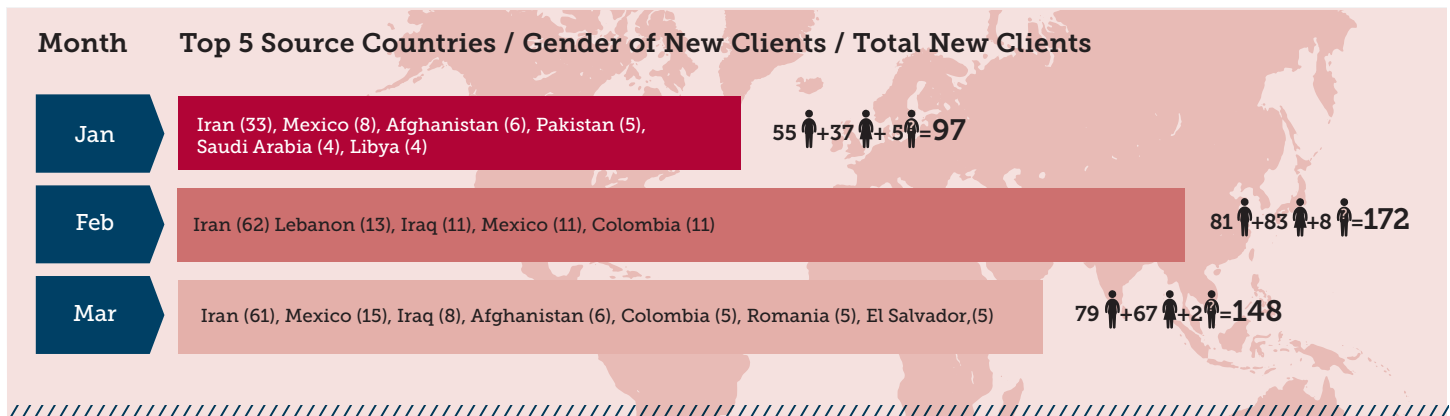


BC REFUGEE HUB BULLETIN

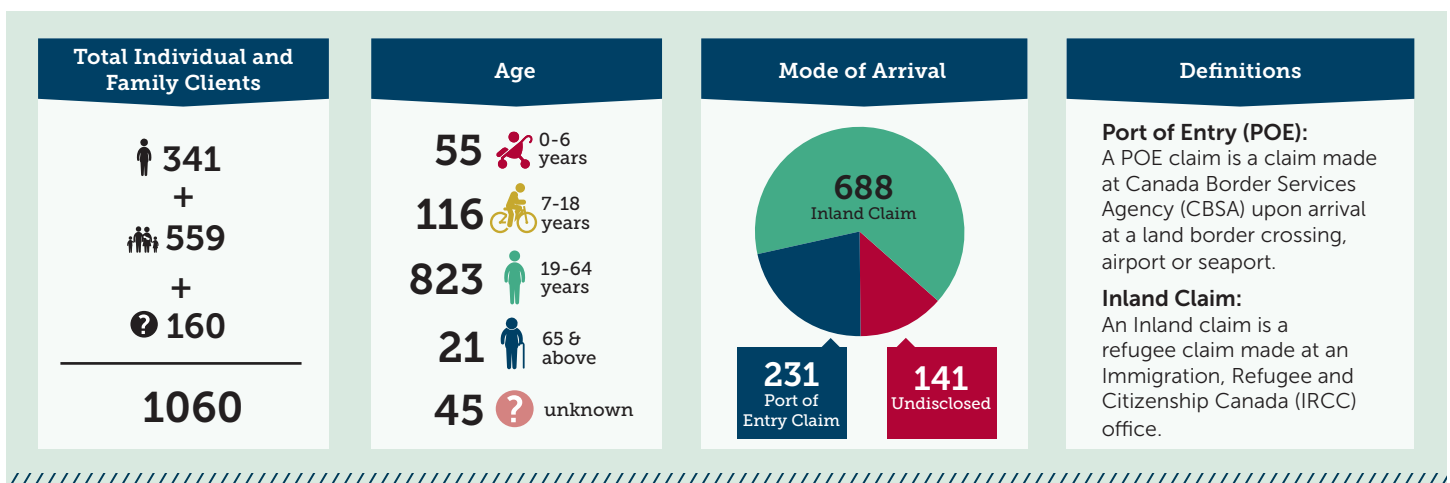
Refugee Claimants // Arrival Highlights: January-March 2019



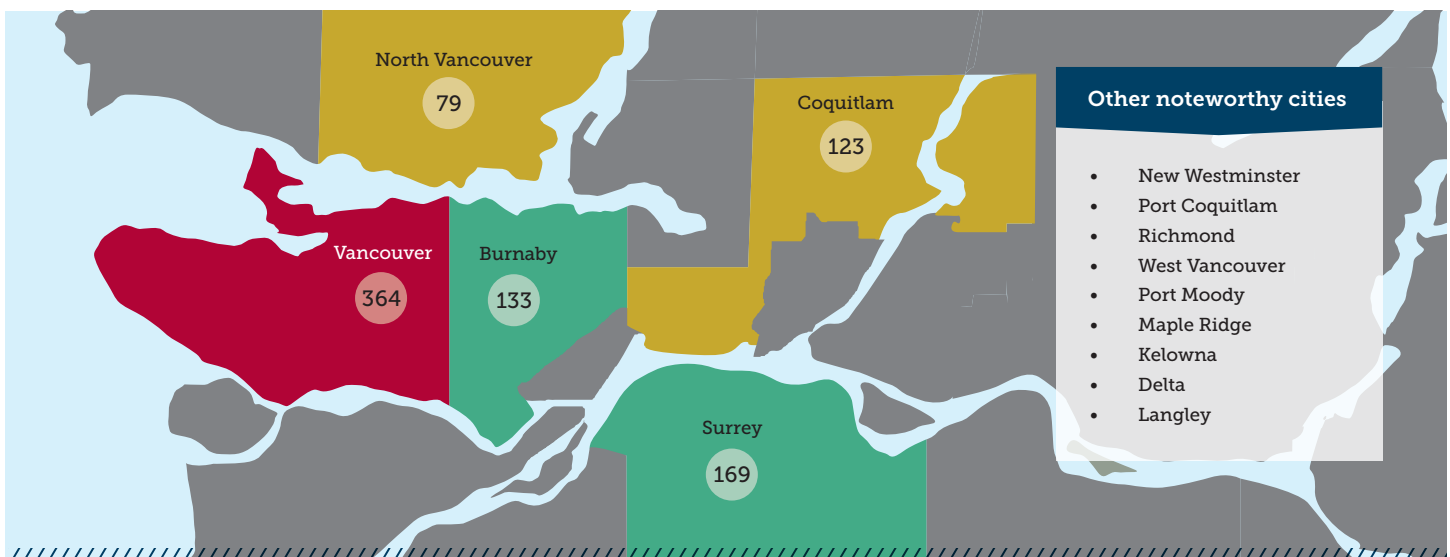
SOS Monthly Statistics of New Refugee Claimant Clients: Jan. to Mar. 2019



SOS Total New and Returning Clients Served: Jan. to Mar. 2019

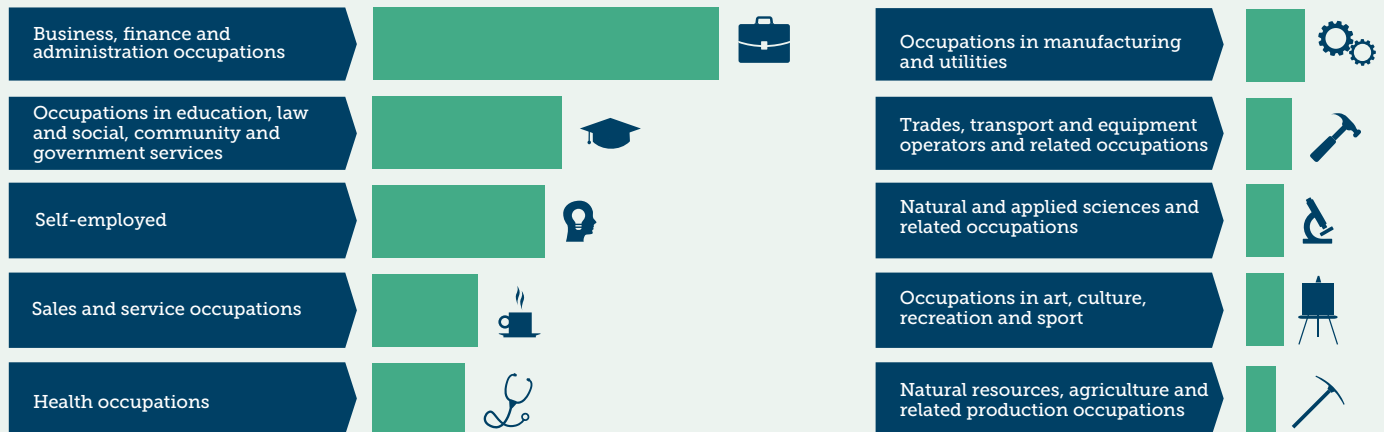


SOS Top 5 Settlement Patterns Based on Residential Addresses: Jan. to Mar. 2019



SOS Pre Arrival Occupation / Education: Jan. to Mar. 2019

The following are highlights of the past occupation and/or education that was reported Jan-Mar 2019 by Refugee Claimants



* May have multiple responses The statistics above were provided by Settlement Orientation Services (sosbc.ca).

SOS Trends and Observations: Jan. to Mar. 2019

Arrival Trends

- Refugee **claimants from Iran** continue to be the top source country seen since April 2018.
- Much **more Iranian families** after changes from IRB regarding hearing.
- February 2019 total new refugee claimants arrived was the **highest one month arrival for over a decade.**
- 65% of new arrivals **walked across the US border.**



Housing Trends

- Delay in social assistance causing **families to wait longer** to go into long-term housing.
- **4-5 families with 7-11 members coming each day**
- BC housing application **taking much longer**
- **Double the amount of walk-ins** in need of housing support.



The trends and observations above were provided by Settlement Orientation Services (sosbc.ca).

Service Provider Spotlight

INASMUCH COMMUNITY SOCIETY



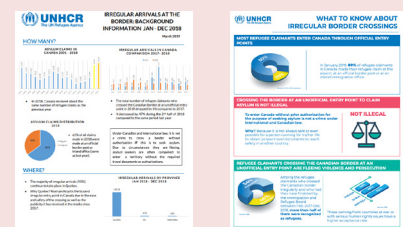
Based in Abbotsford, BC, Inasmuch Community Society provides transitional housing, settlement services, customized employment counseling, English language training and basic living support for up to six months following an asylum seeker's arrival in BC. Inasmuch's purpose is to create a family, a home and a supportive community for refugee claimants.

To learn more: inasmuch.ca

Resources and Publications

UNHCR Canada has released two useful info sheets related to Refugee Claims in Canada:

- Irregular Arrivals at the Border 2018: Background Information (March 2019) bit.ly/bcrhbulletin
- What to Know About Irregular Border Crossings (February 2019) bit.ly/bcrhbulletin2



To view all of UNHCR Canada's publications on national legislation, information on refugee claims in Canada and international statistics, click here: unhcr.ca/newsroom/publications