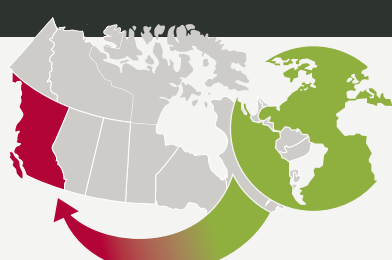
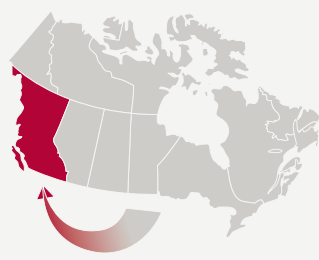





1st quarter arrivals



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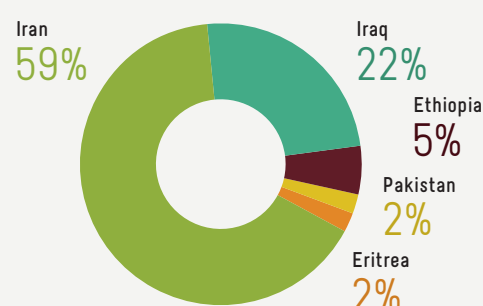
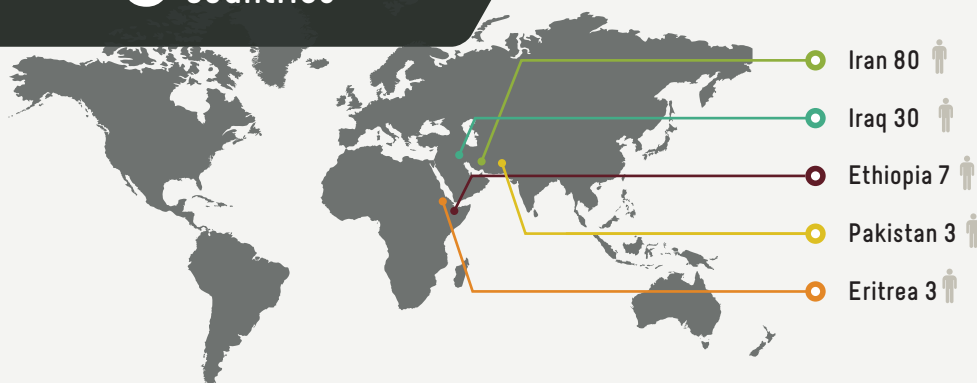
135 
66 family*
units

117 GAR individuals
56 family units
arrived **directly** to BC

18 individuals
10 family units
arrived as **secondary**
migrants from **other**
provinces to BC

*Same period last year
130 individuals
69 family units

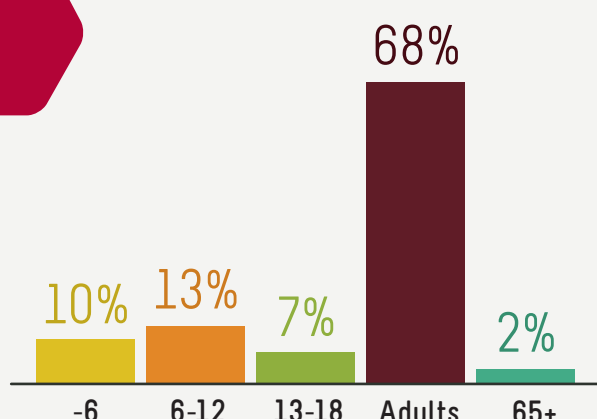
Top 5 source countries



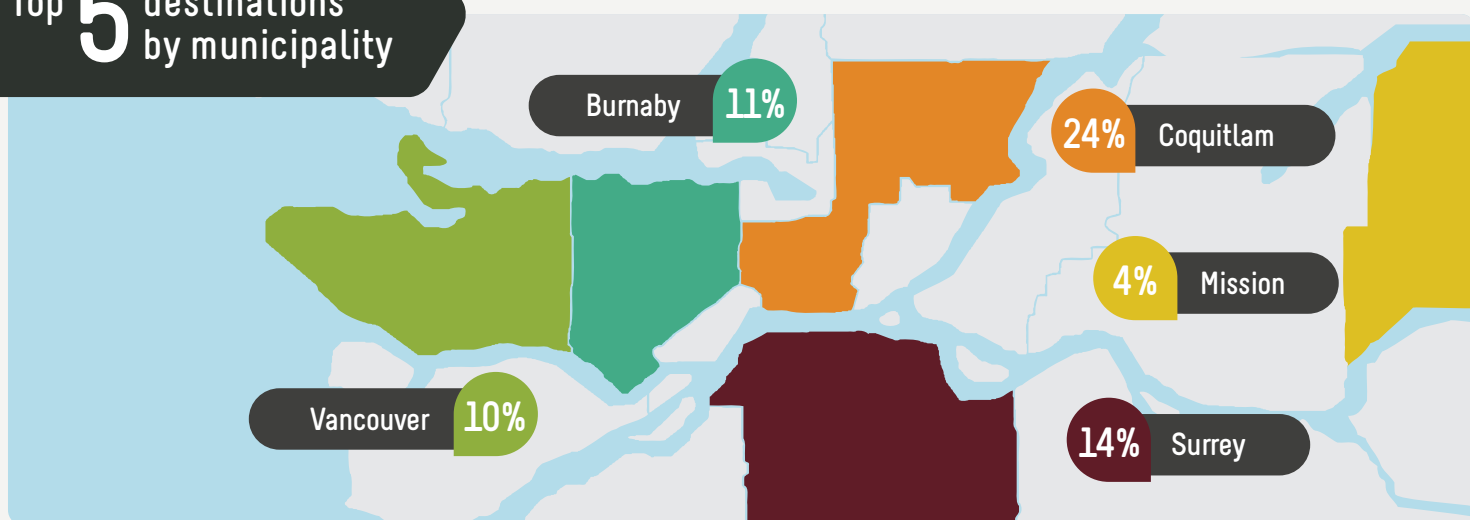
Individuals by age

30% were children and youth under 18 years old

- 13 children were under 6 years old
- 18 children were between 6 and 12 years old
- 9 youth were between 13 and 18 years old
- 3 individuals were 65 and above



Top 5 destinations by municipality



* Breakdown of statistics by municipality are available upon request

Looking ahead to 2015

GAR TARGET
for **BC** remains
at **800**

We are expecting continued **high arrivals** from the **Middle East** region – 80% so far to date versus 62% for the same period last year

Within the arrivals from the Middle East region, over the past three years most government assisted refugees have been Iranians arriving via Turkey (1 out of every 2 GARs in 2014), primarily fleeing persecution on the basis of religious (Bahai and Christian converts), ethnicity (mainly Azeri and Kurdish people) and sexual orientation grounds (members of the LGBTQ community).

Work continues on the new **ISSofBC WELCOME HOUSE** centre being built at **2610 Victoria Drive** – check out the latest development and pictures via our building blog - www.newwelcomehouseblog.org

Chris Friesen,
Director, Settlement Services
April 14, 2015