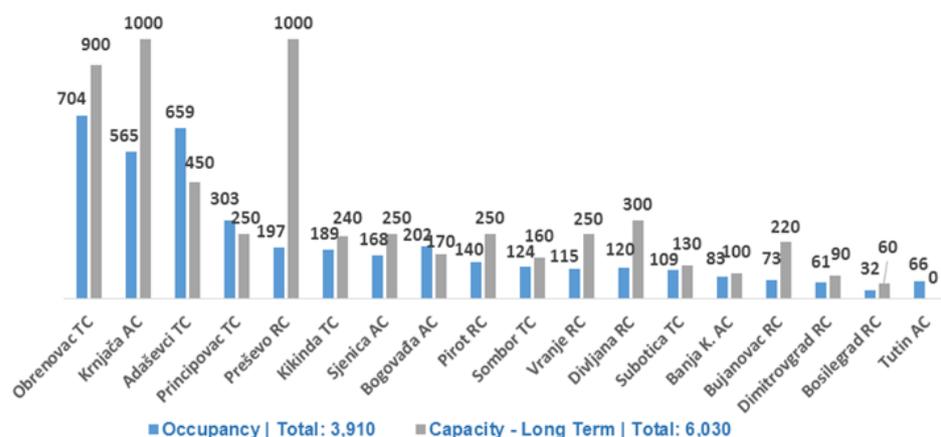


HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS

- By 24 September authorities succeeded in enrolling over 400 – or some 50% of the around 800 new refugee children between the ages of 7 and 14 currently in Serbia - into **formal school education**. These include close to 300 children from twelve governmental centres, who attend regular primary schools outside their centres together with local children, as well as 107 children, who instead attend classes by local teachers in three Transit Centres in the North. UNHCR continued to strongly support national and local authorities as well as refugee children and families in accessing formal education.
- This week, UNHCR and partners observed a **rise of new arrivals**, when they encountered **147** new asylum-seekers (compared to 97 last week), mostly Yasidi families from Iraq, who reported to have irregularly entered Serbia from Bulgaria.
- As a result also the total number of new refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants in Serbia, which had been falling since spring and stabilised over the last few weeks, grew again by some 200 to **4,257** that were counted on 24 September. **3,910** of them were housed in 18 governmental centres (please see the below chart and the [Joint Assessment of Government Centres](#)). As the temperatures began falling and enough better shelter remained available in Belgrade and elsewhere, over 300 men and boys remained accommodated in rub-halls or tents, mainly in Transit Centres near the Croatian border, which remained open to admitting unregistered migrant men.
- A growing number of security incidents and crimes allegedly committed by unregistered migrant men from North Africa, led to concerns amongst the population of Sid but also amongst civil society organisations in Belgrade.
- UNHCR and partners continued supporting authorities in protection monitoring, identification and addressing of specific needs, referrals, interpretation, non-food aid, information and counselling, sometimes 24/7 at 23 sites around the country.
- UNHCR Serbia and partners collected testimonies of **201** collective pushbacks from Hungary, 46 from Croatia, with most alleging to have been denied due access to asylum procedures there. Also, 36 cases of pushbacks from Romania were reported.

**Occupancy of Asylum, Reception and Transit Centres
as of 24 Sep 2017**





Refugee children from RC Presevo on their way to school, Presevo (Serbia), ©UNHCR, 21 September 2017

SOUTH

385 refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants were accommodated in the three Reception Centres of Presevo (197), Vranje (115) and Bujanovac (73), including 7 unaccompanied or separated children (UASC).

Most residents of Presevo RC are from Afghanistan and Iraq and almost half are children. In Bujanovac, most are from Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan, while more than half are children. Vranje RC accommodates families and UASC. All its residents are from Afghanistan, and about half are children.

BELGRADE

Krnjaca Asylum Centre (AC) accommodated **565** asylum-seekers, mainly families from Afghanistan, Iraq or Syria as well as 73 UASC.

704 male refugees/migrants (including 78 unaccompanied or separated boys) were sheltered in Obrenovac TC. Most are from Afghanistan, followed by Pakistan, Iraq or other countries.

EAST

353 refugees and migrants were accommodated in four Reception Centres: 140 in Pirot, 120 in Divljana, 61 in Dimitrovgrad and 32 in Bosilegrad. Most are from Iraq or Afghanistan, followed by Syria, while around half are children.

WEST

Transit Centres (TCs) in the West sheltered **962** refugees and migrants: 659 in Adasevci and 303 in Principovac, including some 300 men and boys still in rub-halls. They are mainly from Afghanistan, followed by Iraq, Pakistan, and Syria. More than half are children, including around 60 UASC.

NORTH

This week, 57 asylum seekers, mainly families from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria were admitted into so-called “transit zones” of Hungary. On 24 September, 22 asylum seekers camped at Horgos and Kelebija border sites awaiting admission into Hungary. Subotica TC sheltered **109** asylum-seekers, Sombor TC **124**, and Kikinda TC **189** mostly families from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria, as well as 22 UASC.


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Asylum statistics are provided by the Ministry of Interior. Other information is based on findings of UNHCR staff and partners. If you use this content, please refer to UNHCR as source. **CONTACTS:** *General:* Ivana Zujovic-Simic +381 63 452 950; *External Relations:* Indra Beganovic, +381 63 431 886; *Media:* Mirjana Milenkovski +381 63 275 154