Refugee Origin

Territory size shows the global proportion of refugees and internally displaced persons originating there.

In 2003 there were 15 million refugees and internally displaced persons in the world. This map shows the origins of both combined. The origins are the territories these people came from.

The difference between refugees and internally displaced persons is that the former are outside their territory of origin, whilst the latter have stayed within national borders. The movement of these people is based on their “fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion” (UNHCR, 1951).

“it is awful to leave your country… …family and friends, your job – everything – all of your memories of life is there – you have to leave everything.”

Akram, 2005

Map 014

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Technical notes
• Data are from 2003.
• Refugees and internally displaced people are included here.
• See website for further information.

ORIGIN OF REFUGEES AND INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

Rank Territory Value
1 Serbia & Montenegro 12.0
1 Bosnia Herzegovina 12.0
3 Iraq 9.9
3 Afghanistan 9.9
3 Azerbaijan 9.9
6 Gaza Strip & West Bank 9.6
7 Burundi 9.5
8 Georgia 5.2
9 Bhutan 5.2
9 Croatia 5.2
11 Puerto Rico 4.7
11 Colombia 4.7
13 Sri Lanka 2.5
14 Angola 2.4
15 Western Sahara 1.7
15 Sudan 1.7
15 Liberia 1.7
18 Sierra Leone 1.6
19 Tajikistan 1.0
20 Mauritania 0.9

ORIGINS

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