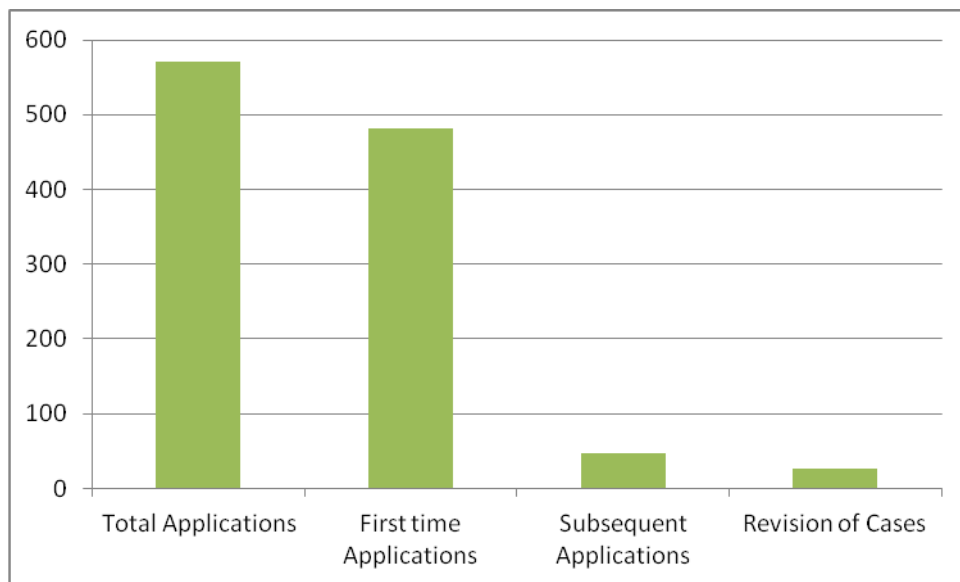




Office of the Refugee Commissioner Statistical Overview

From 01st July to 30th September 2016, the Office of the Refugee Commissioner received 571 applications for international protection. Of these 482 were first time applications, 47 were subsequent applications¹ and 27 revisions of cases. The revision of 27 cases was done following the re-activation of these cases as requested by the applicants themselves.

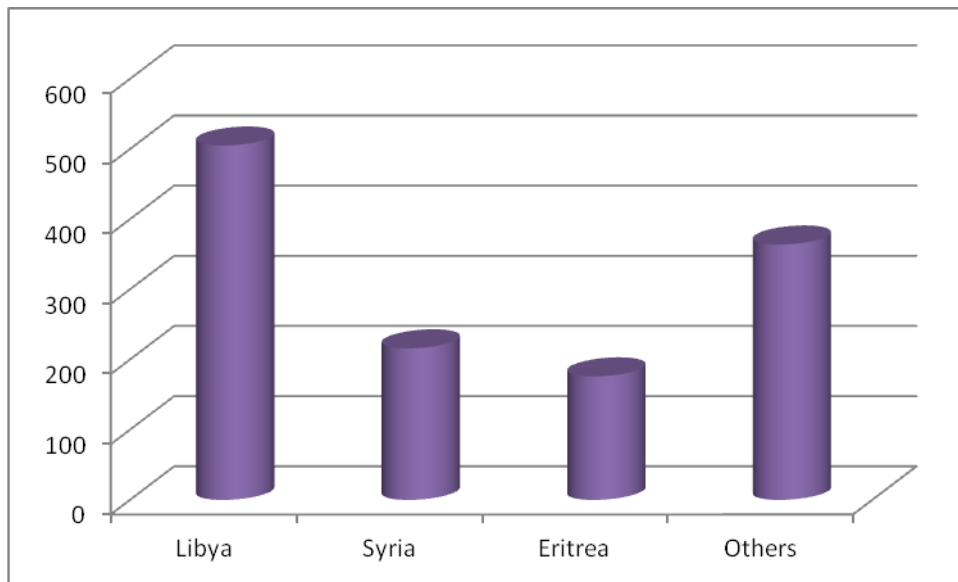
It must be noted that 9 of the first time applications were made by third country nationals who were relocated from Italy, following the EU Council Decision to relocate a number of asylum applicants from Greece and Italy.



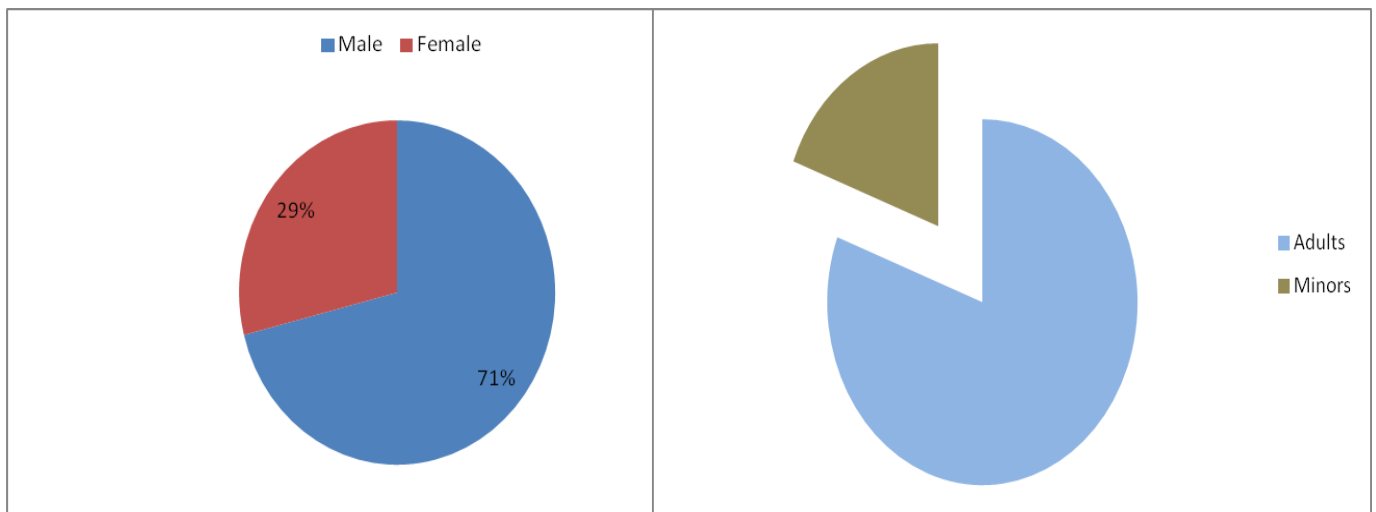
¹ Article 7(A)(1) of the Refugees Act, Chapter 420 of the Laws of Malta states ‘a person who has applied for international protection may make a subsequent application after a final decision to the Commissioner for Refugees: Provided that such application shall only be considered on the presentation of new elements or findings, relating to the examination of whether the person making the subsequent application qualifies as a beneficiary of international protection, and of which the applicant could not have been aware or which he could not have submitted’.



The top nationalities were Libya, Syria and Eritrea respectively. The number of applications for international protection received by Libyan nationals mark 40% of the total applications received so far this year (till end of September 2016). Also the applications received by Syrian nationals mark 17% and those received by Eritrean nationals mark 14% of the total applications received so far this year.



From the total new applications 336 were lodged by male applicants (286 adults and 50 minors) and by 137 female applicants (96 adults and 41 minors).





The absolute majority of the applications for international protection lodged so far this year (till end of September) were made by persons who approached the Office personally to seek international protection. On average, thirty (30) persons a week, approach the Office of the Refugee Commissioner and express their desire to make an application for international protection. Such persons are registered by the Office as asylum-seekers/applicants and are issued with an Asylum-Seekers Document in accordance with Article 6 of the EU Council Directive 2013/33/EU.

All persons who expressed their desire to make an application for international protection in Malta were provided with information by the Office of the Refugee Commissioner. Such persons were provided with information about the asylum procedure and about their rights and obligations as asylum-seekers in Malta.

During the months under review, the Office continued to conclude cases within six months. From 01st July till the end of September 2016, the Office concluded 385 cases. Of these 251 were granted subsidiary protection status, 47 were recognized as refugees and 64 were rejected. 29 were granted local temporary humanitarian protection, 28 were withdrawn, 31 were inadmissible, and 8 were Dublin Closure.

