	0	48	365	
	October		616	555	226	2	132	1531	5903							0	3035
	November		210	202	158	9	110	689			788		212			1000	
	December		1372	1278	724	10	299	3683			1129	220	636		50	2035	
Yearly Grand Total per Office		0	7175	5448	2786	24	1248	16681		0	4188	2175	1640	13	598	8614	

30. REFUGEE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

STATISTICS ON REFUGEE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS: JANUARY - DECEMBER 2015

Year	Months	Applications for Refugee Travel Document Received								Refugee Travel Document Issued: Dispatched to RROs							
		TIRRO BACKLOG	TIRRO	Cape Town	Durban	Musina	Port Elizabeth	Monthly Grand Total	Quarterly Total	Pretoria	TIRRO	Cape Town	Durban	Musina	Port Elizabeth	Monthly Grand Total	Quarterly Total
2015	January		35	104	37	0	26	202	1156			90			20	110	299
	February		0	245	47	0	126	418				116	3		9	128	
	March		185	138	125		88	536				32	3		26	61	
	April	238	261	115	113		89	816	1970							0	704
	May	192	57	96	21	1	116	483			152	23	11	1	4	191	
	June	214	112	144	111		90	671			365	49	36		63	513	
	July		202	231	209		190	832	2335		108	51	53		14	226	391
	August		146	209	182		91	628			4		2		1	7	
	September			492	185		198	875			116		22		20	158	
	October		358	271	158		92	879	1569							0	684
	November		126	22	116	2	64	330			57	230	189		86	562	
	December		164	10	123	1	62	360			16	11	16		79	122	
Yearly Grand Total per Office		644	1646	2077	1427	4	1232	7030		0	818	602	335	1	322	2078	

31. Conclusion

- During the twelve months from January to December 2015, the number of registered applications for asylum substantially dropped. However, the number of rejections increased significantly with the number of approved cases, which has always been low, having been significantly dropped as well.
- The 2015 Asylum Statistics Trends report points toward a decline in the registration of new applications for asylum.
- RROs are mainly overwhelmed by the high numbers of appeal and review cases who are not finalised timeously at the level of both RAB and SCRA.
- The Pretoria RRO remains the preferred destination for new asylum applicants despite all the challenges it confronts that include long queues and waiting periods.
- Young male applicants continue to dominate the asylum registration.
- The report further confirms that nationals from the SADC, Eastern Africa, West Africa, Central Africa and South-Central Asia regions remain the nucleus of the asylum population in South Africa.
- The rejection rate stands at 96% (with 73% of manifestly unfounded (inclusive of abusive and fraudulent) cases, 23% of unfounded cases) in comparison to a 4% approval rate.
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Ngiyathokoza

Ke ya leboga

Ndi khou livhuha

Dankie



Thank you

Ke a leboha

Inkomu

Ndiyabulela

Ke a leboga

Ngiyabonga