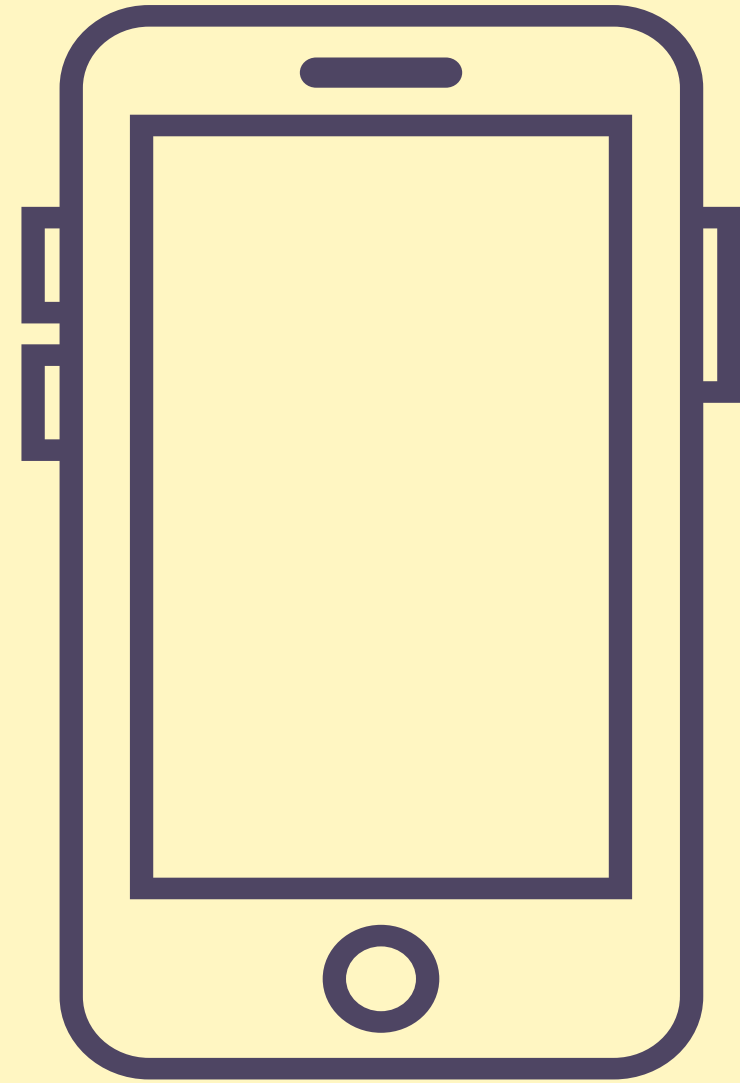


# Protection Monitoring Report

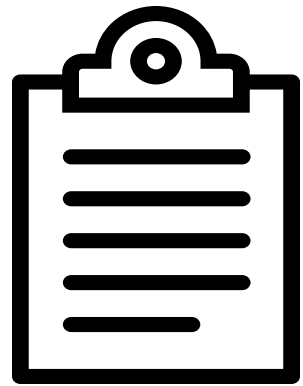
Psychosocial  
support and  
Protection  
Emergency  
response for  
refugee  
Unaccompanied  
and separated  
children in  
Bulgaria



# Mobile Data Collection

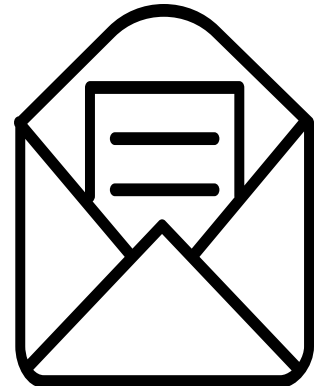
Data collection activities were carried out based on a methodological guidance developed by Tdh and constitutes a pilot phase. The report is based on data and information gathered in Bulgaria according to a detailed methodological guidance which has been developed to be utilized to monitor the reception conditions and care arrangements of children on the move. Developed as a universal guidance which can be applied to other contexts and countries, the methodological guidance aims to fill in the gap in information and evidence that child rights advocates, particularly those working in the field of international migration, have identified.

# Data obtained by Variety of Sources



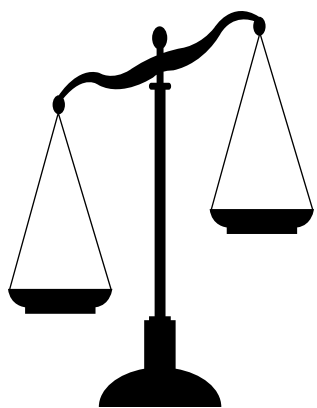
01

Monthly Reports Issued by authorities - SAR and MOI



02

Freedom of Information requests sent to Bulgarian Authorities



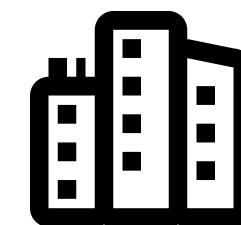
03

Review of National Legislation



04

Mobile data collection with residents and staff present in three reception centers in Sofia



Voenna Rampa



Ovcha Kupel



Vrazhdebna

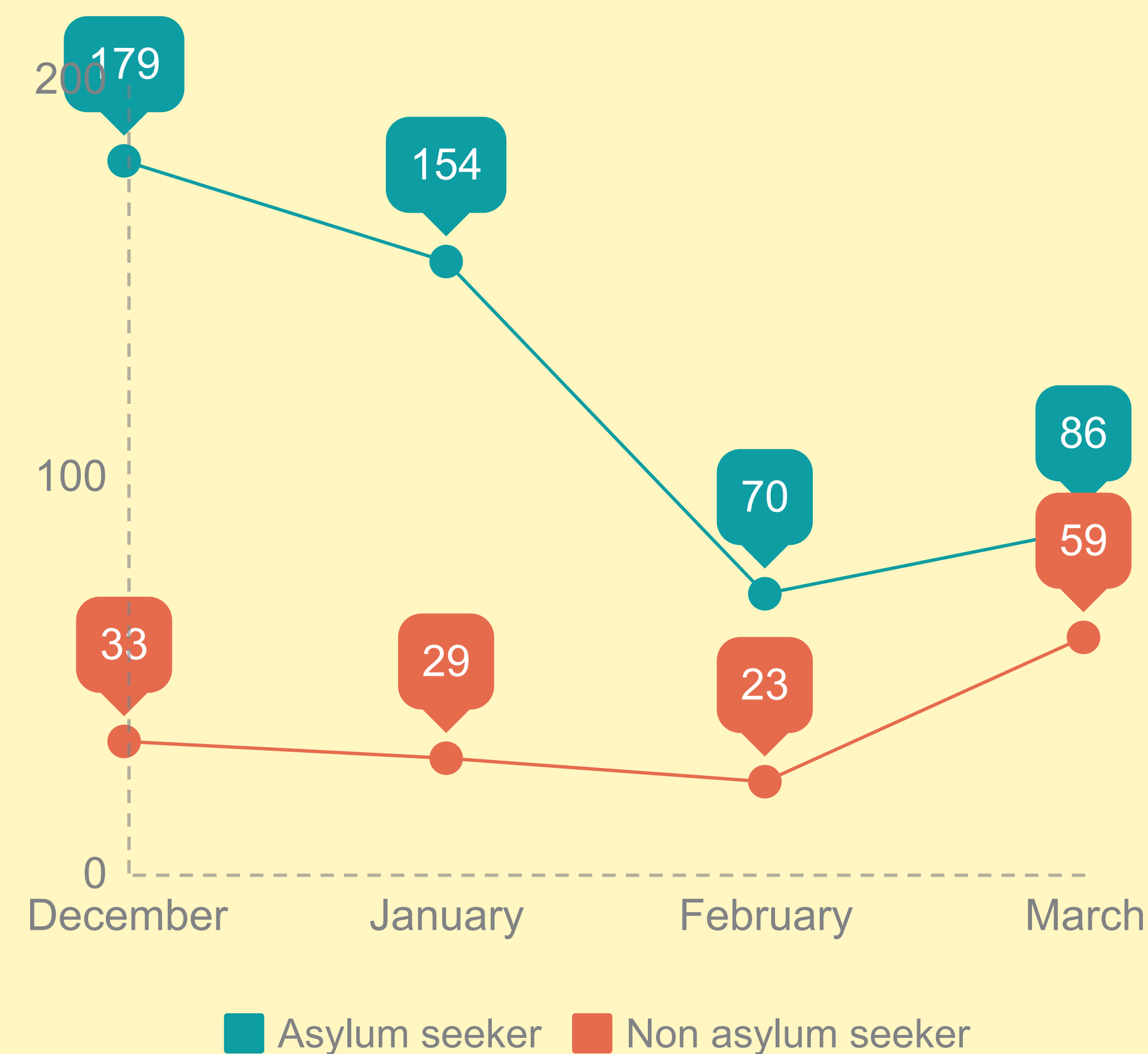
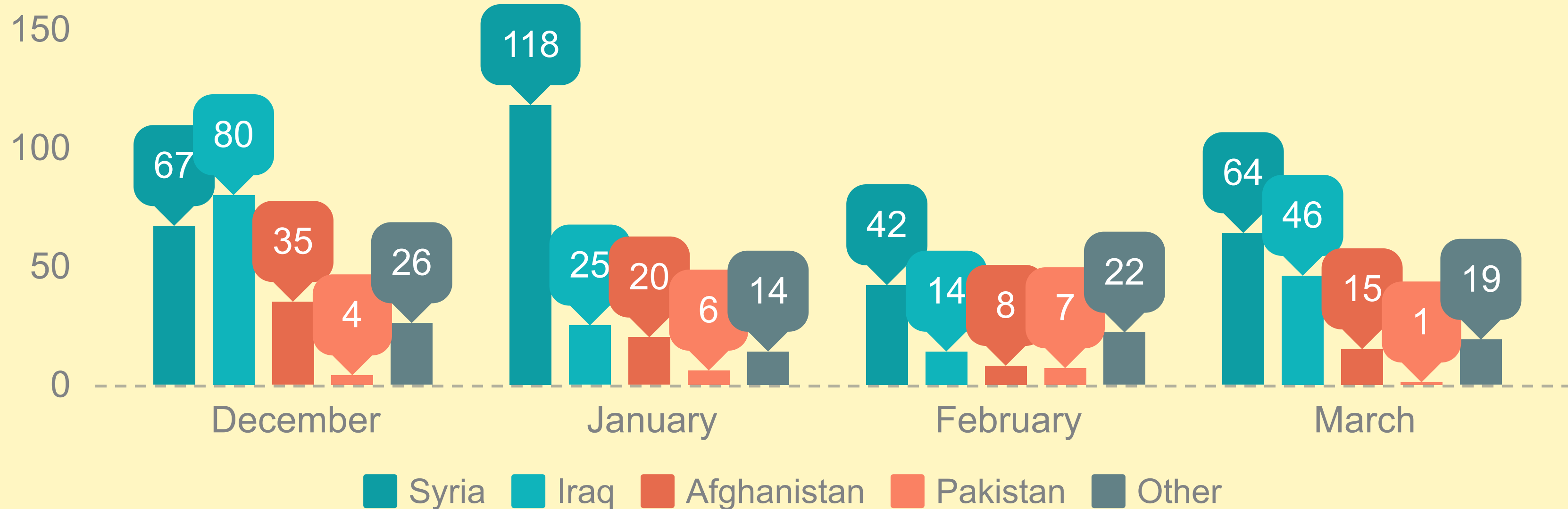
# 633

## 3rd country nationals

entered Bulgaria on the period of Dec 2017 - March 2018.

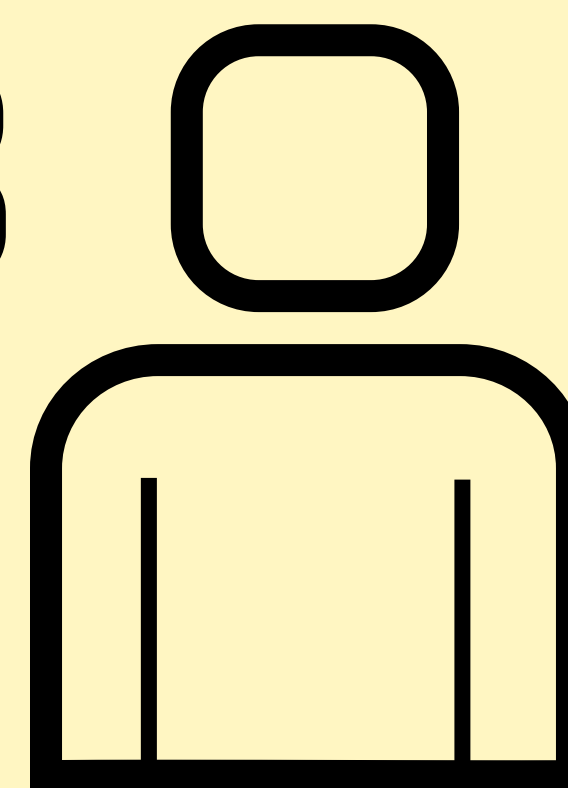


### Entry by Nationality



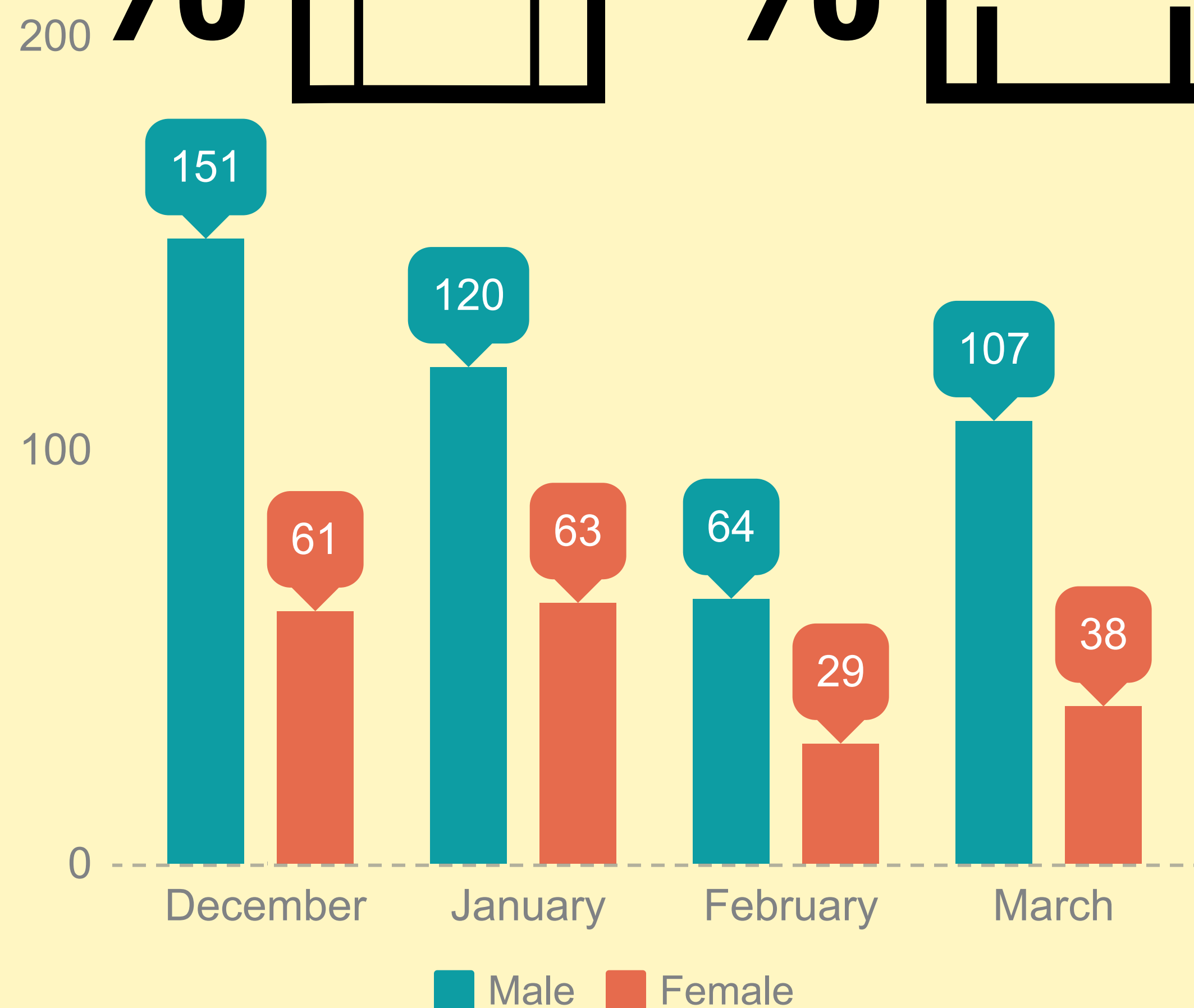
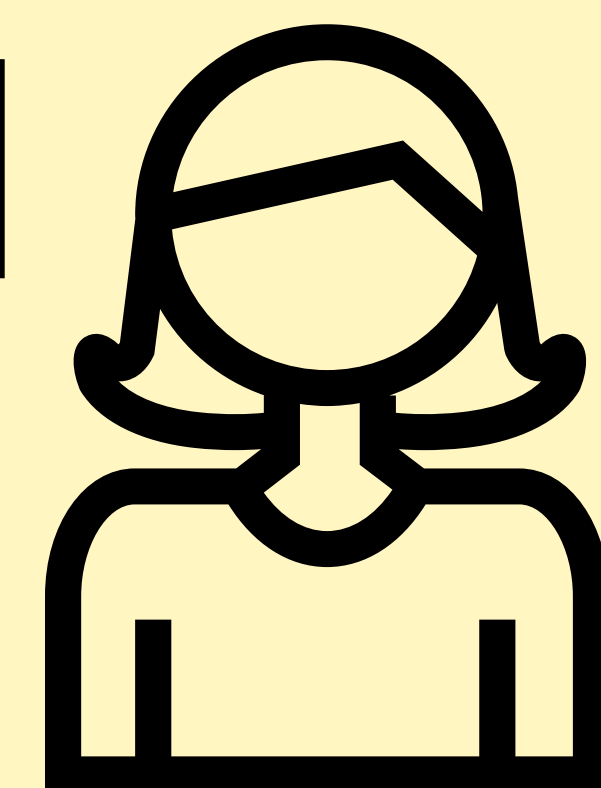
# 69.8

# %



# 30.1

# %



# 144

People detained by Police



186

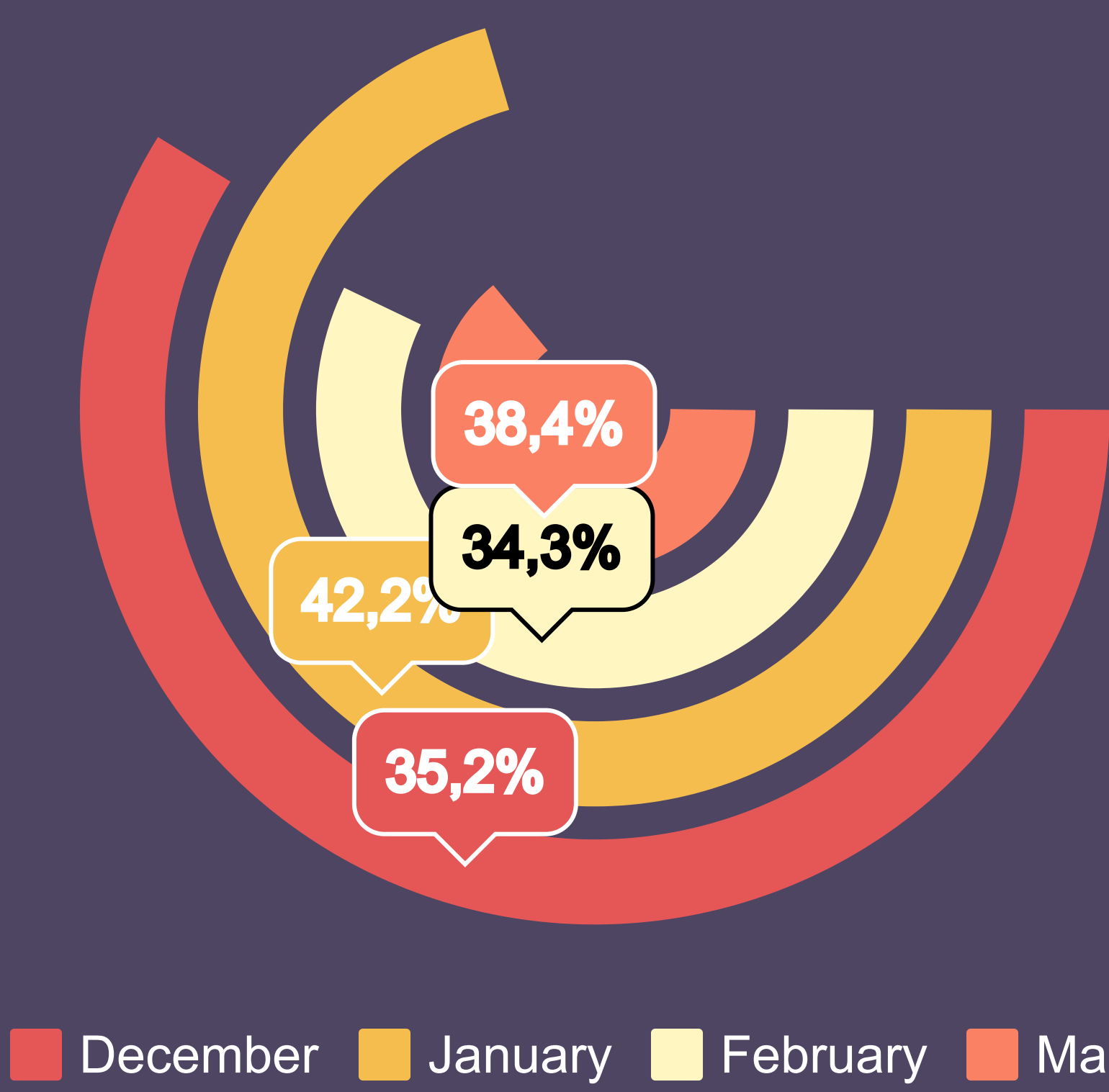


19

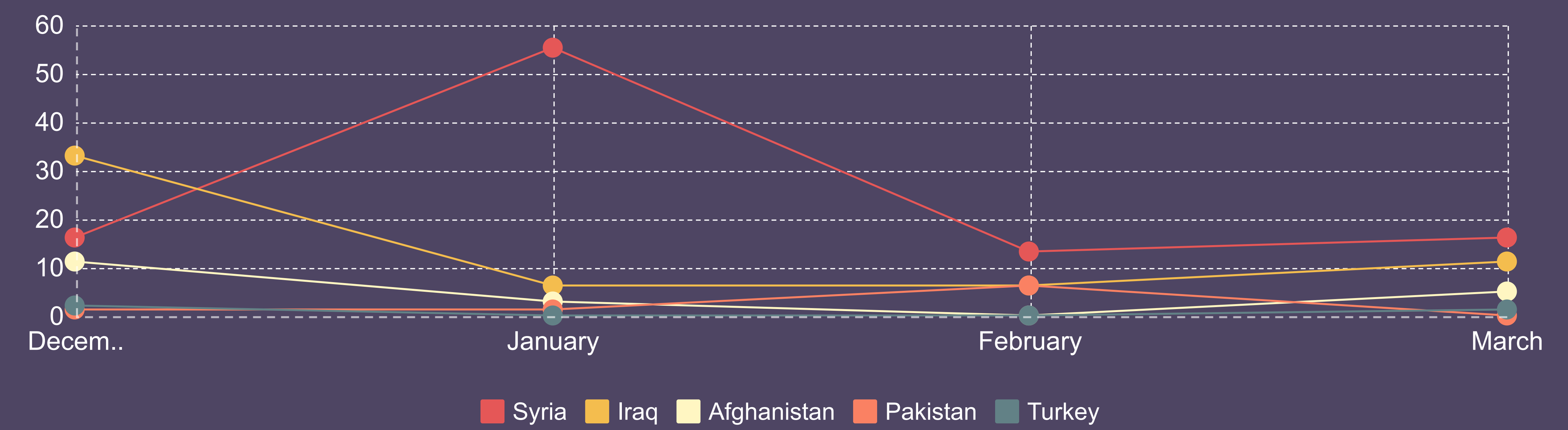
of these, were children

Children detained by Border Police

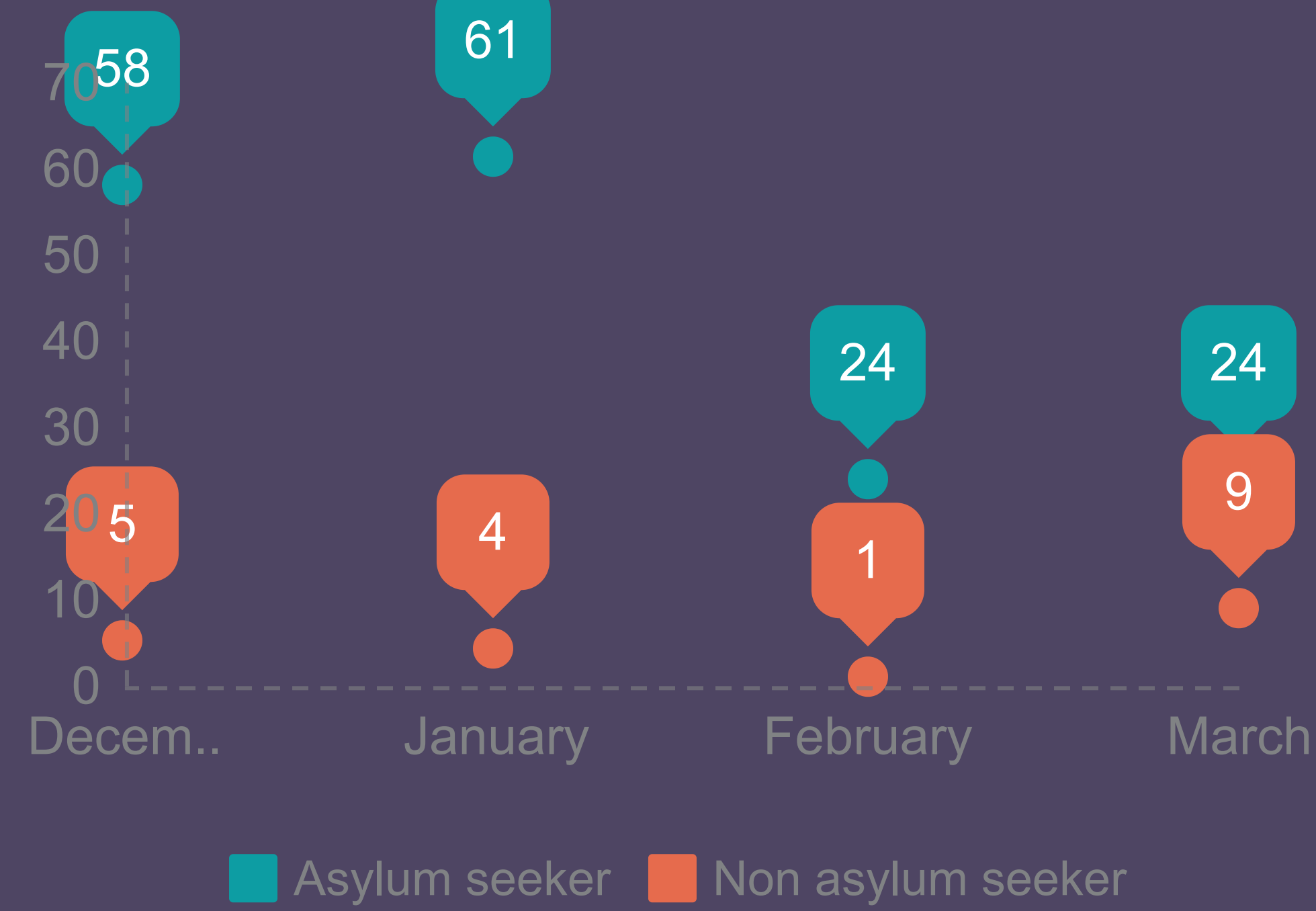
% of Children entering the country by month



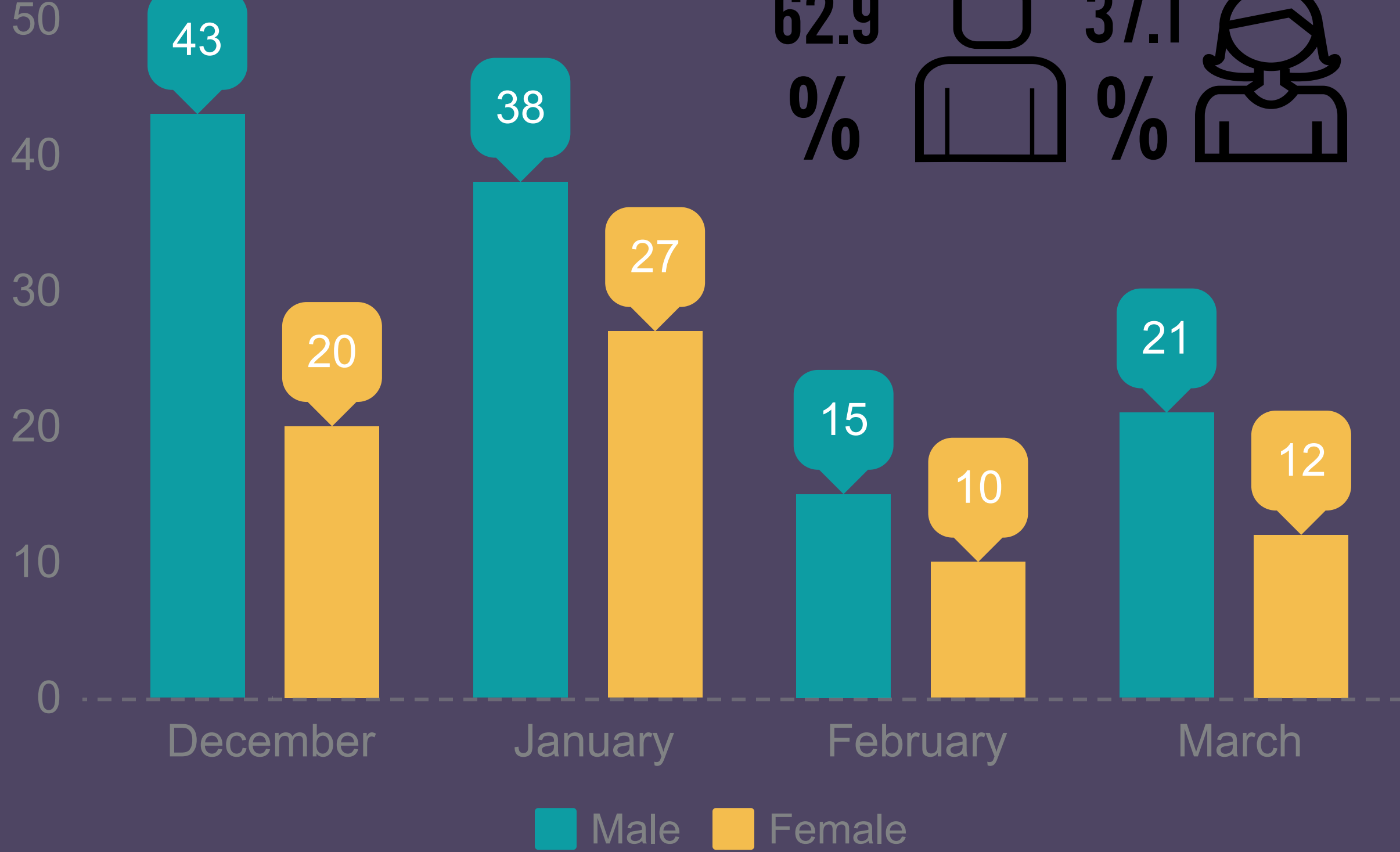
Nr. of Children entering by nationality



Nr. of Children entering by status

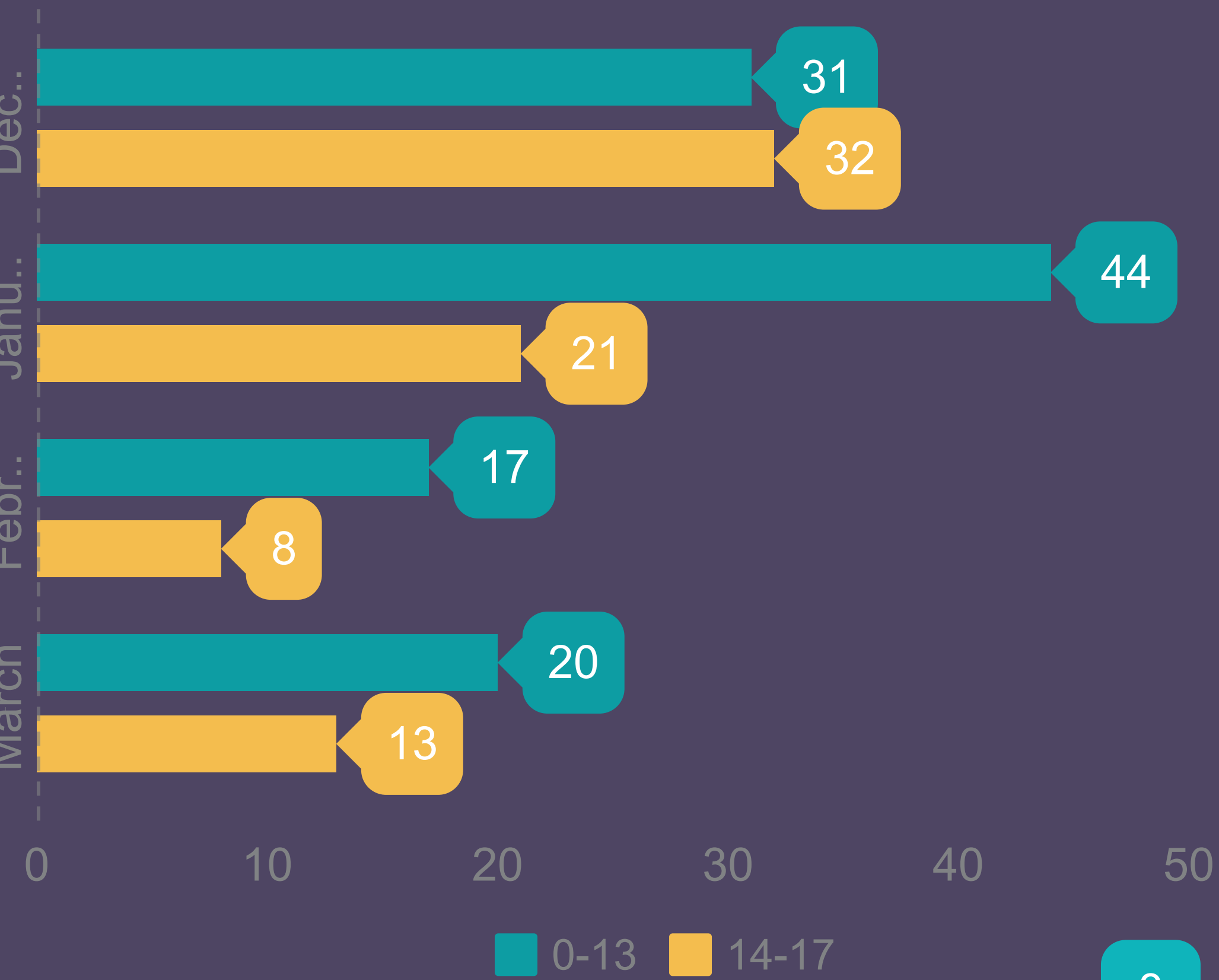


Gender of Children entering Bulgaria monthly



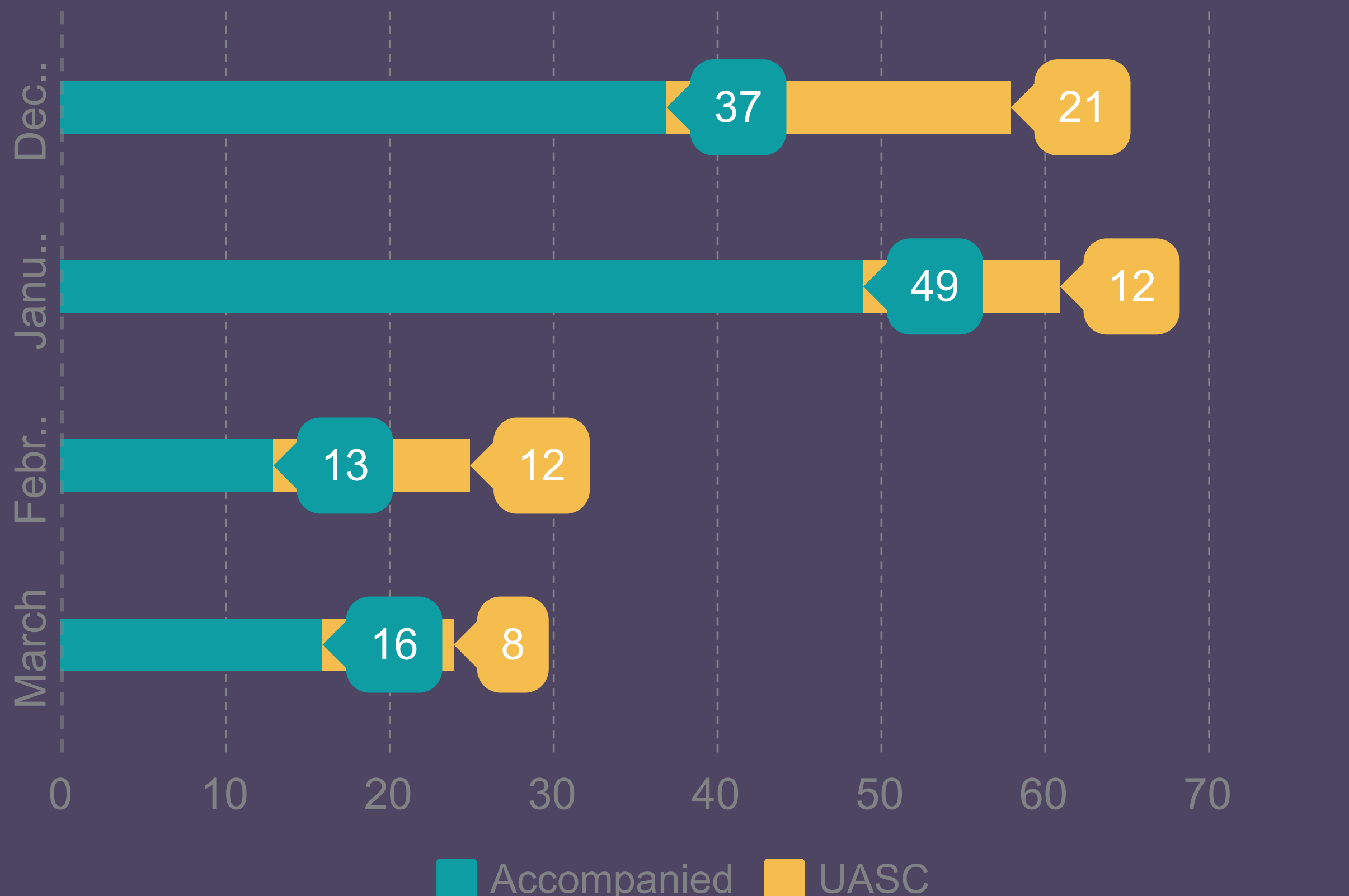
60.2 % of the total were of age between 0 to 13 years old

39.8 % of the total were of age between 14 and 17 years old

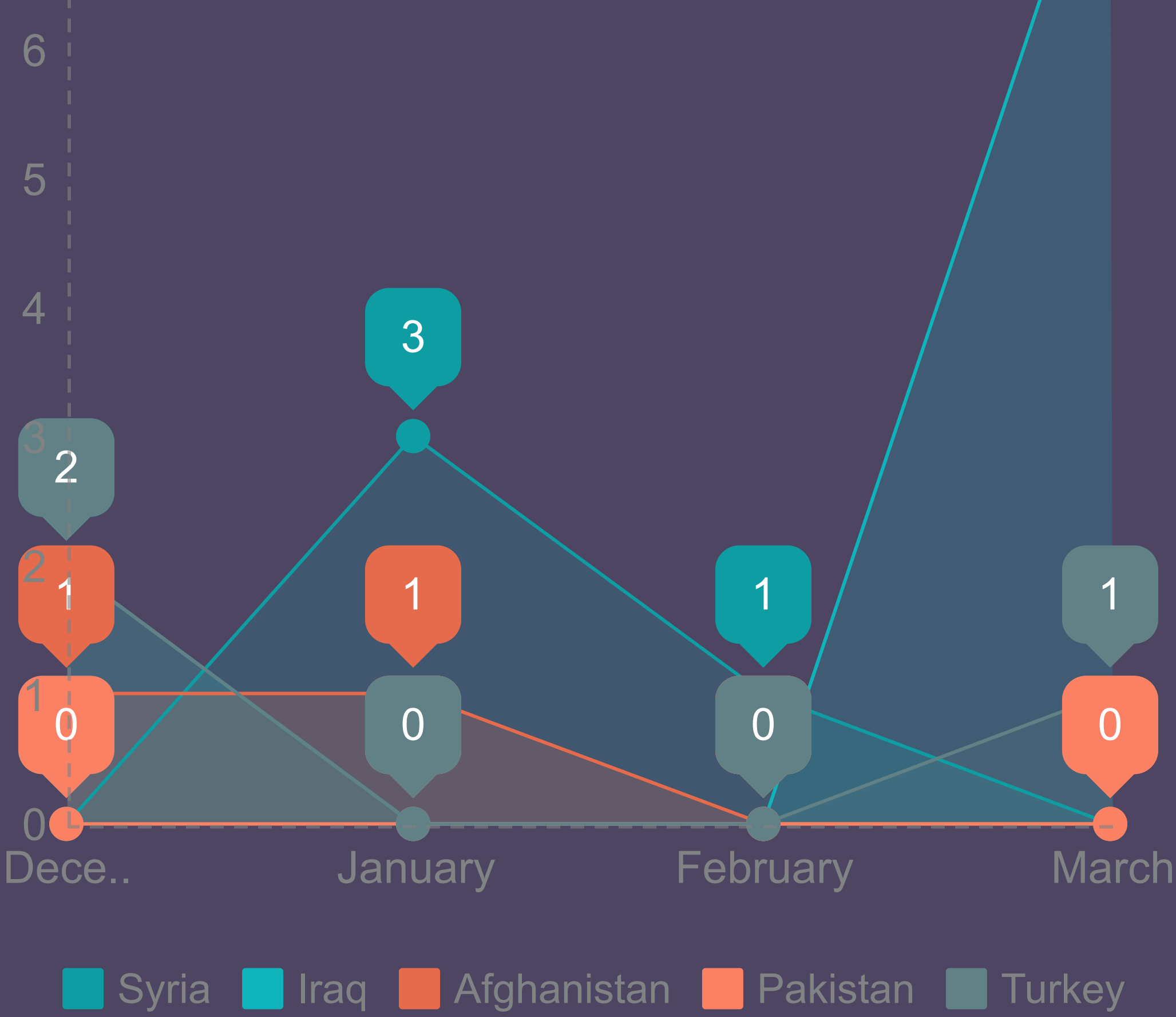


68.5 % Accompanied

31.5 % UASC



Nationality of children detained by Border Police



The data collection activities in Bulgaria made use of the monthly statistical reports that are published by the Bulgarian authorities such as SAR and MOI. The monthly reports issued by SAR, inter alia, contain data on asylum applicants and main nationalities. Monthly reports published by MOI contain data related to migration, including figures on apprehension. Additionally, data collection had relied on the utilization of the reports coming from the coordination meetings held by SAR with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) at the end of each month (National Coordination Mechanism). Freedom of Information requests were drafted and submitted to the SAR, the MOI as well as the Ministry of Education and Sciences. Within these FOI requests, the national authorities were approached with sets of questions aimed at providing the required data for the developed indicators.



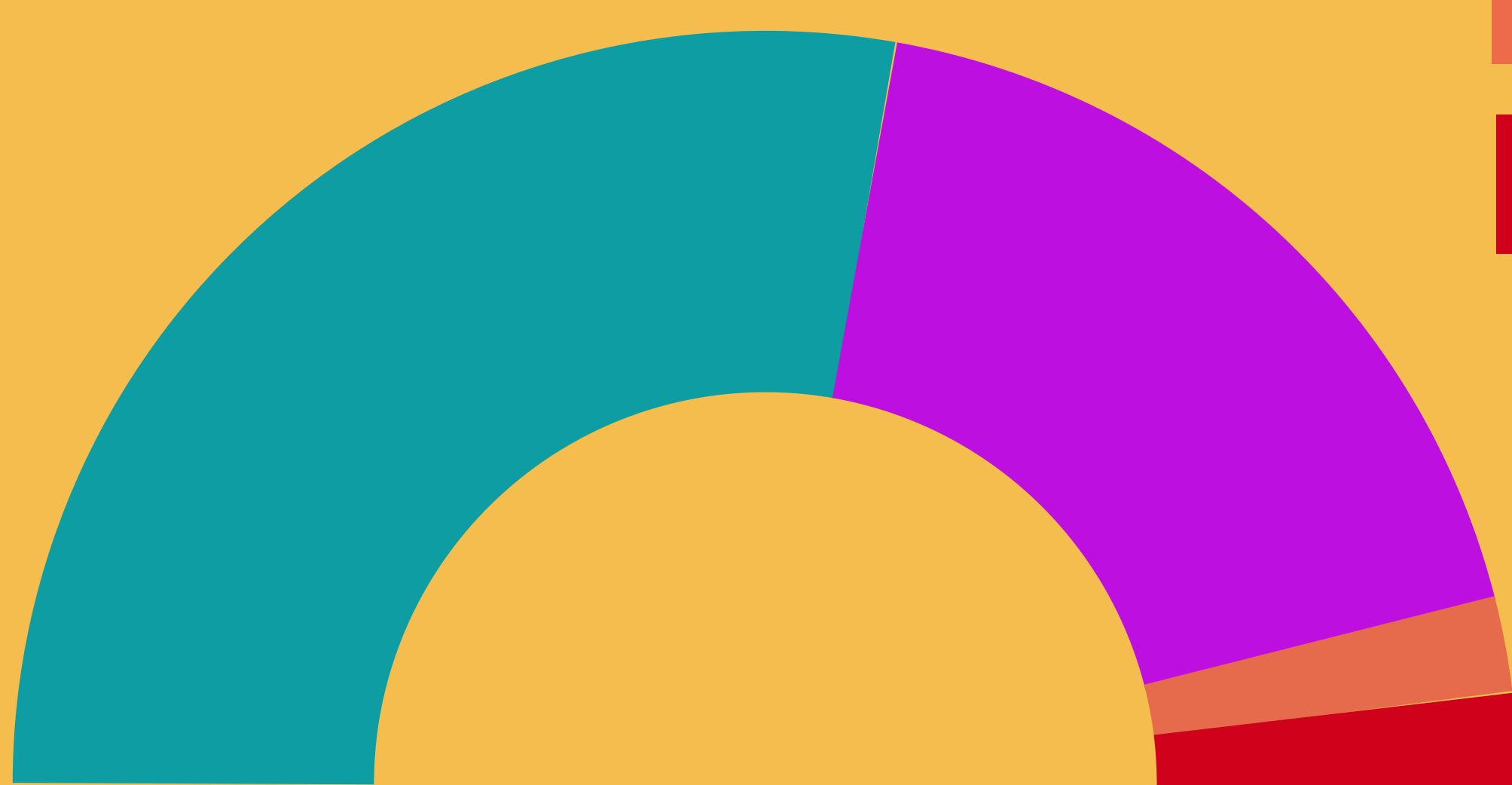
# Statistics on People exiting the country

**326** people exit in December

**215** people exit in January

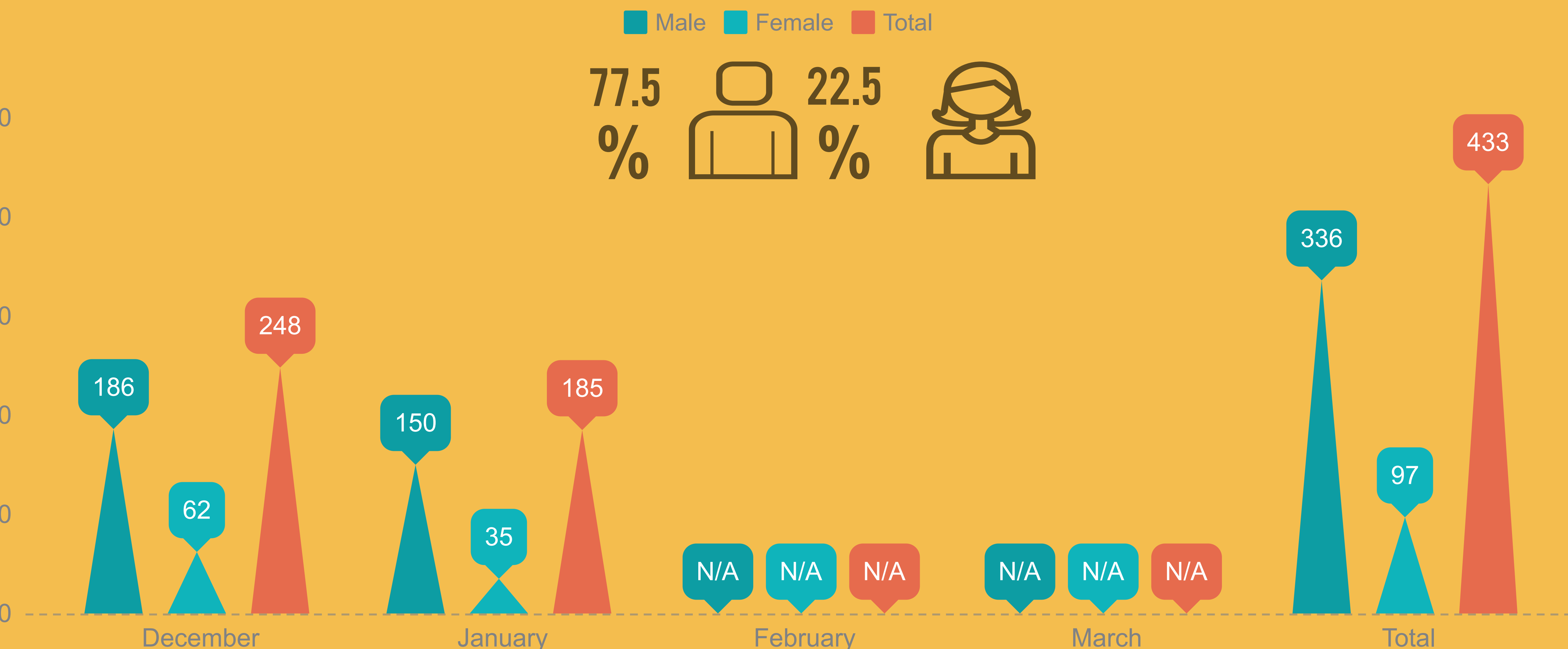
**24** people exit in February

**24** people exit in March

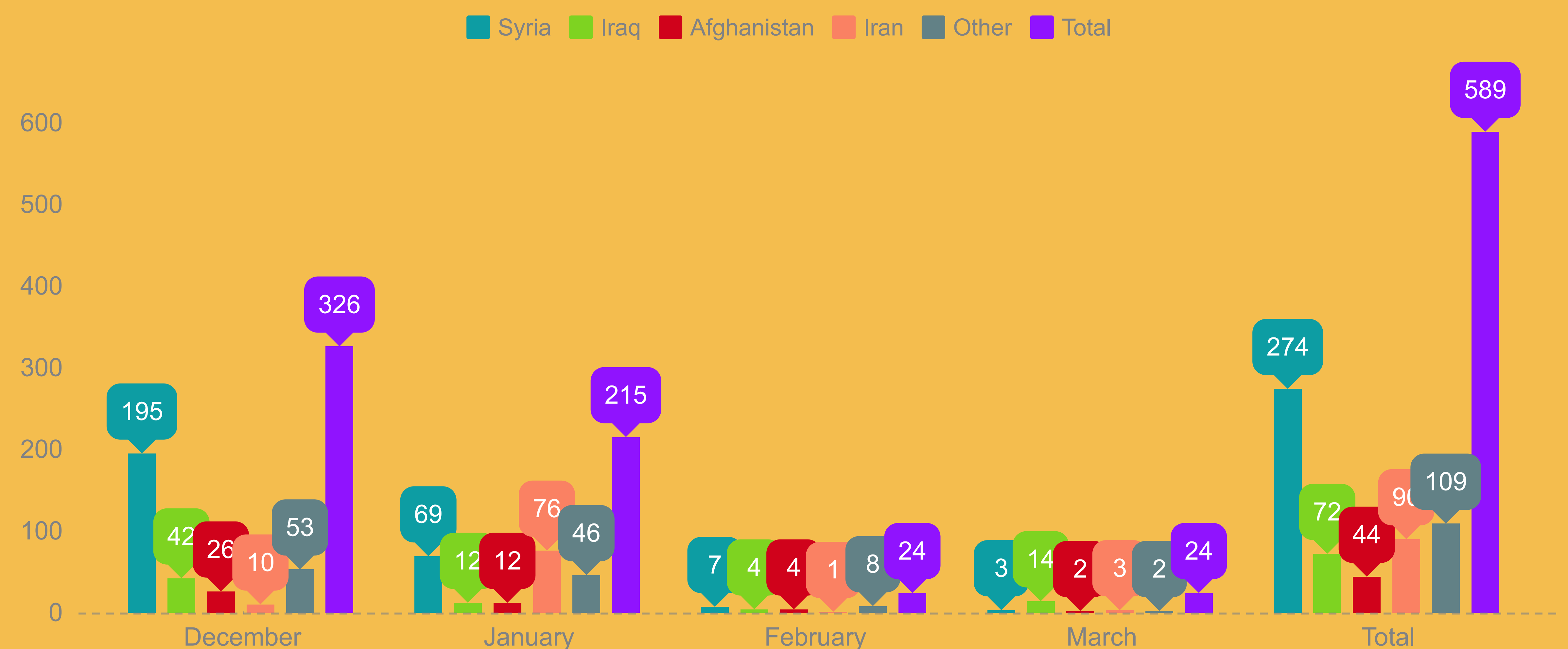


The data above represent the exits of people from the country between the first and last day of the month

The data for February and March represent only the irregular exits from the country between the first and last day of the month



Gender breakdown for the month of February and March were not provided by the responsible authorities

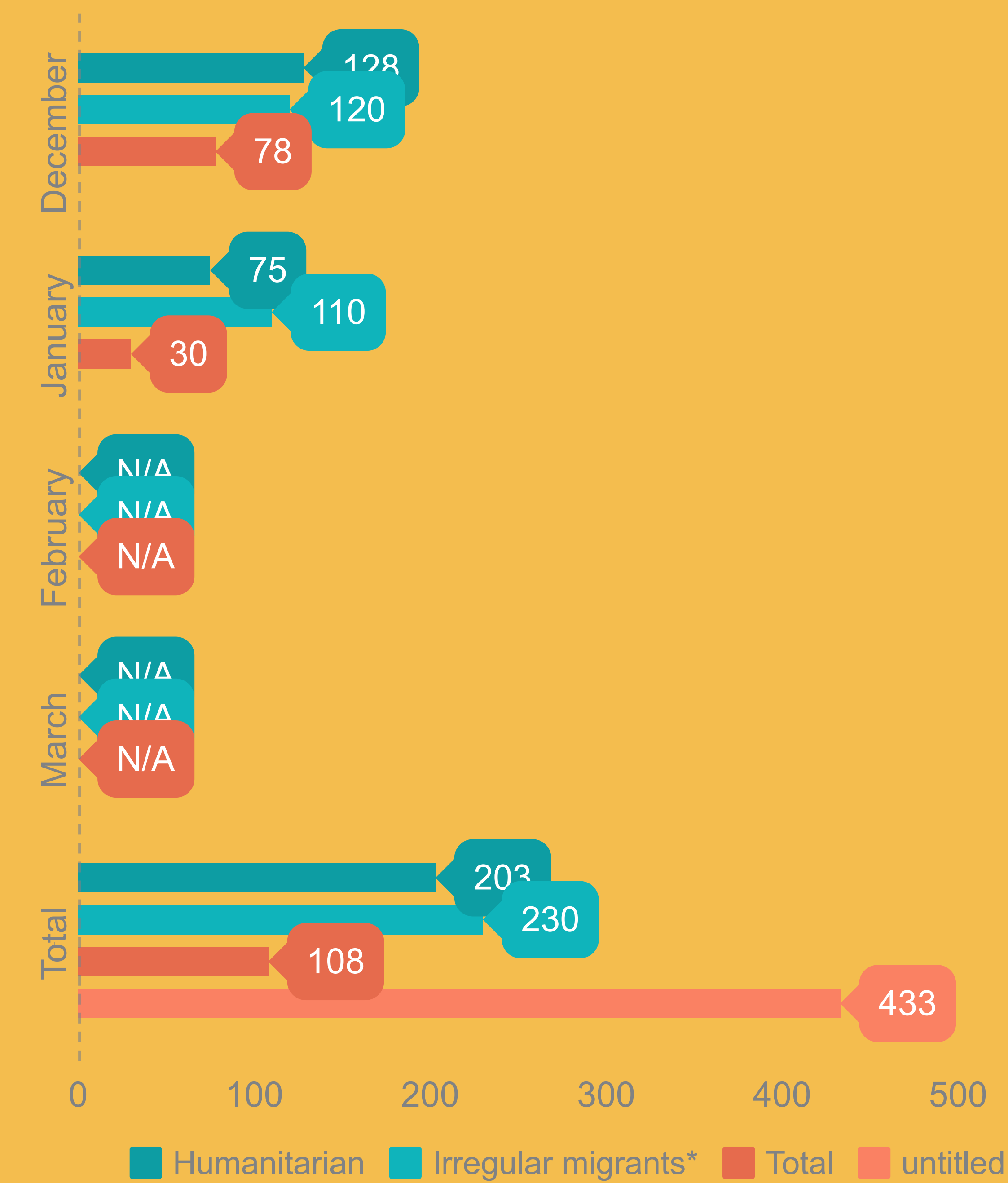
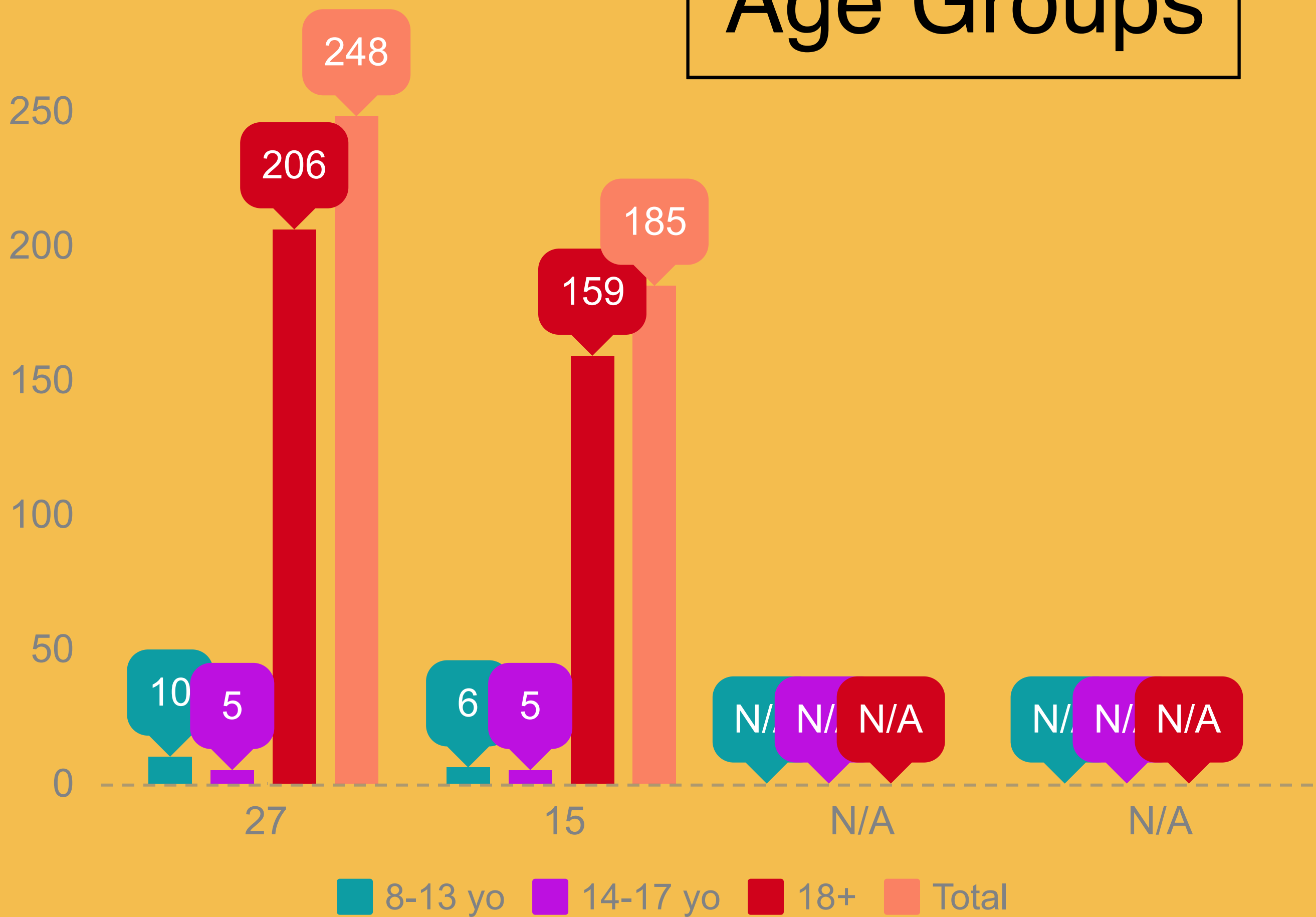


The above data and nationality breakdown include the attempts to exit irregularly the country by 3rd country nationals

Available statistics on  
**Status of Children**

Available statistics on  
**Age Groups**

Reply from the MoI  
"Statistics on the UASC exiting the country are not collected"



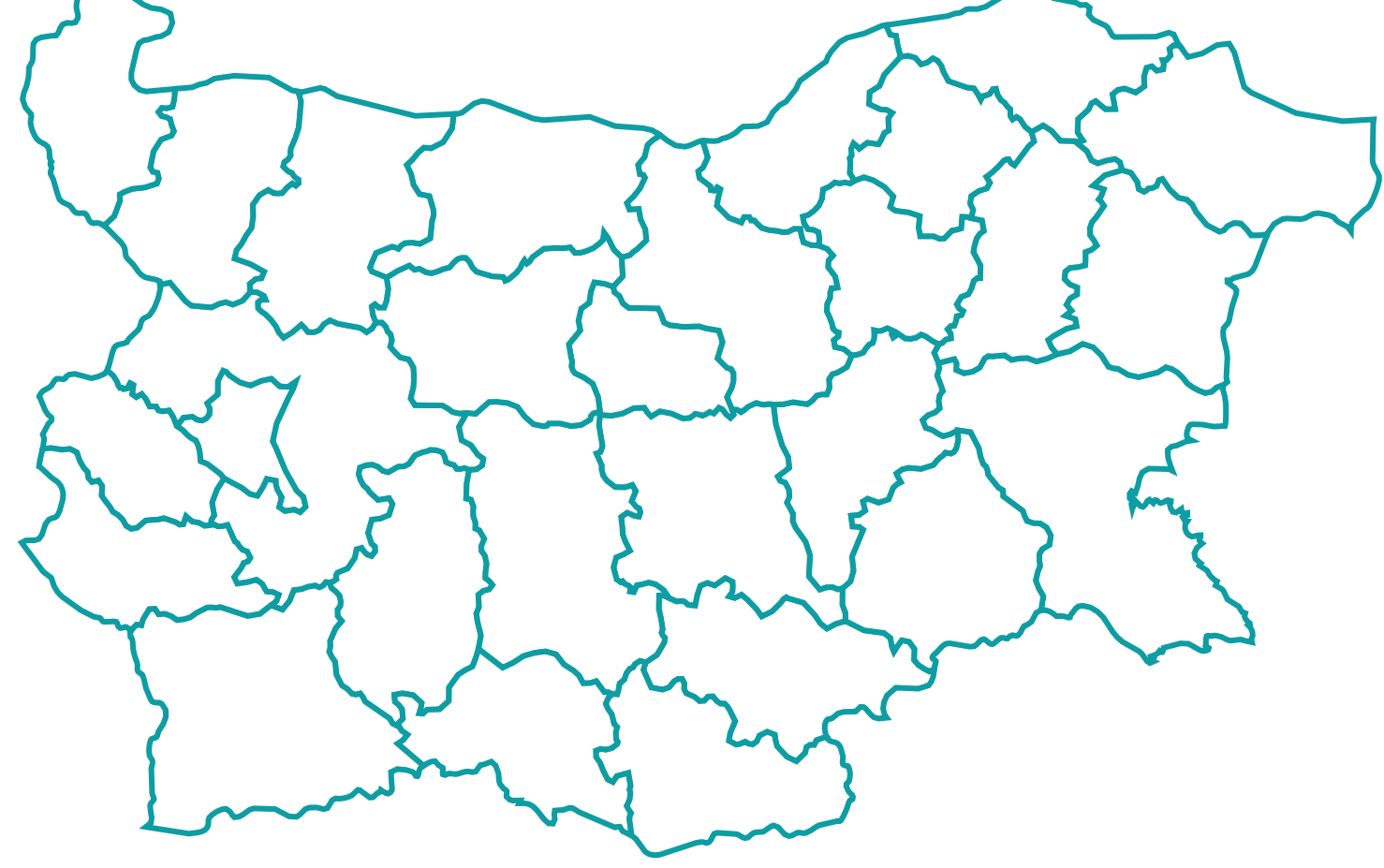
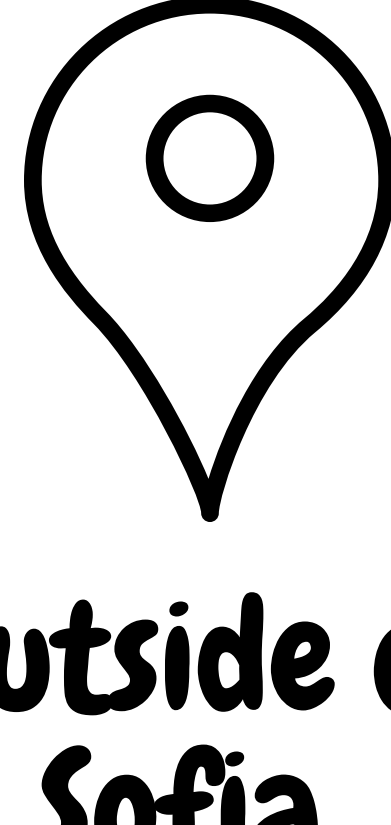
## Legal Status of those exiting the country

Data for the months of February and March are missing due to non response from the respective authorities

\* Attempted to exit the country and detained by Border Police (the status is unknown, can be irregular or asylum seekers such people from Afghanistan)



# Statistics on People accommodated in open reception facilities

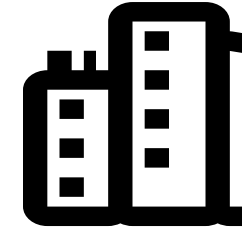


 Voenna Rampa

 Ovcha Kupel

 Vrazhdebna

 Pystrogor

 Banya

 Harmanli



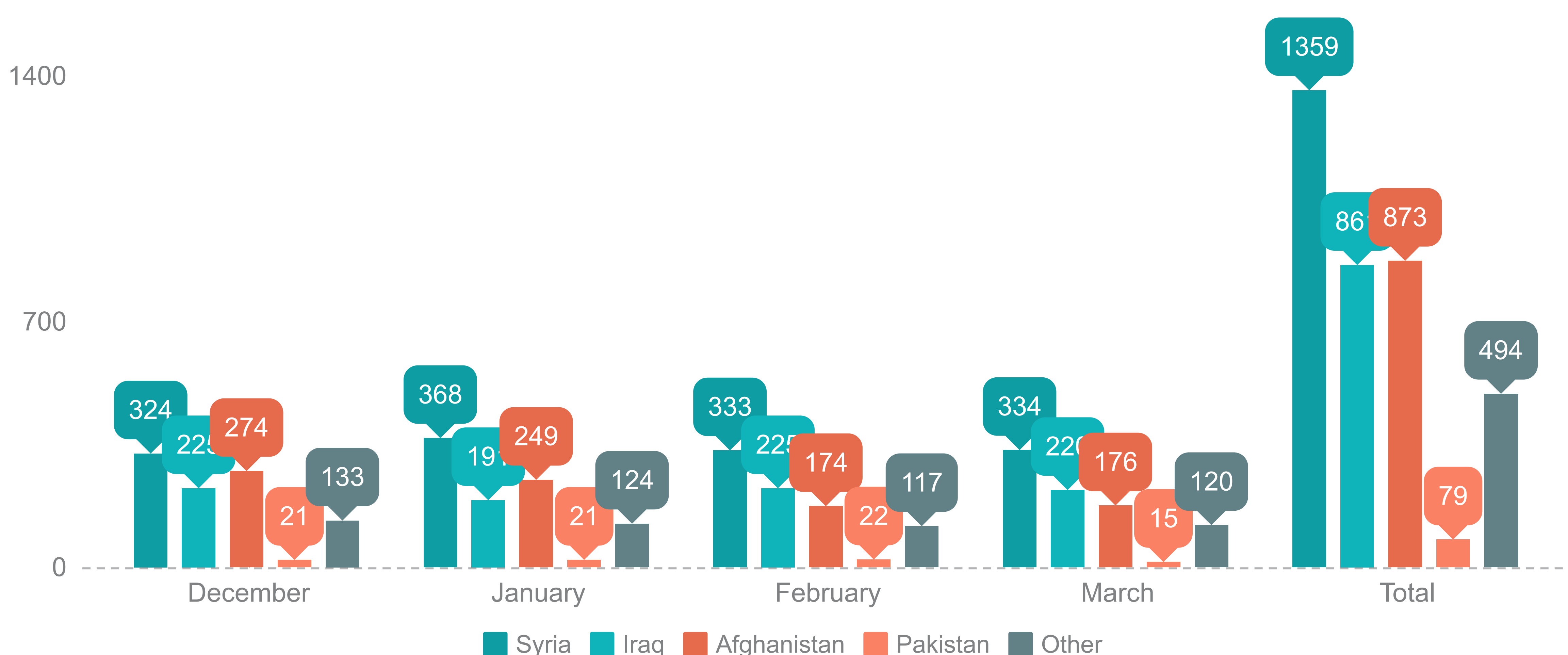
977 December 568 January 514 February 520 March



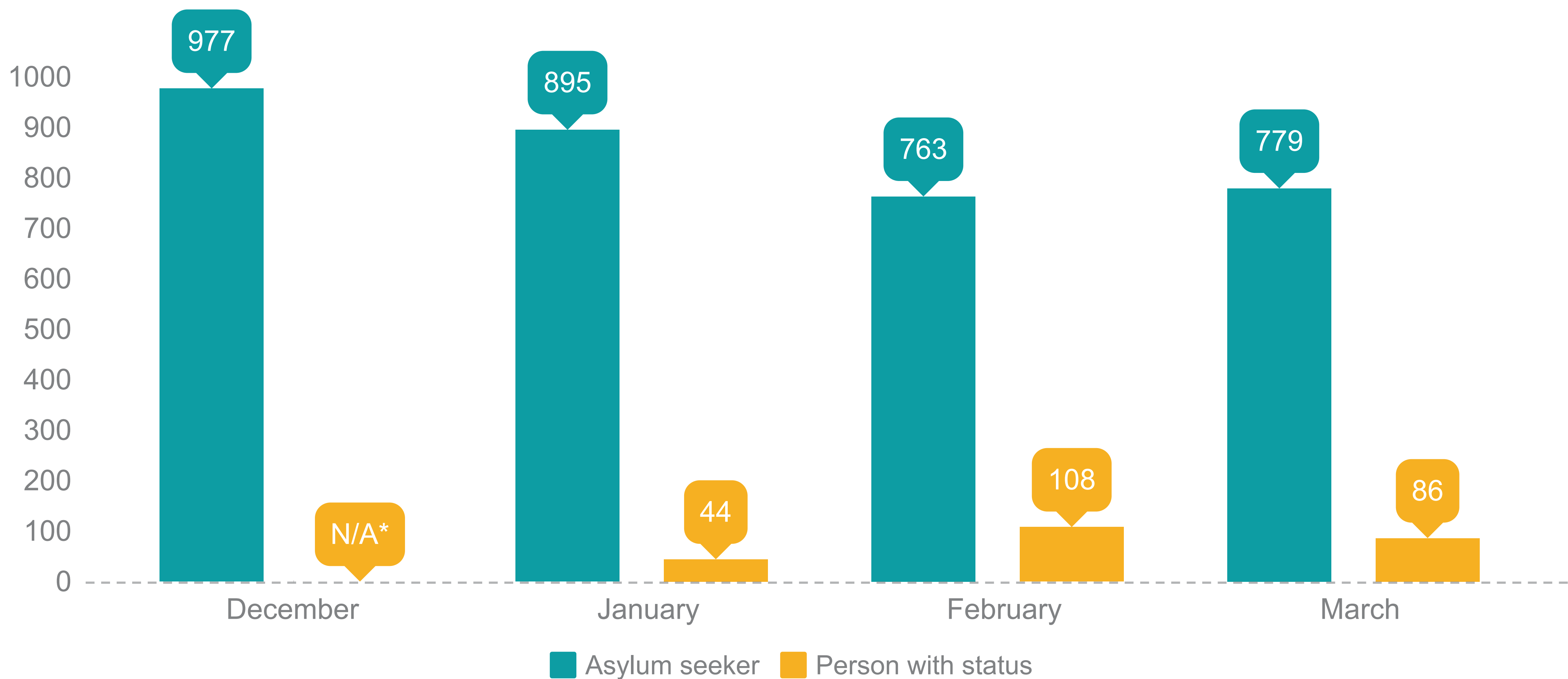
N/A December 371 January 375 February 345 March

**Total of 3666**  
people accommodated in the six facilities

## Nationality of Accommodated People

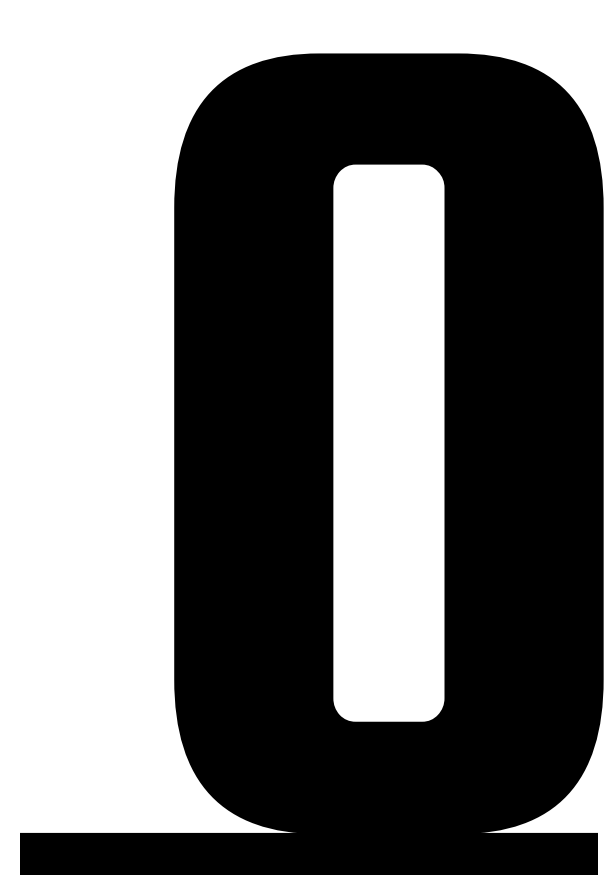
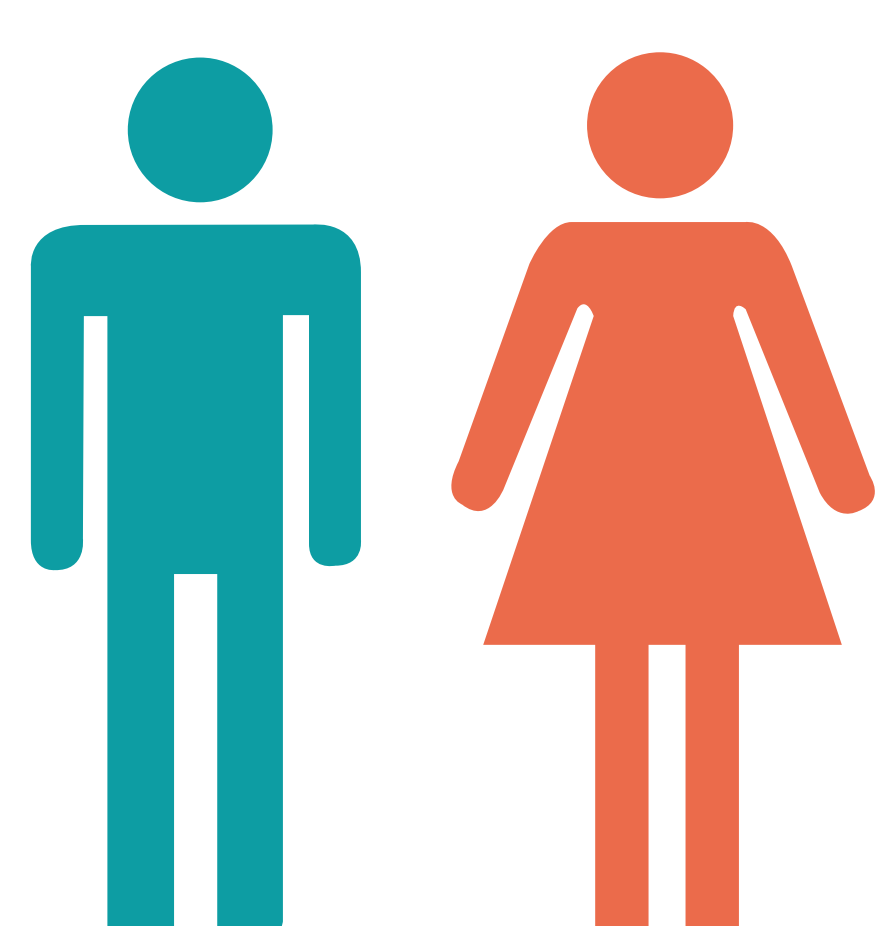
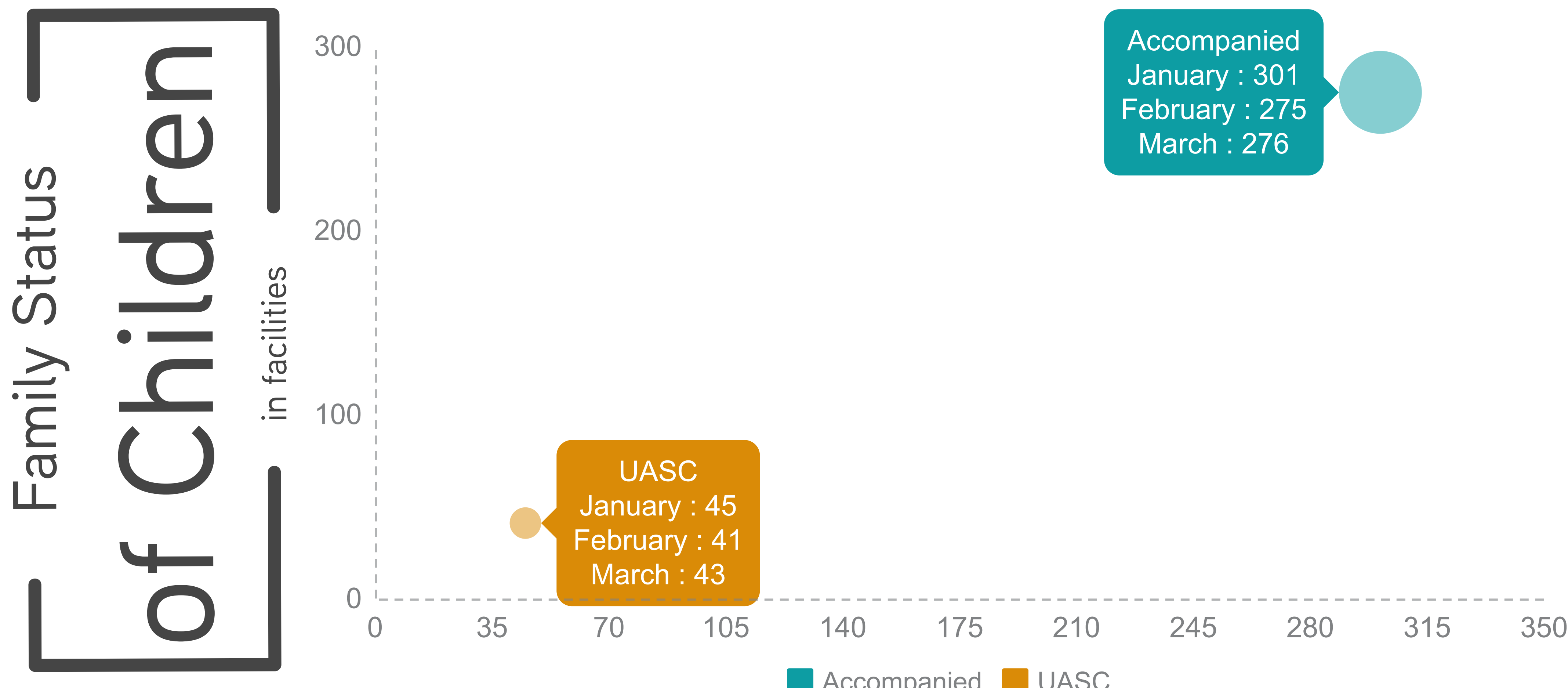
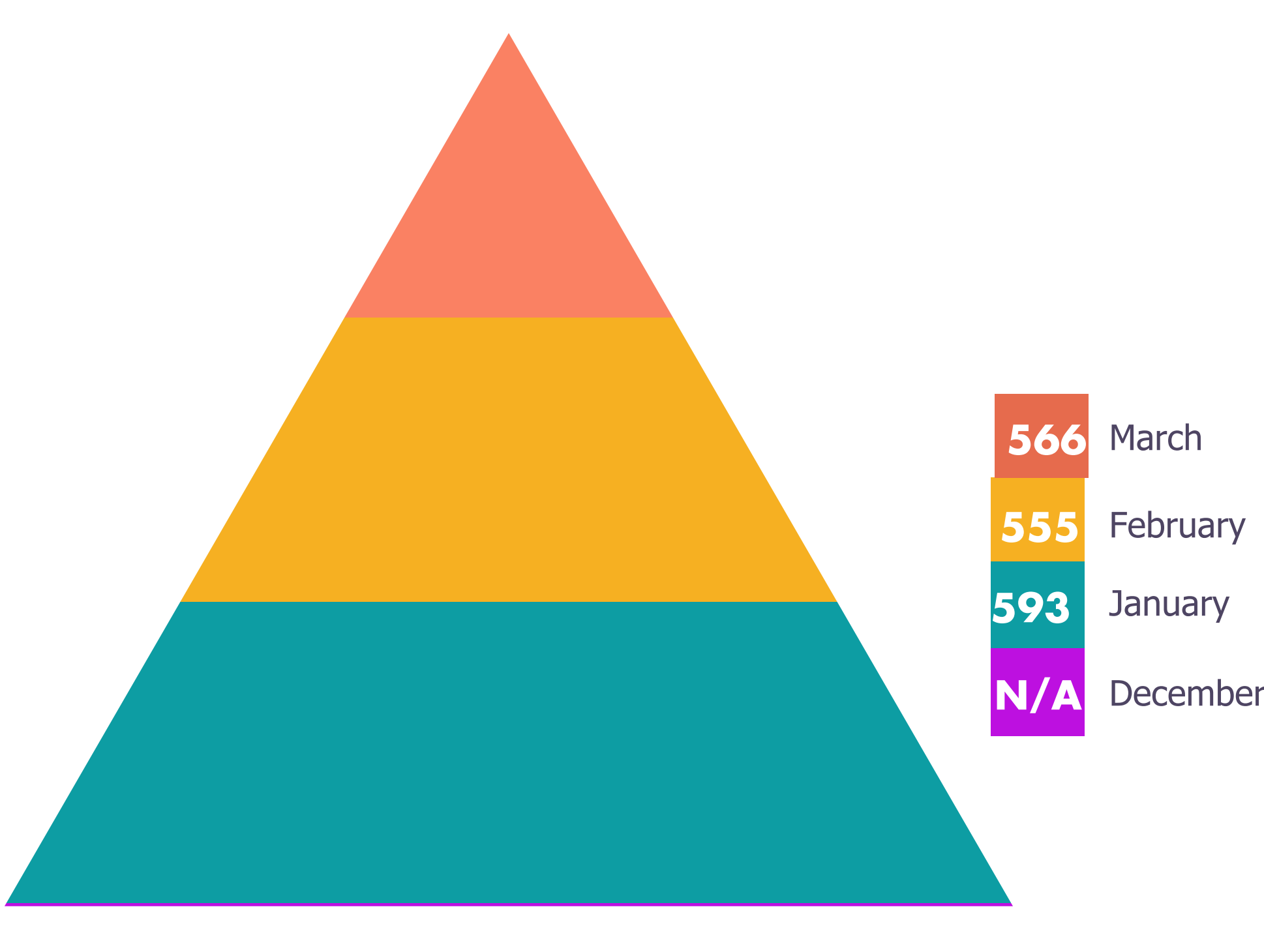
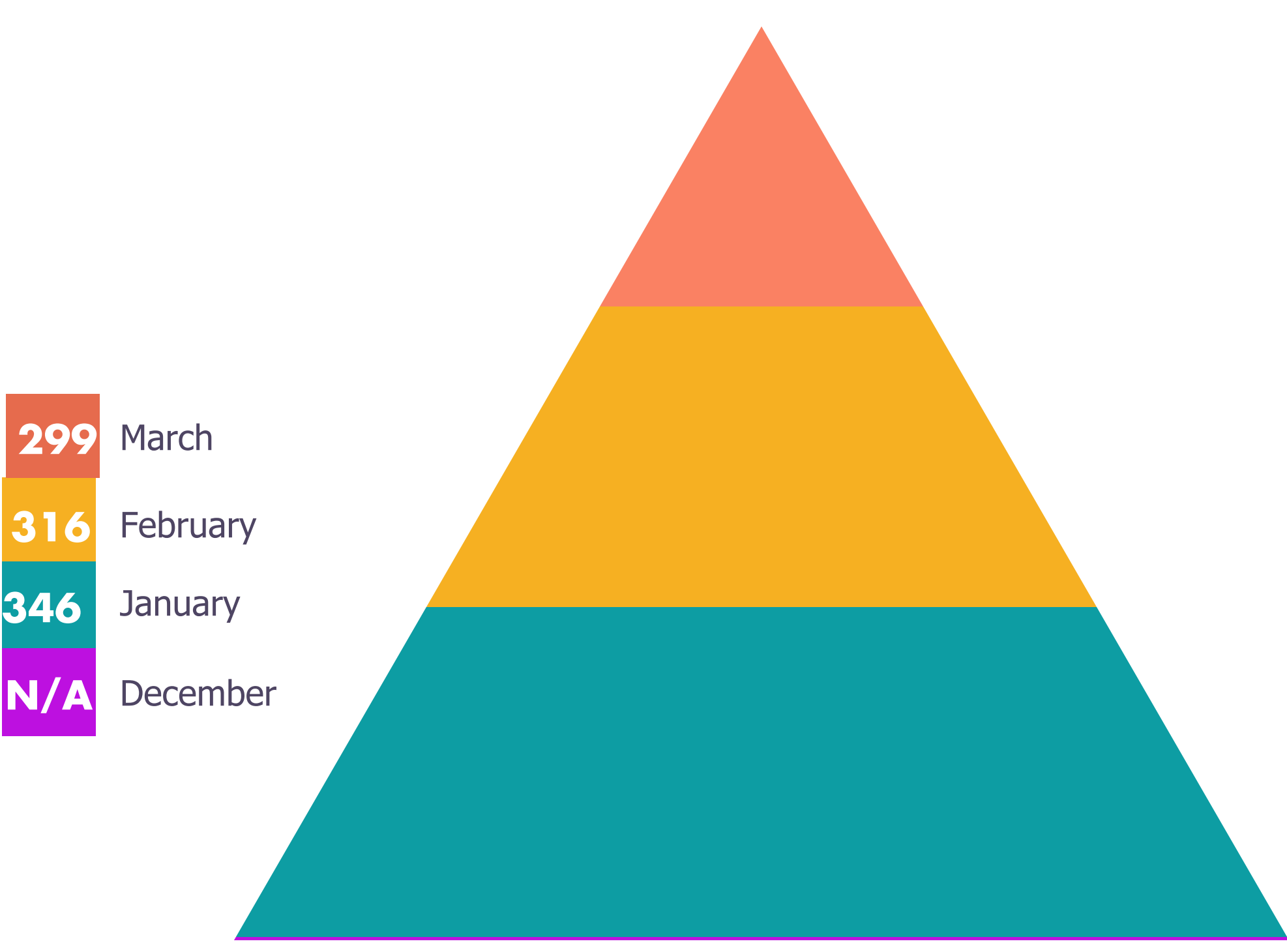


## Legal Status of Accommodated People



## Children accommodated in facilities monthly

## Adults accommodated in facilities monthly



## "Information Available."

The Bulgarian State Agency for Refugees failed to answer our Freedom of Information request on gender data of the children accommodated in the reception centres. Informally we received information that the agency does not collect such data.

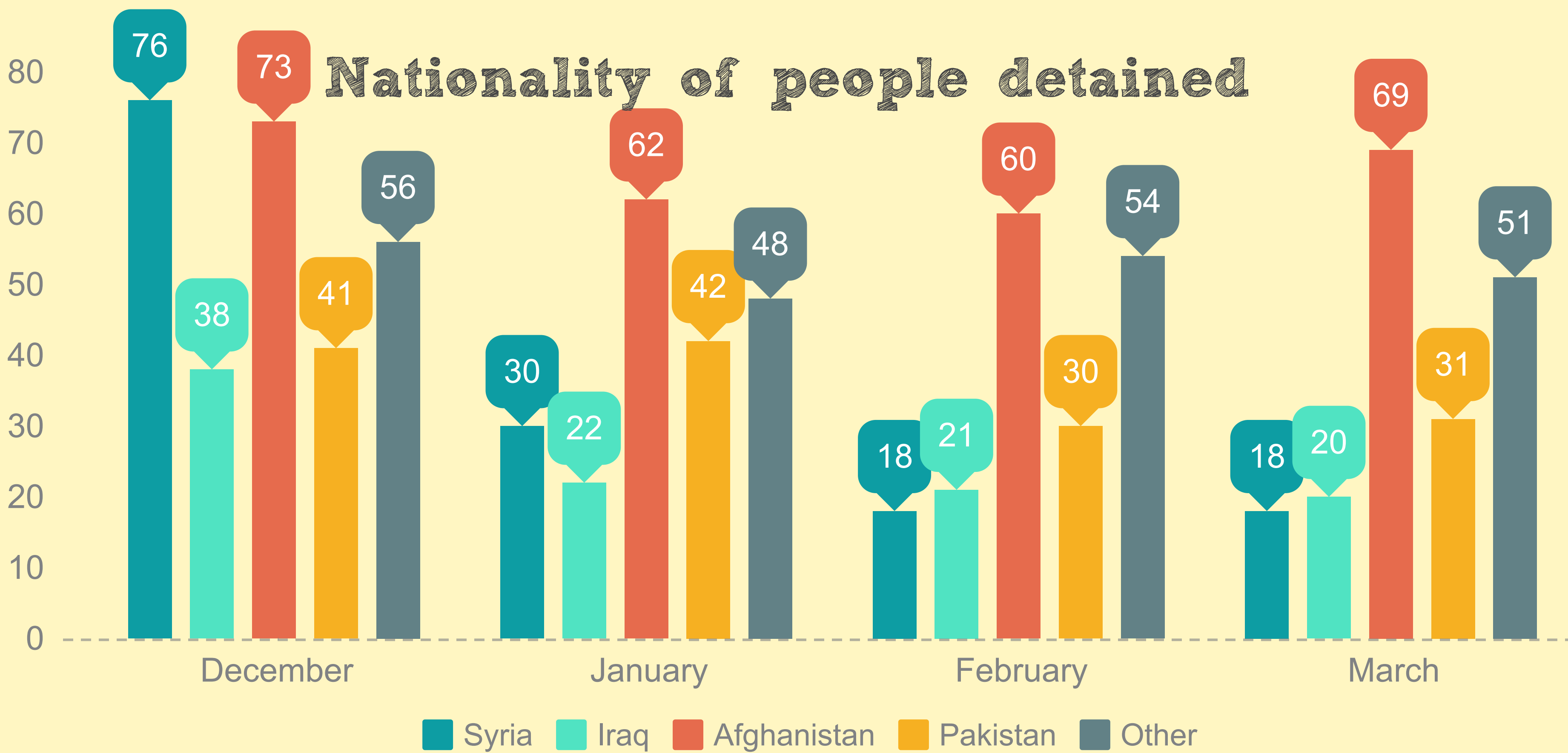




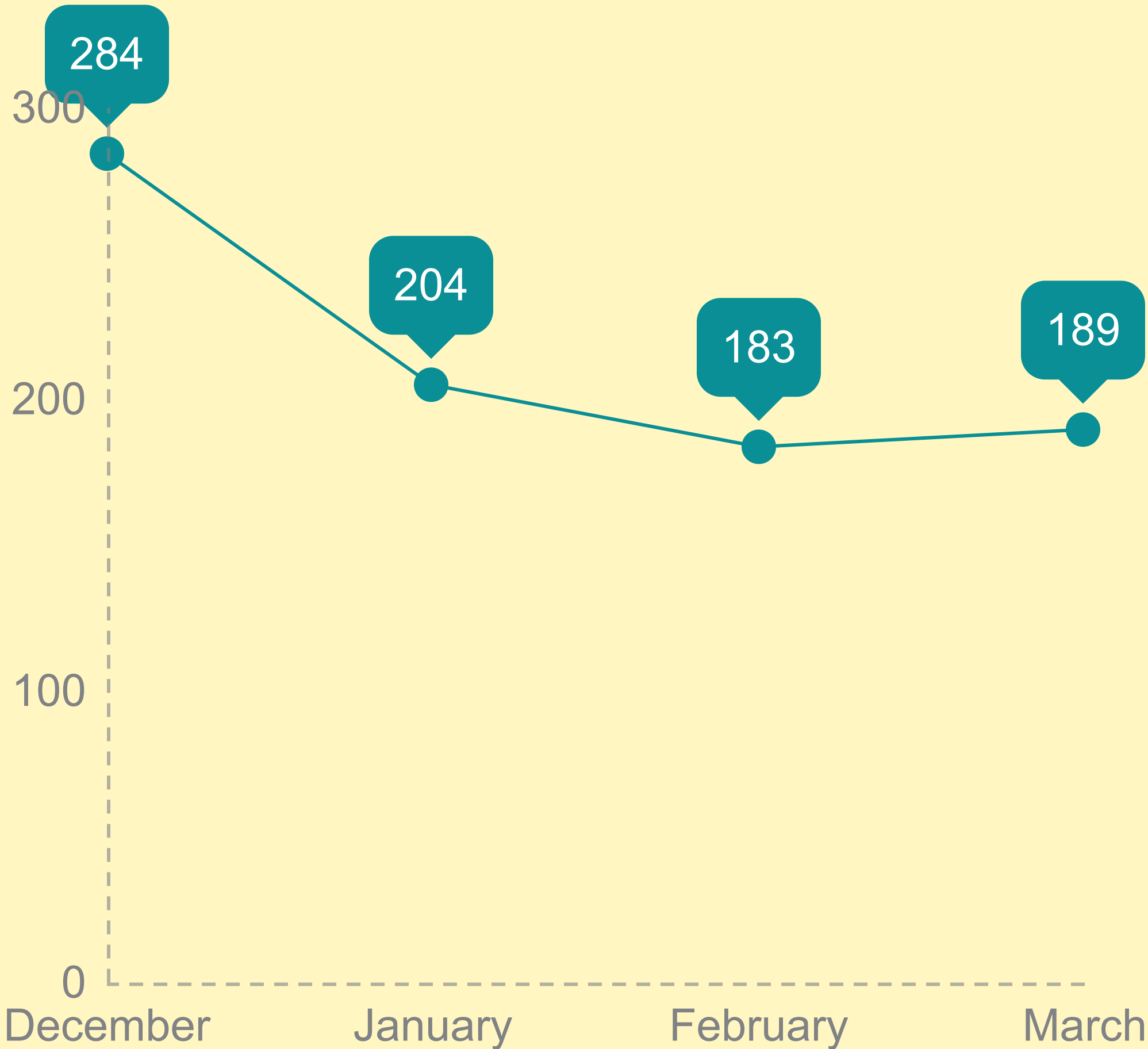
# People in detention centers

860

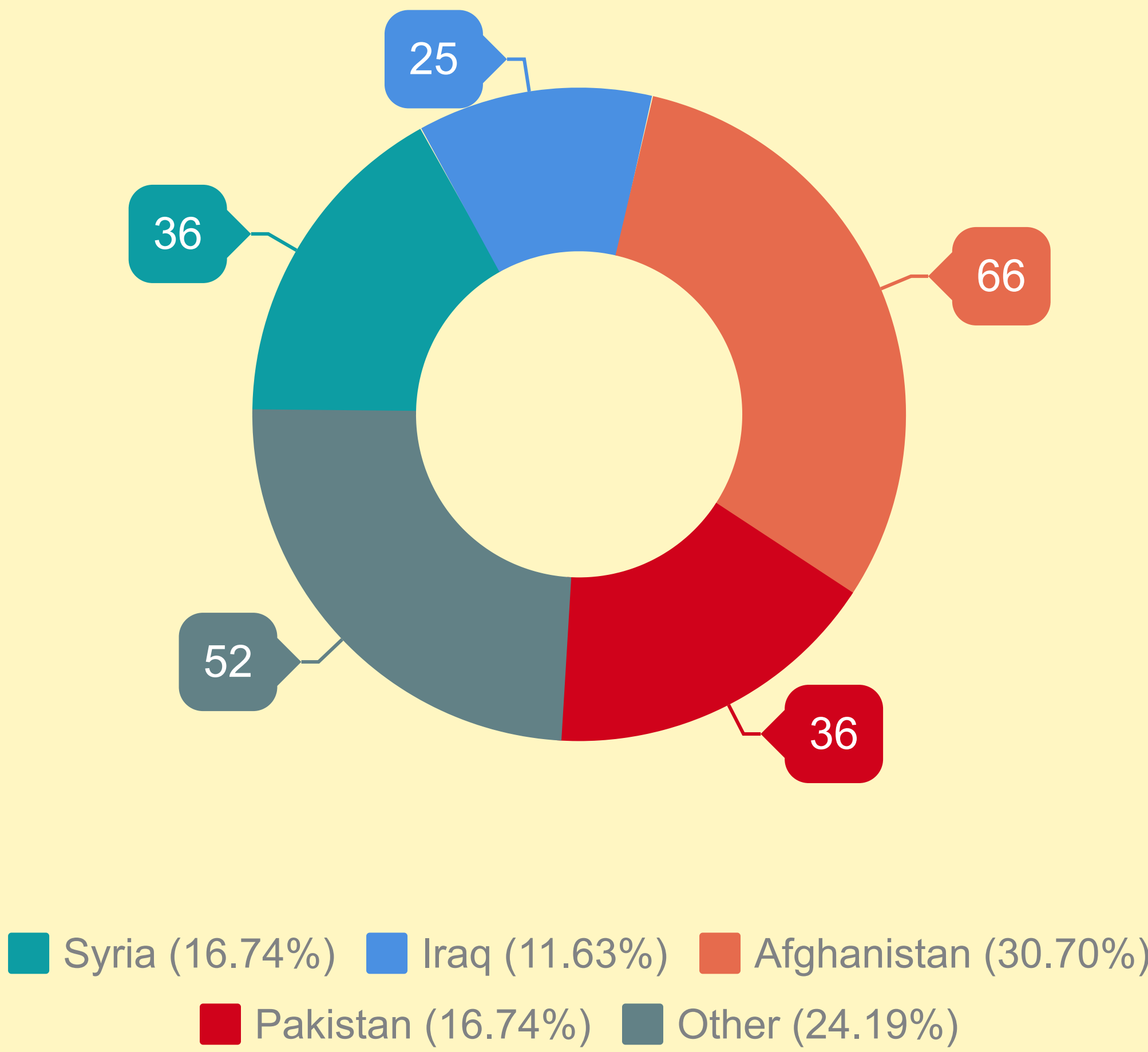
People  
detained in 4  
months



Number of people detained monthly



Average of people detained for the 4 months



## Gender, Age, legal status and family status of children

Statistics were NOT provided by the authorities



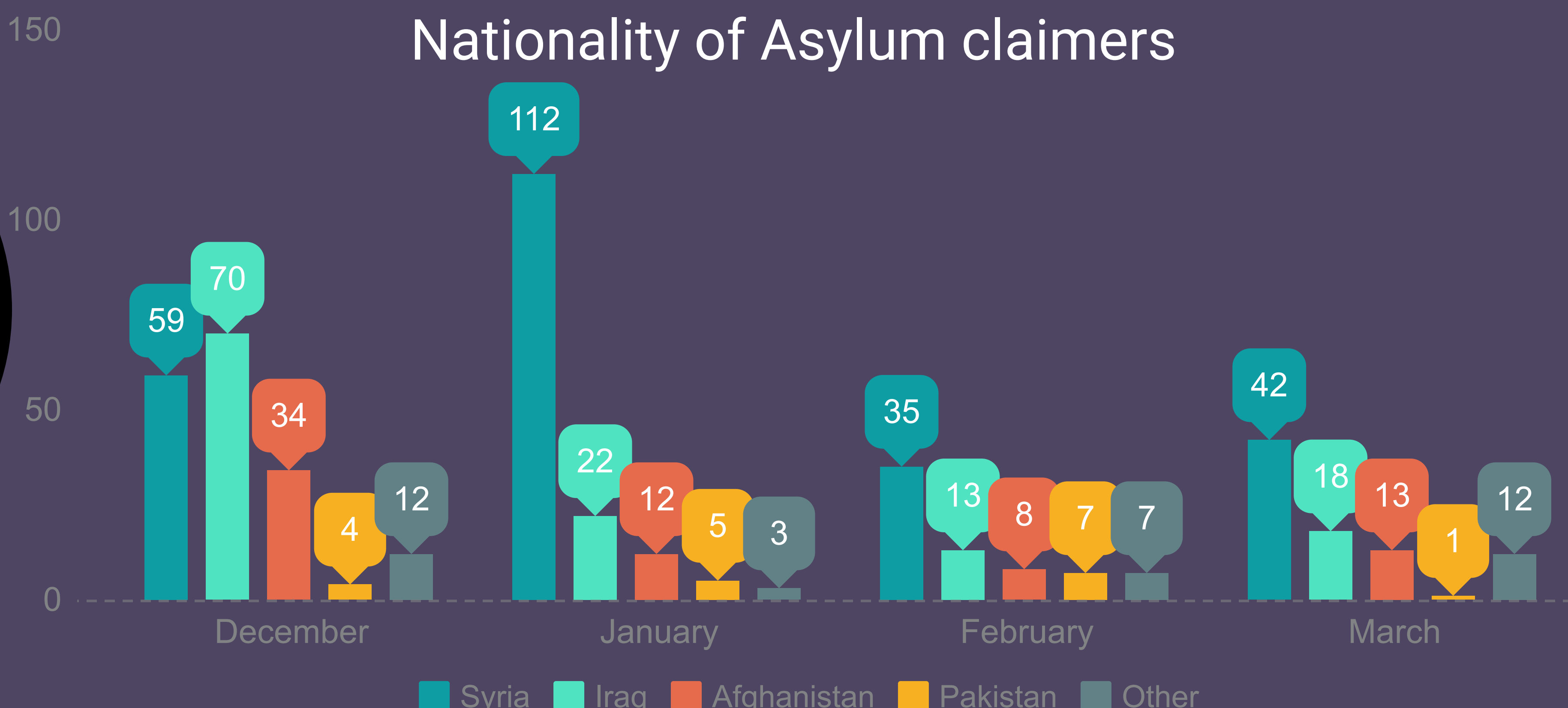


# Asylum Claims submitted

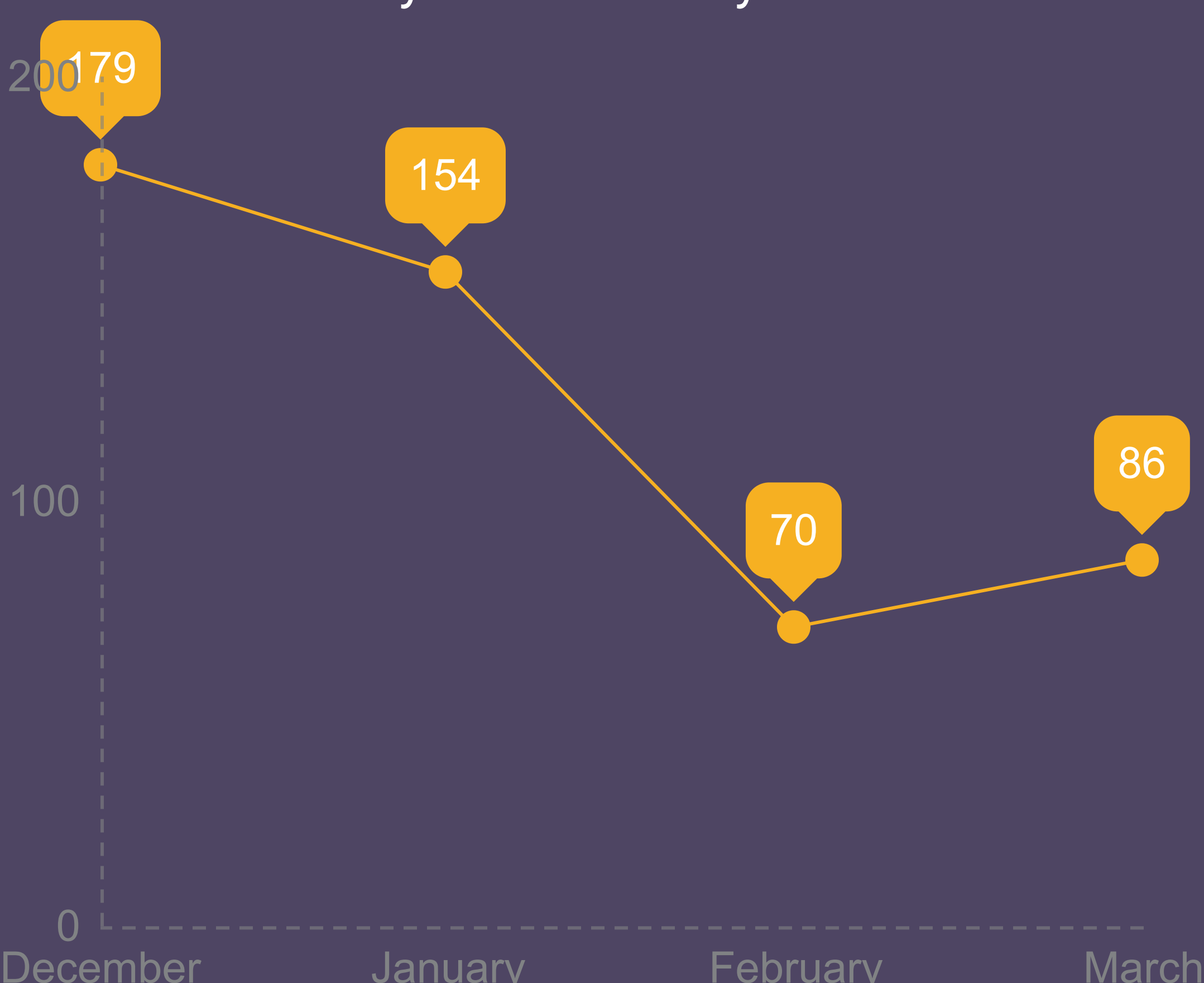
403

Asylum applications in 4 months

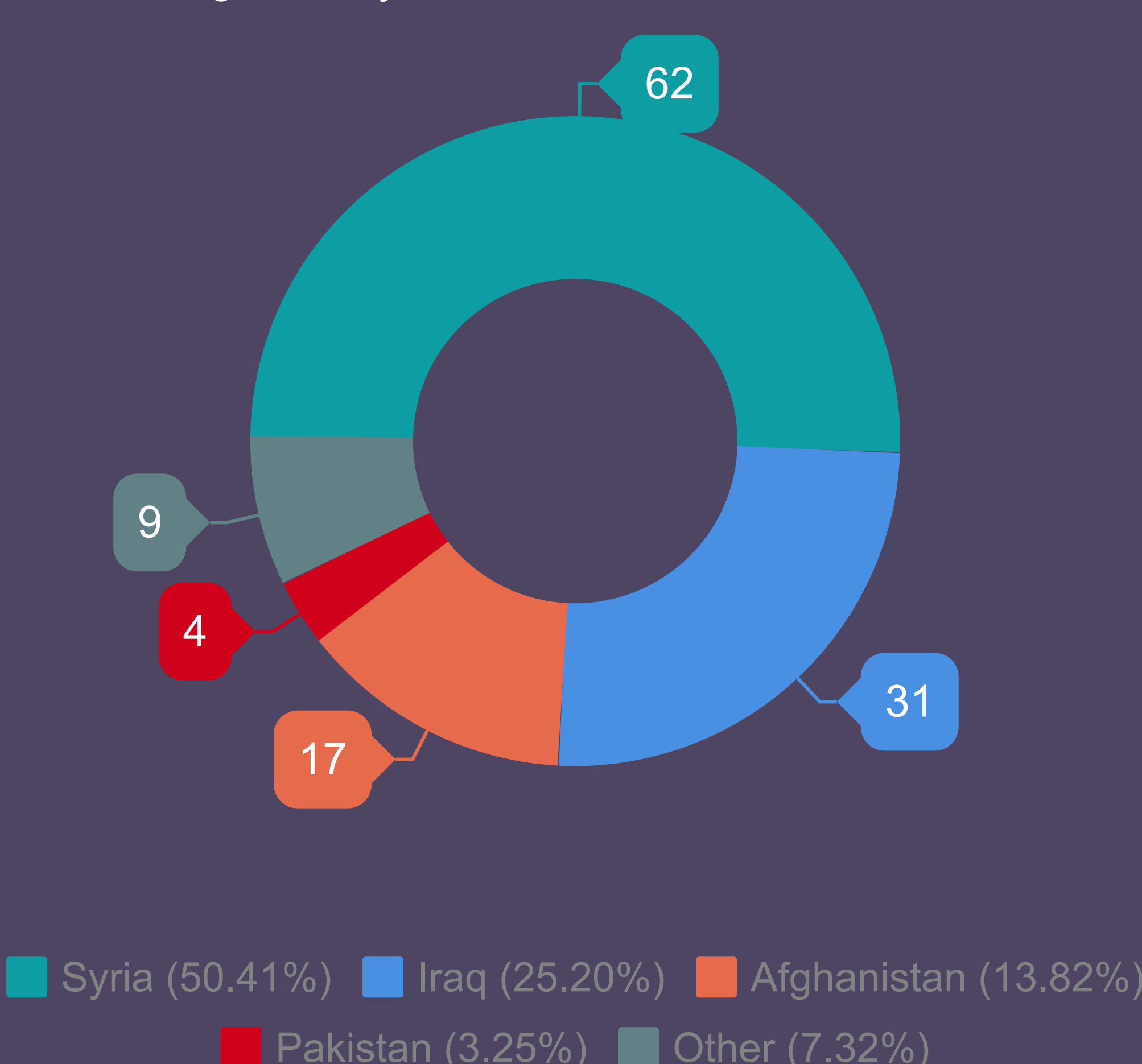
Nationality of Asylum claimers



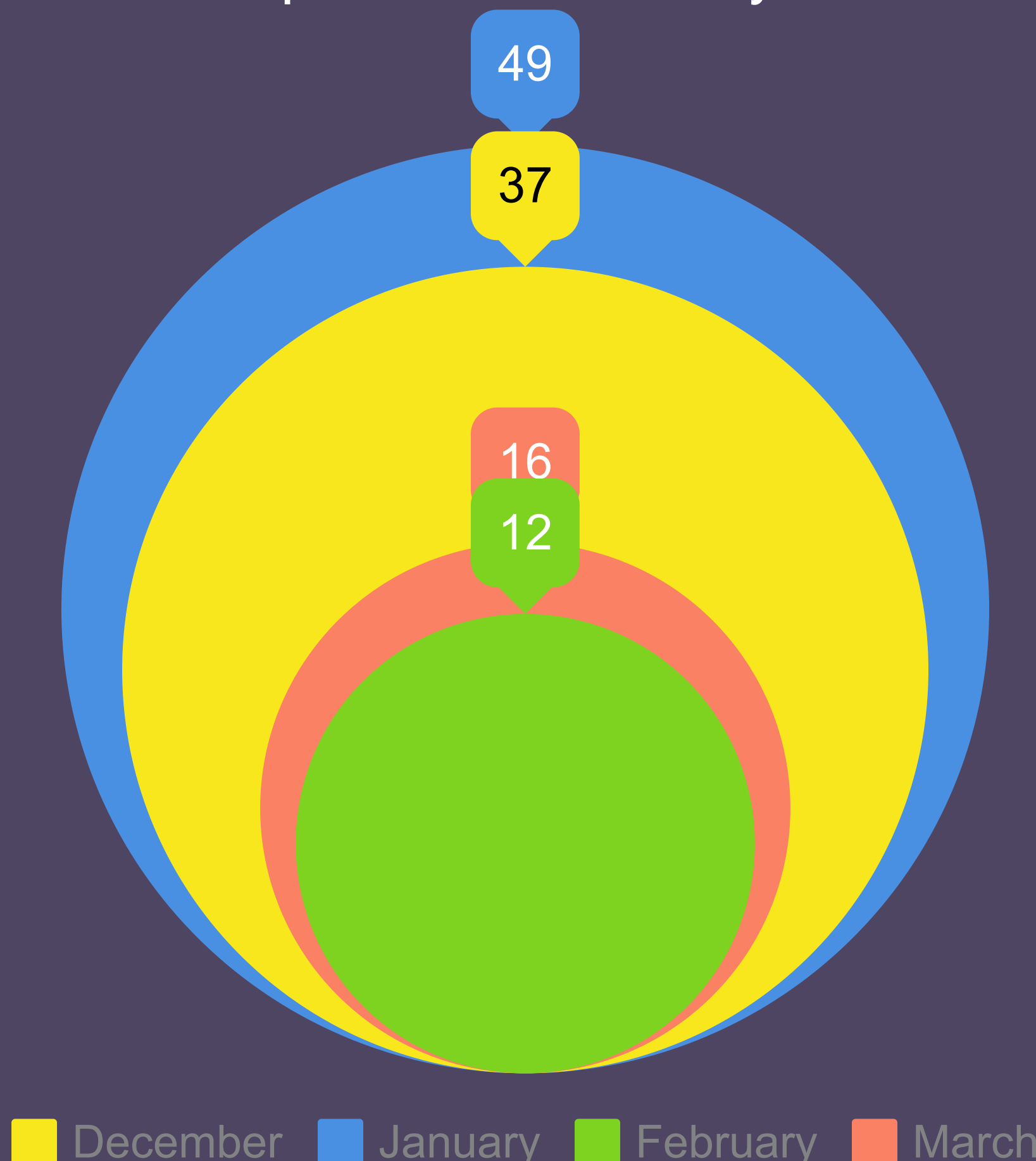
Asylum Claims by the month



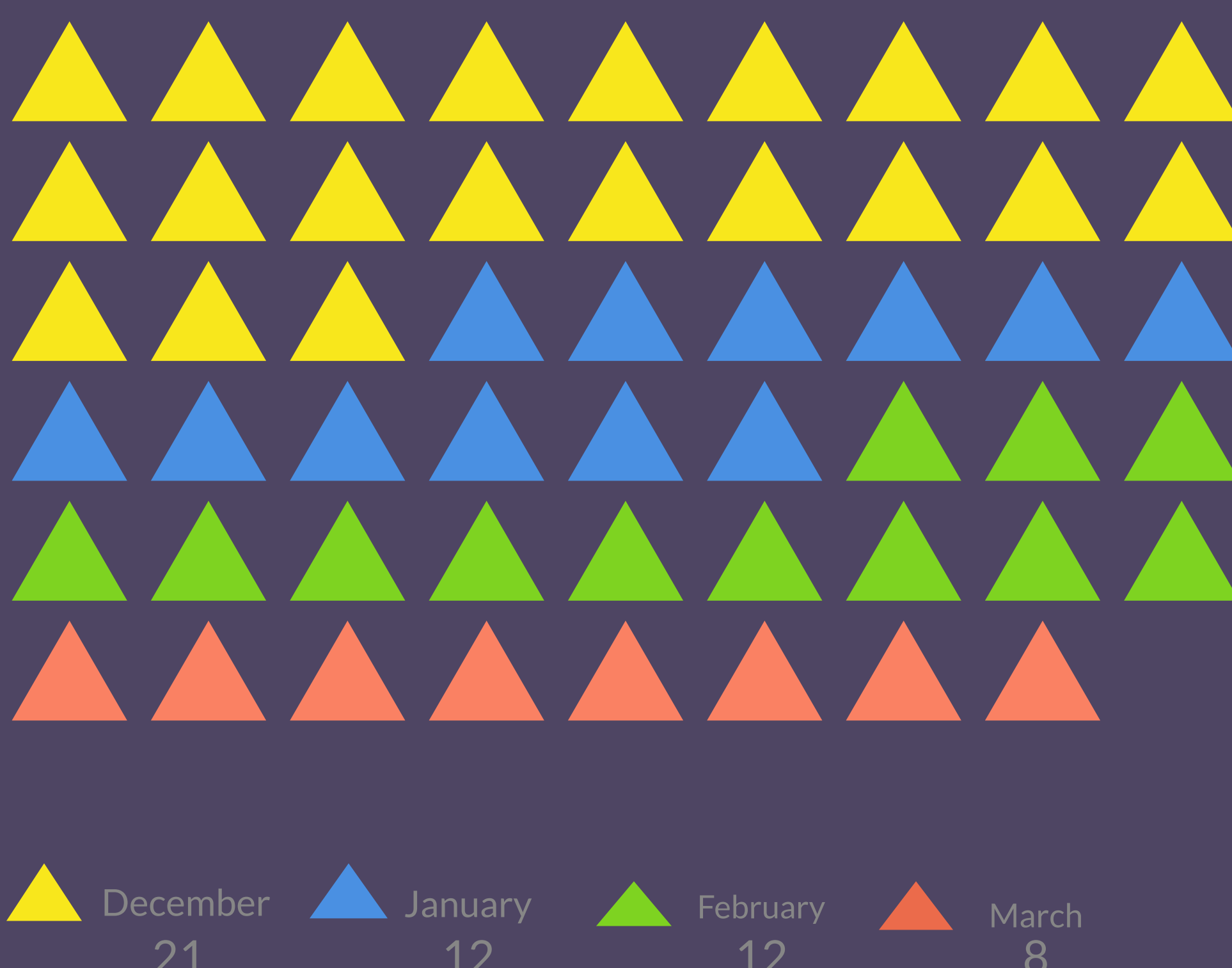
Average of asylum claims for the 4 months



Accompanied Children by month



Unaccompanied and Separated Children by month



December 60  
January 94  
February 45  
March 60



325

In the four months

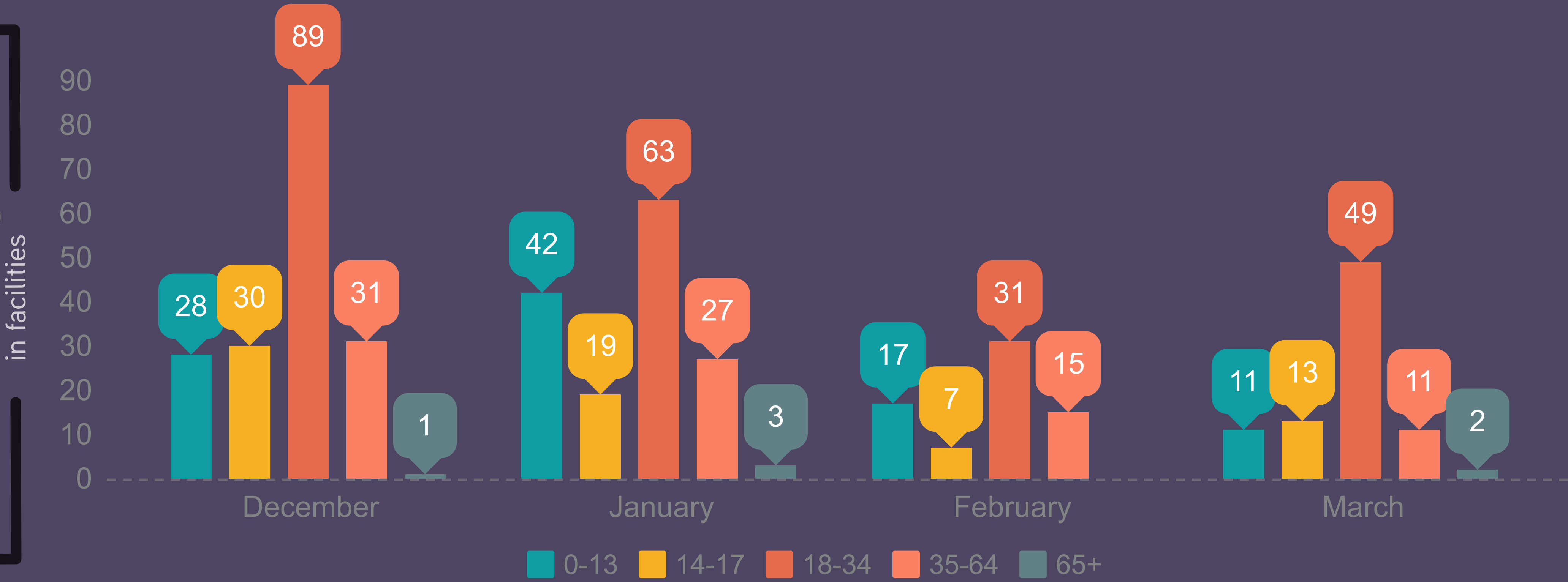
December 53  
January 60  
February 25  
March 26



164

in the four months

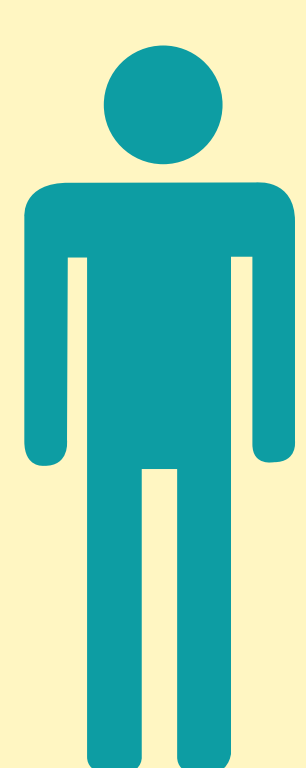
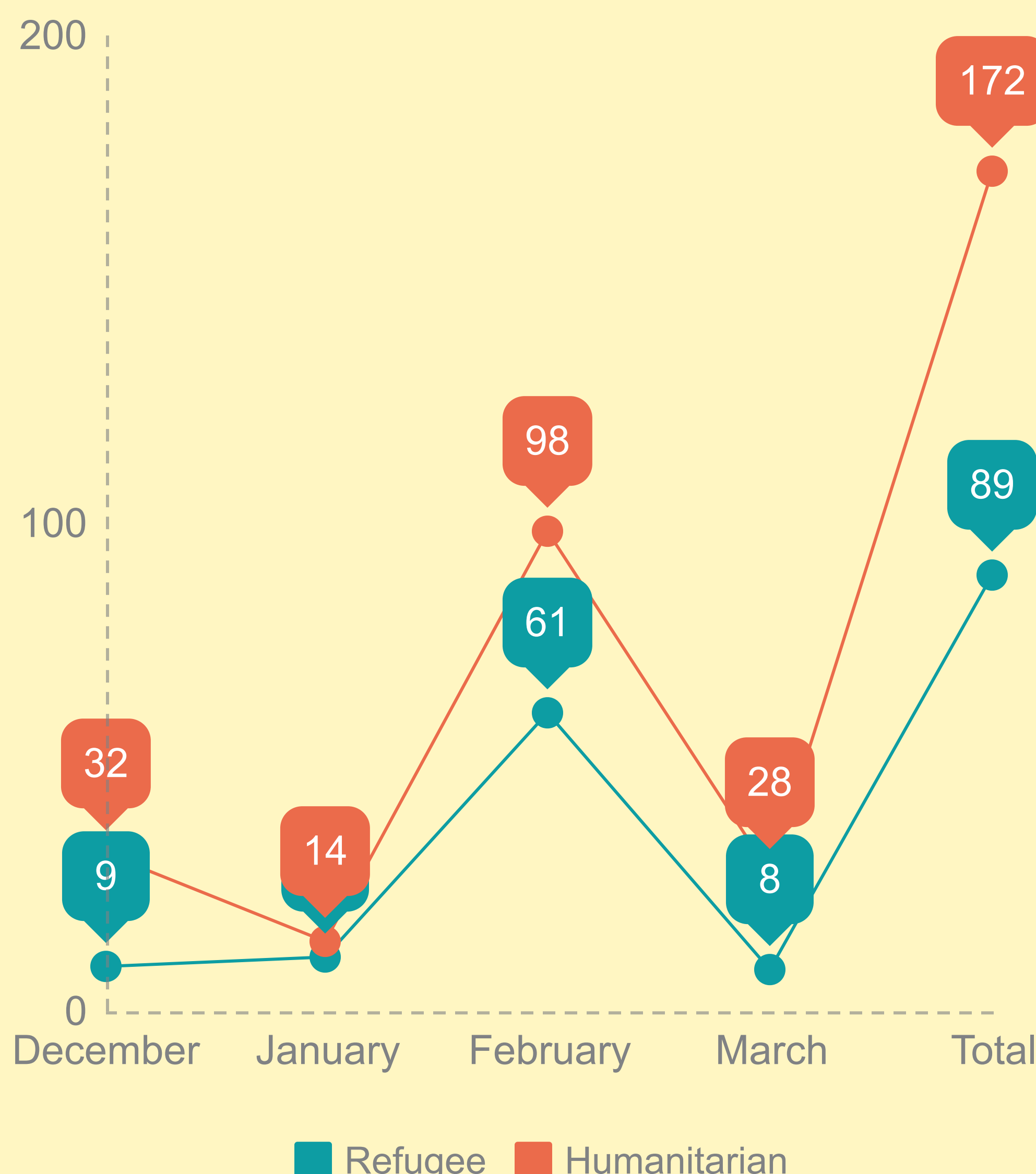
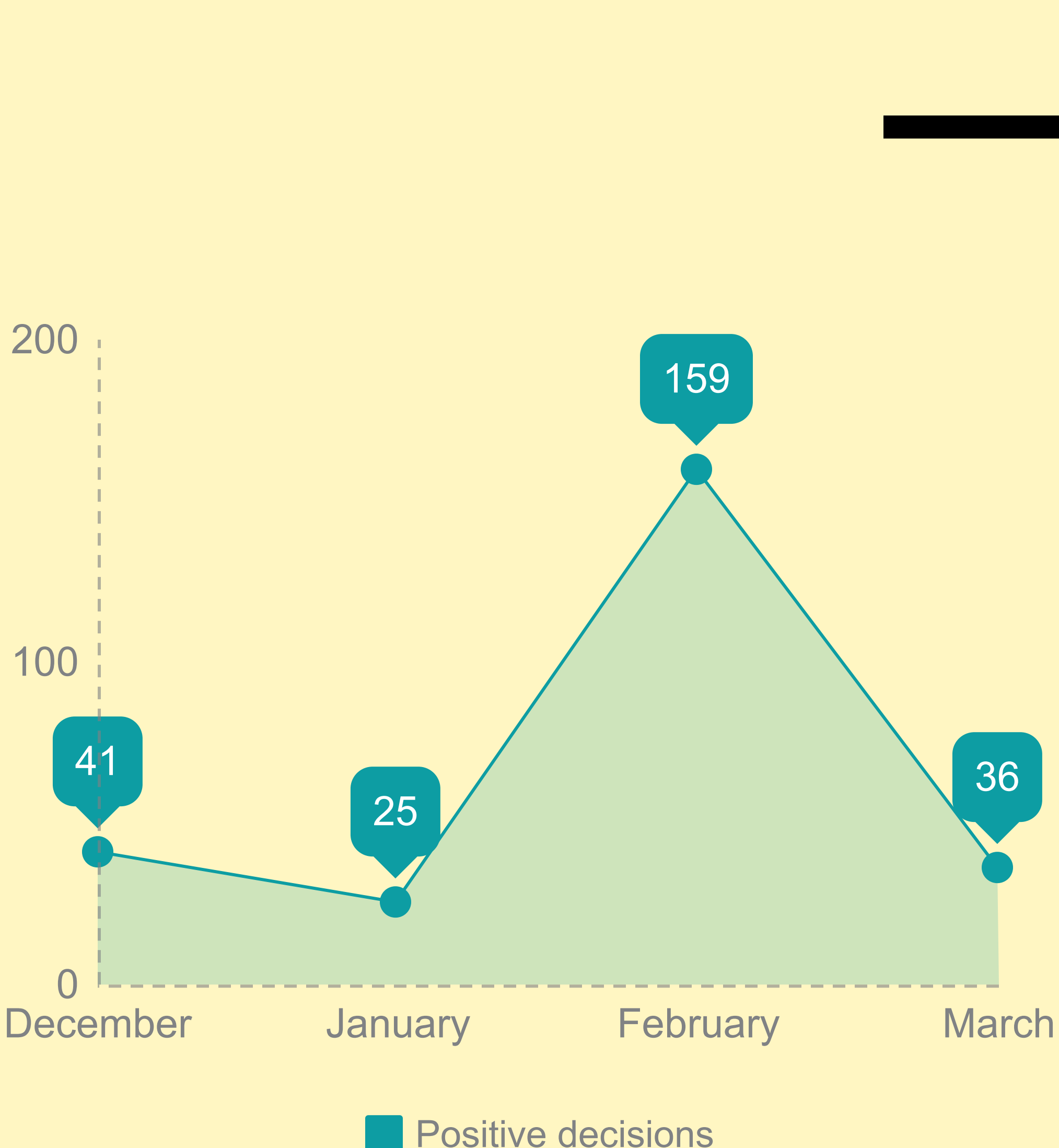
Breakdown of Age



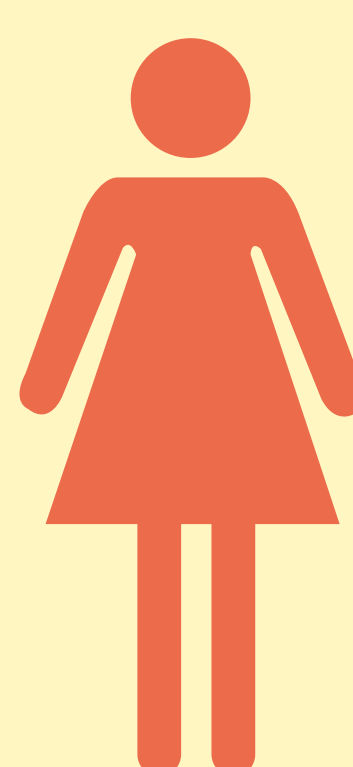
89  
Refugee Status

“261 people  
received  
positive  
decision”

172  
Humanitarian Status

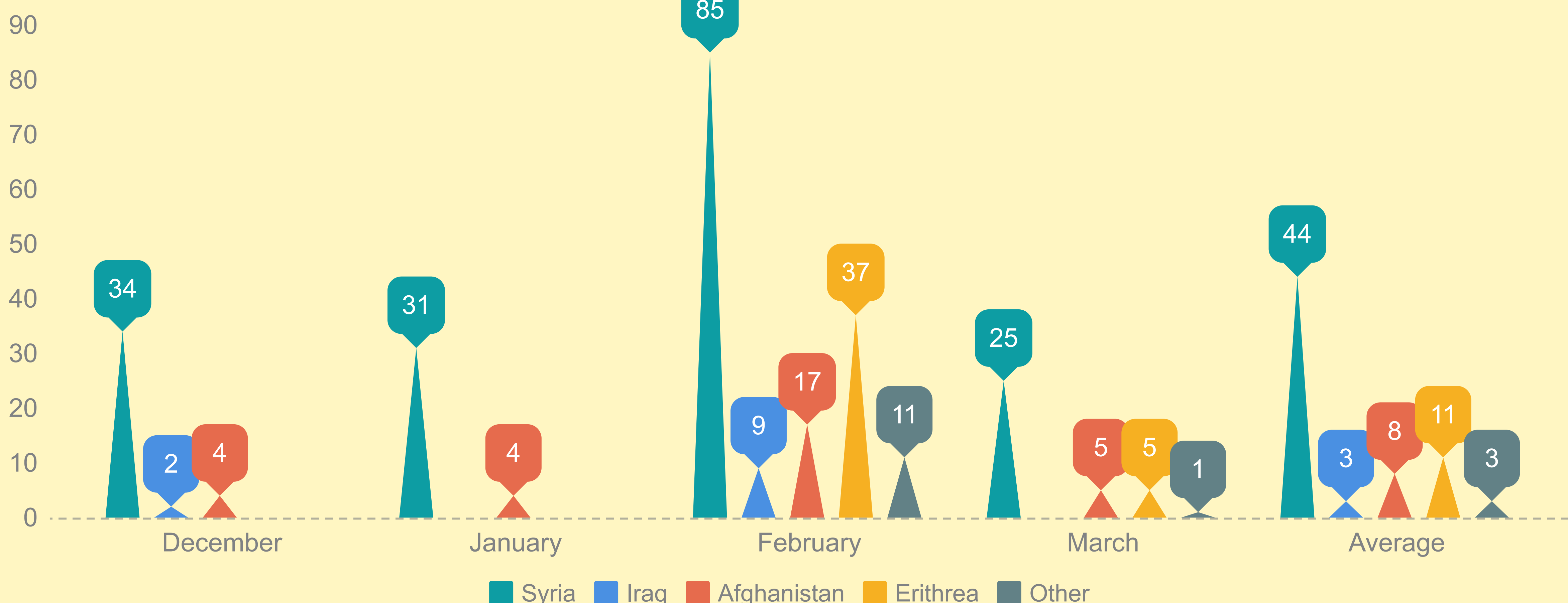


144  
Male

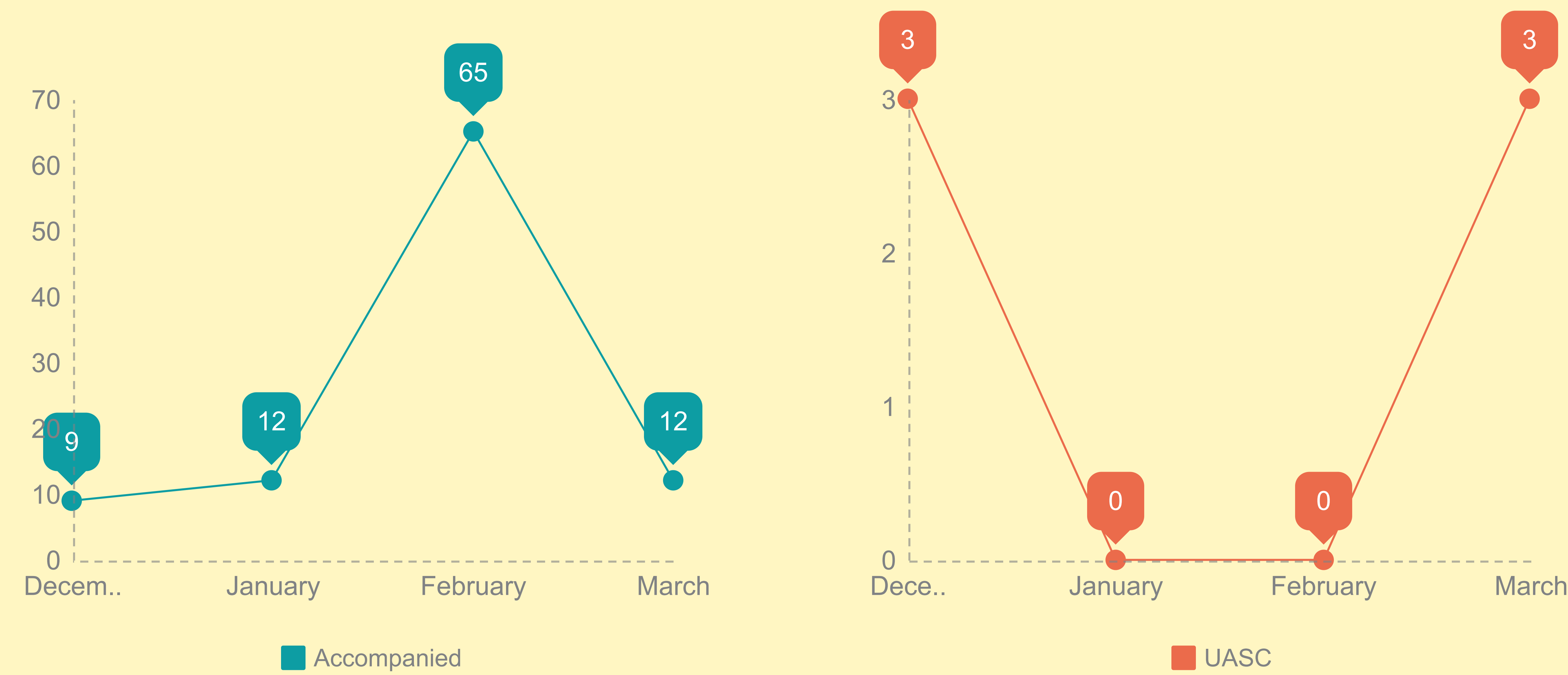


117  
Females

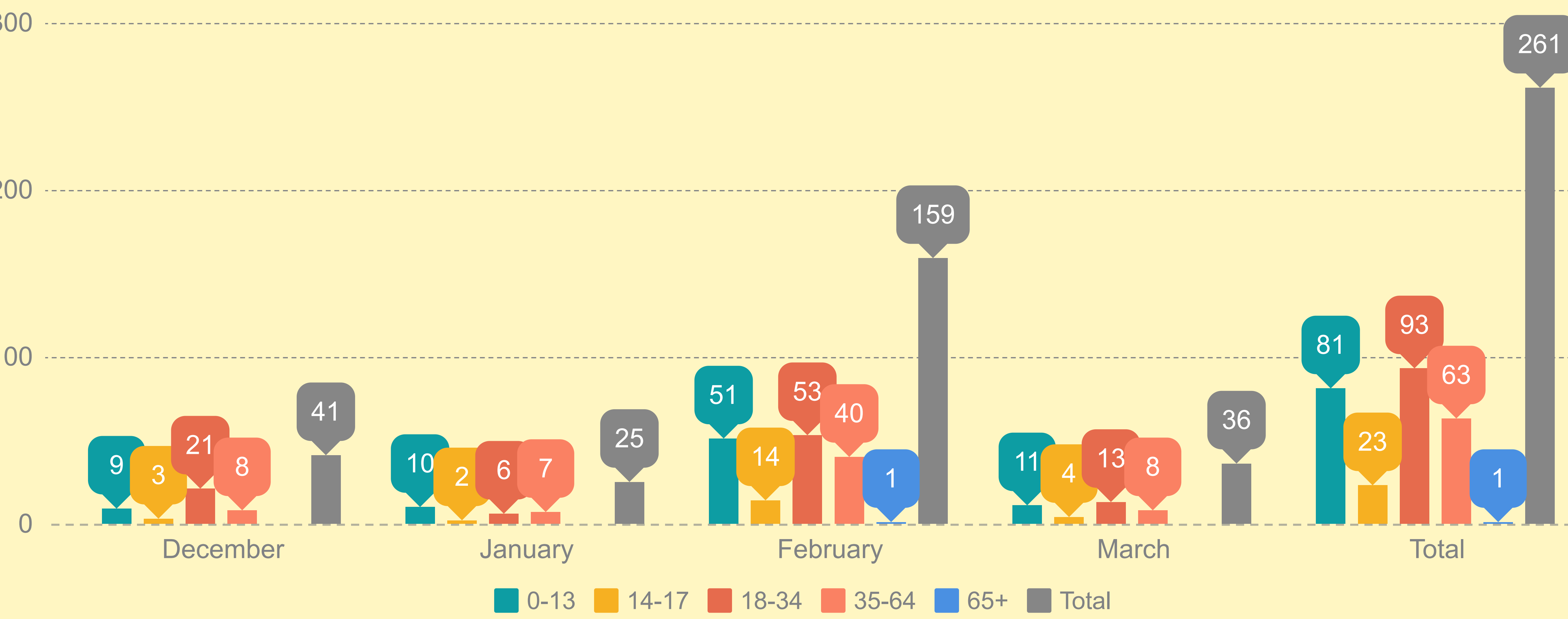
Nationality by month of the positive decisions



Number of Accompanied and UASC receiving positive decision by month

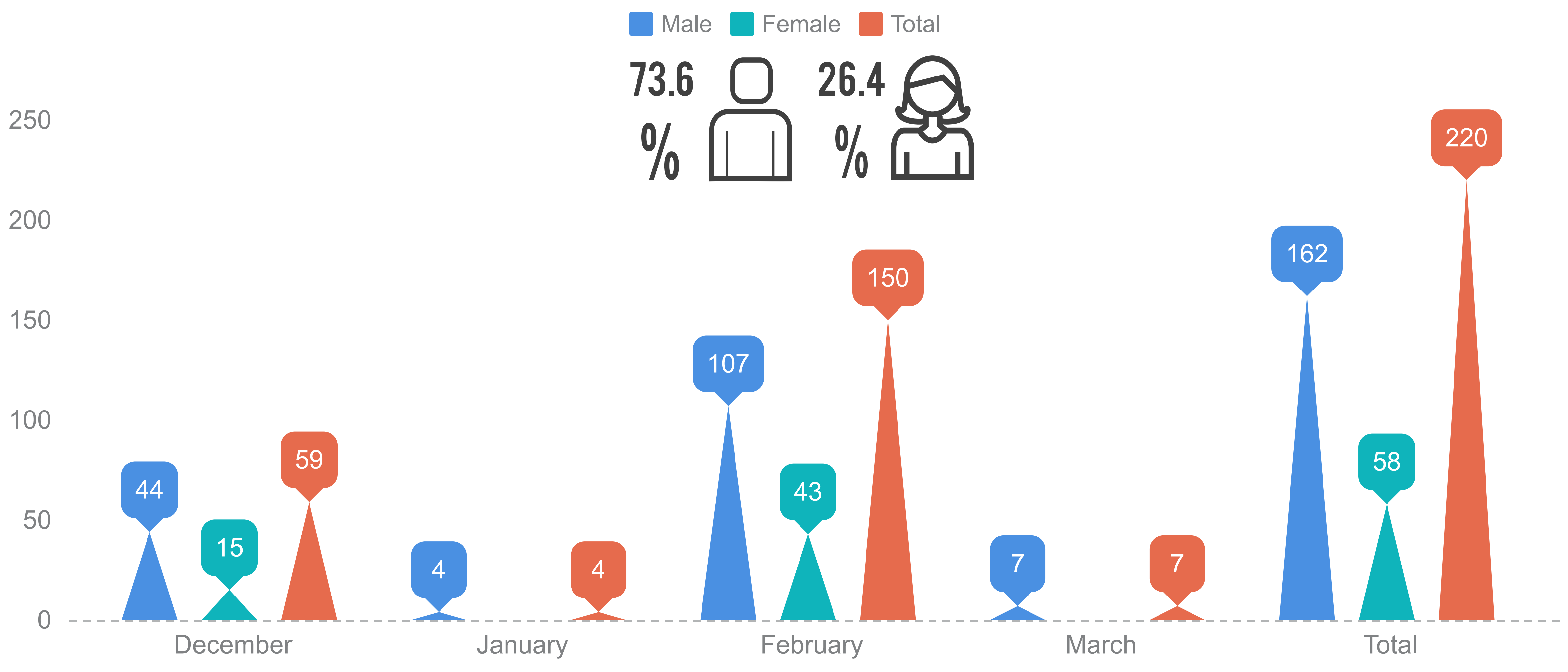
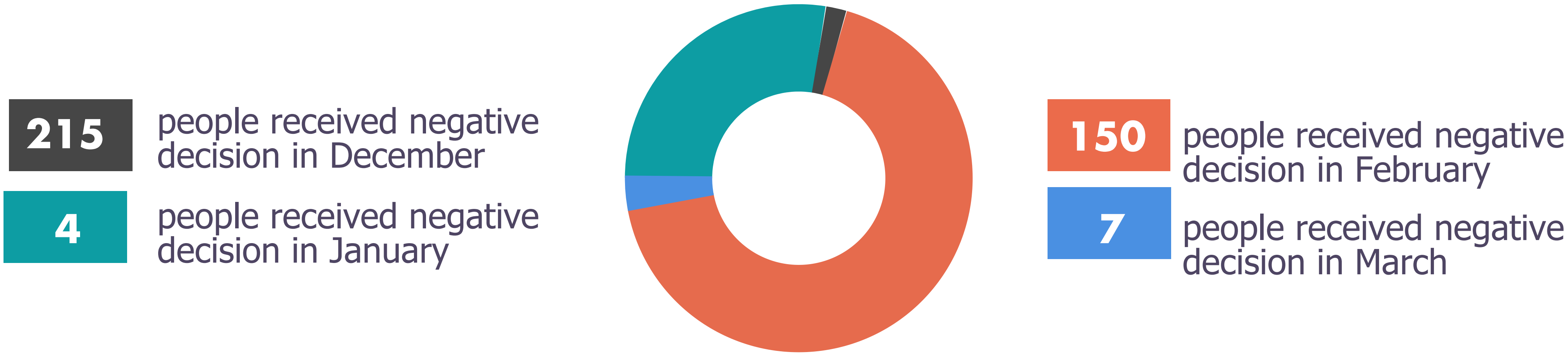


Age breakdown of the number of people receiving a positive decision by the month.



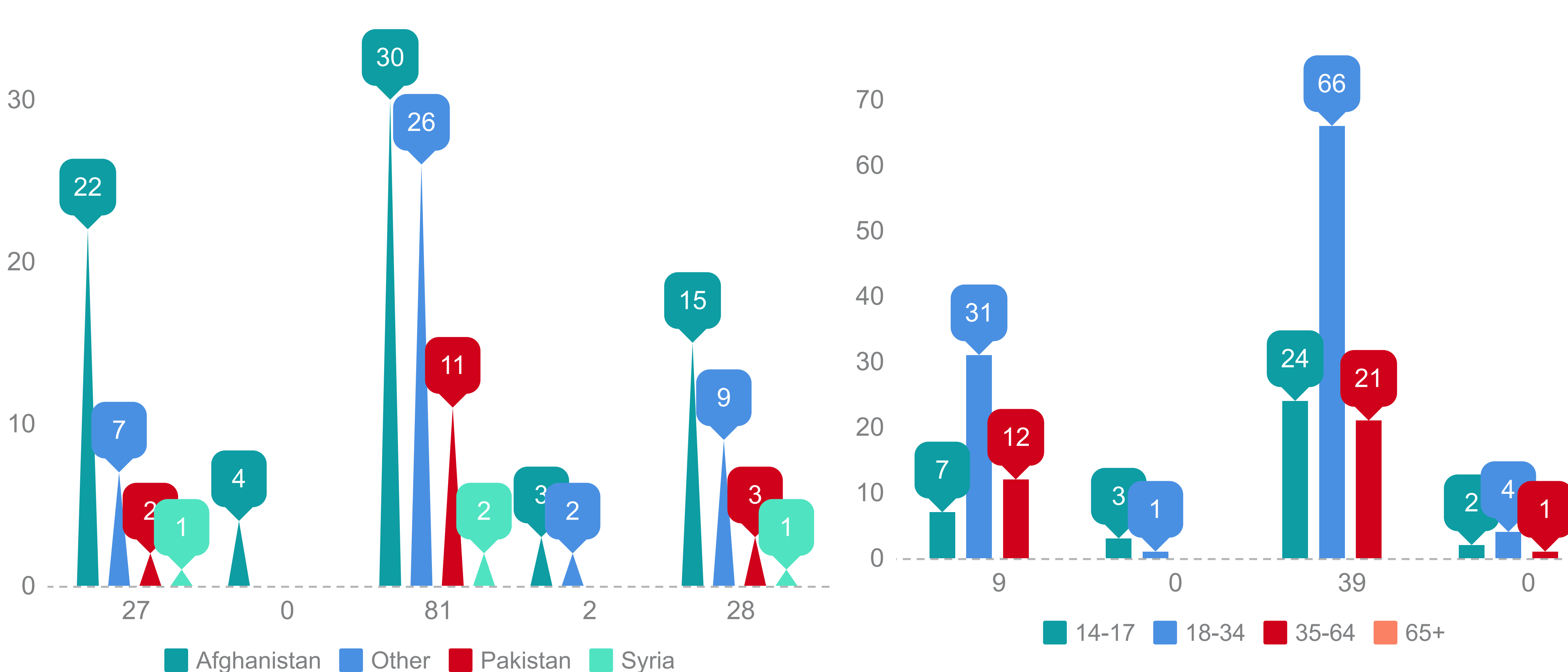


# Negative decisions on Asylum claims

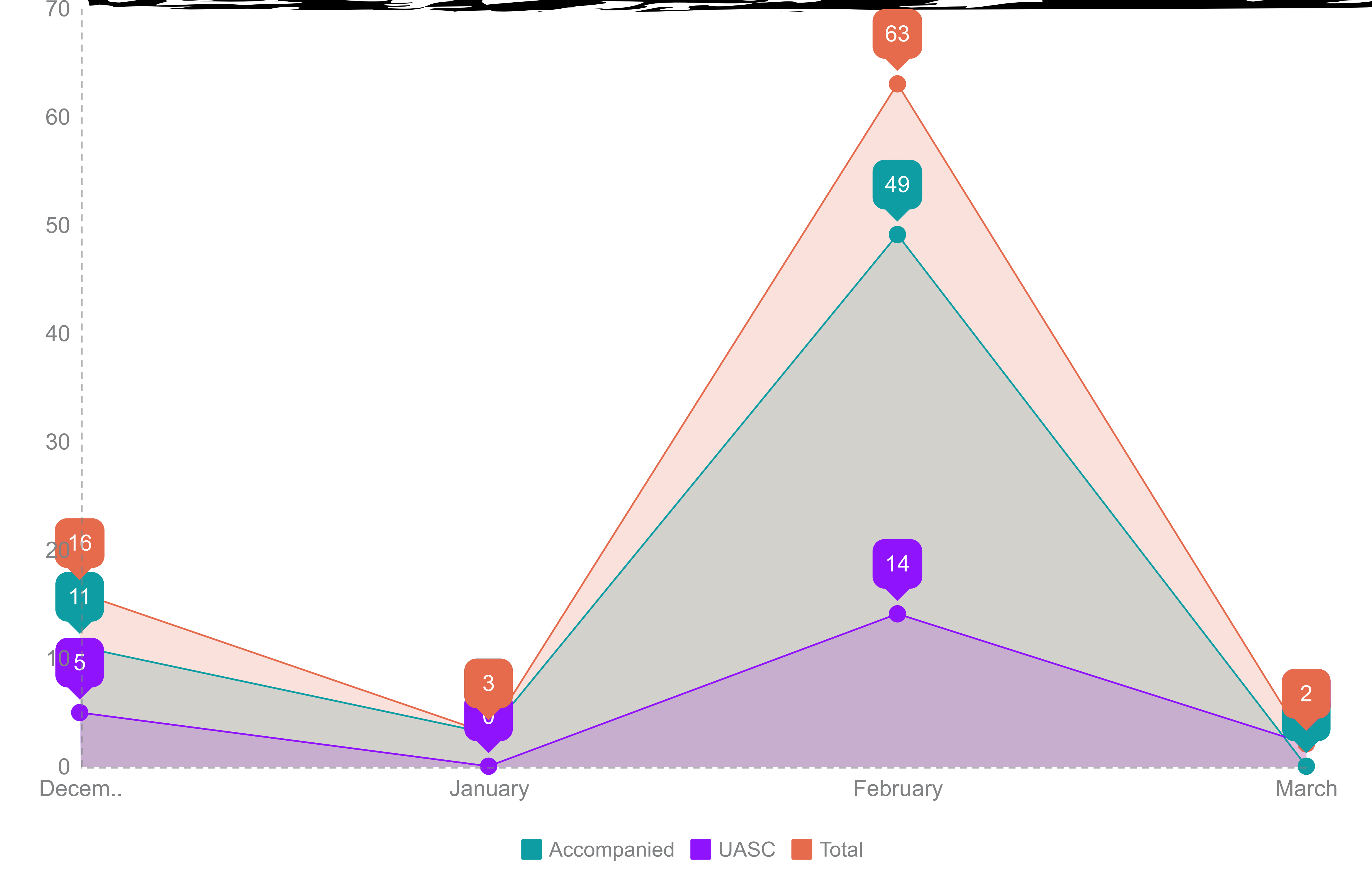


Nationality Breakdown on  
People Receiving Negative Decisions

Available statistics on  
Age Groups

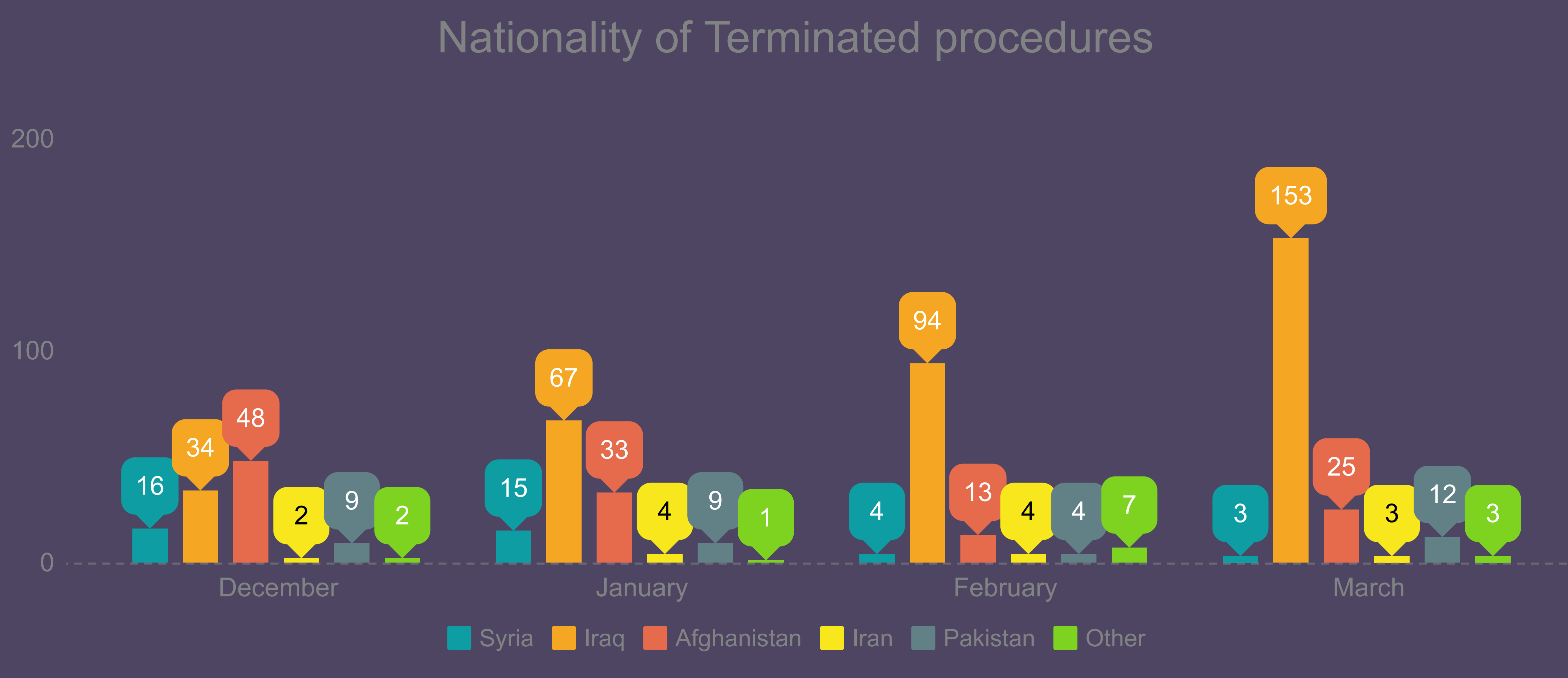
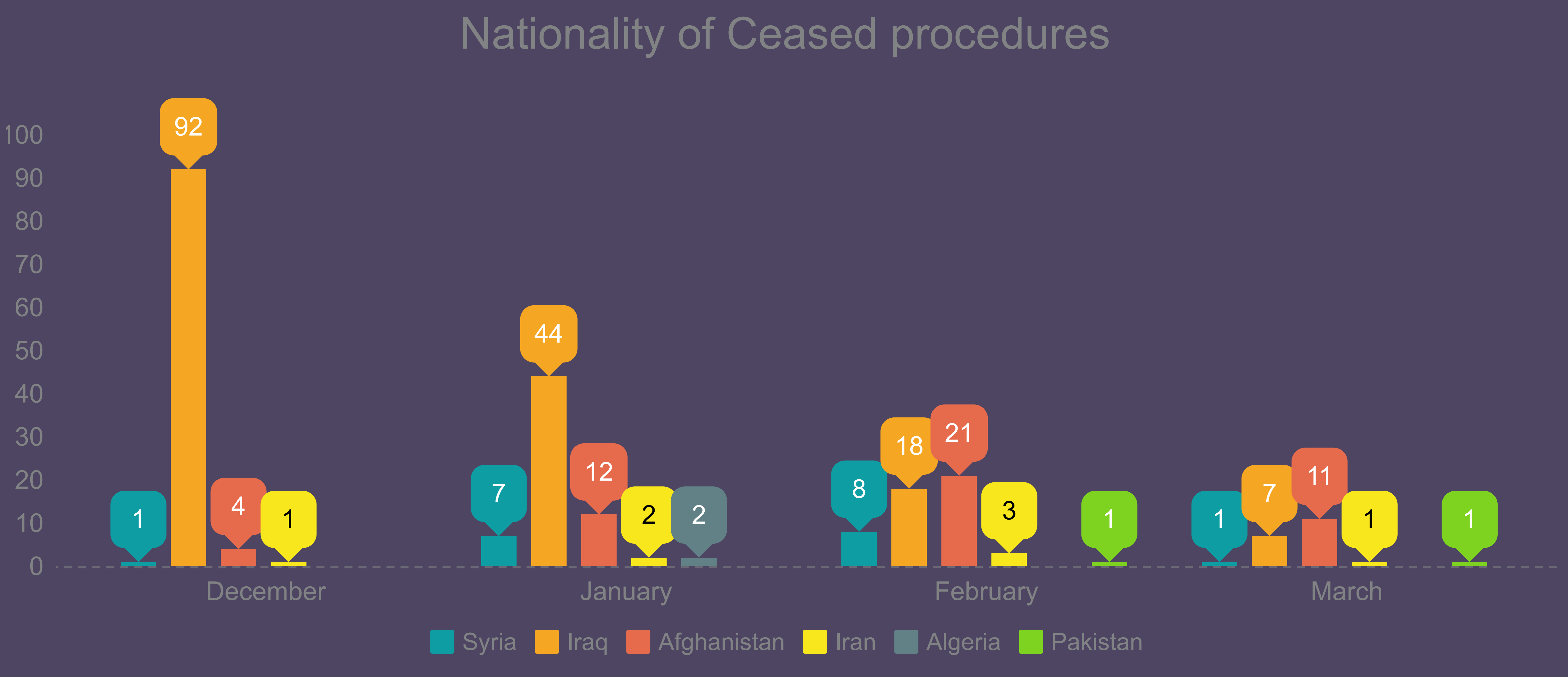
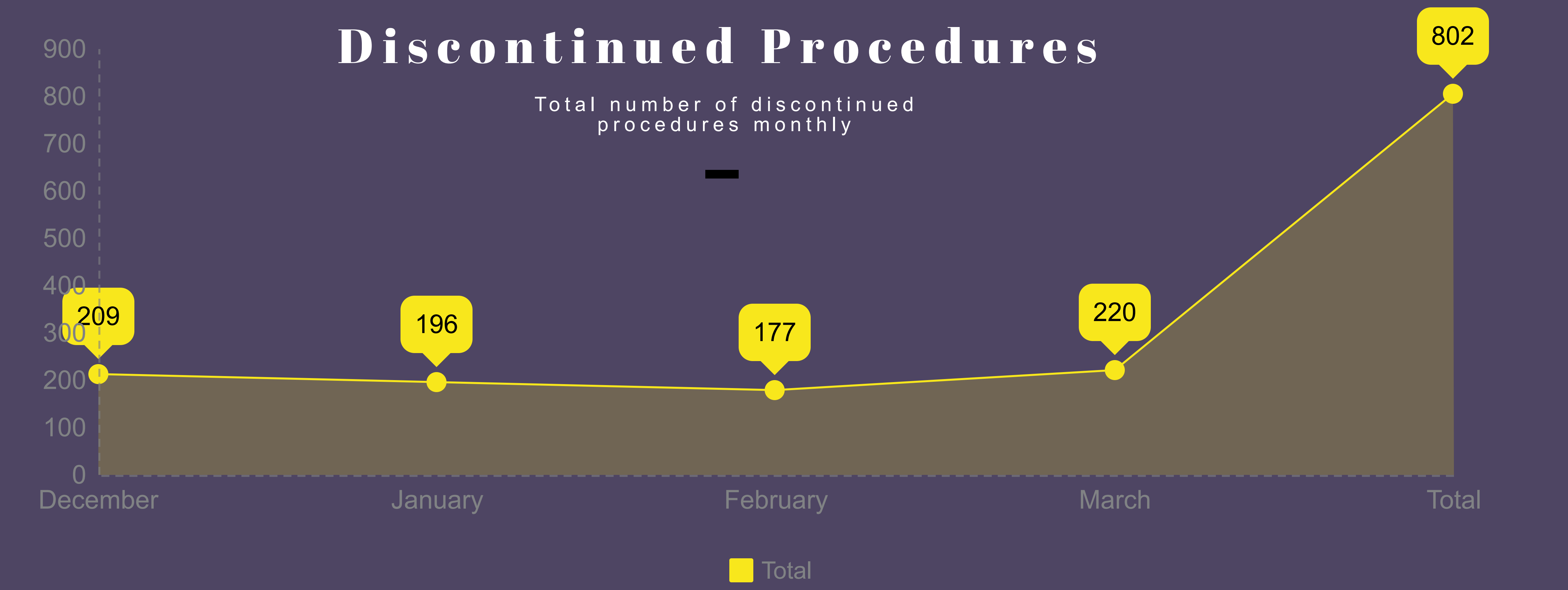
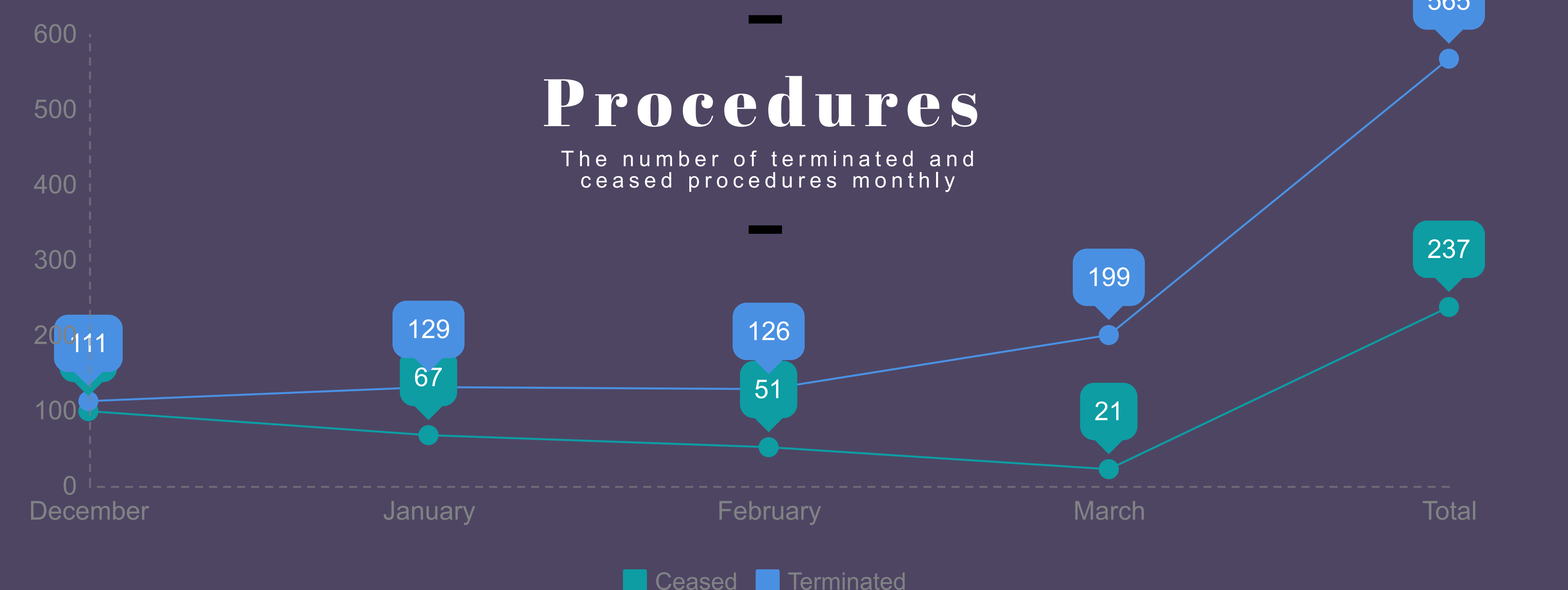


Difference between accompanied and UASC children being granted negative decision on Asylum

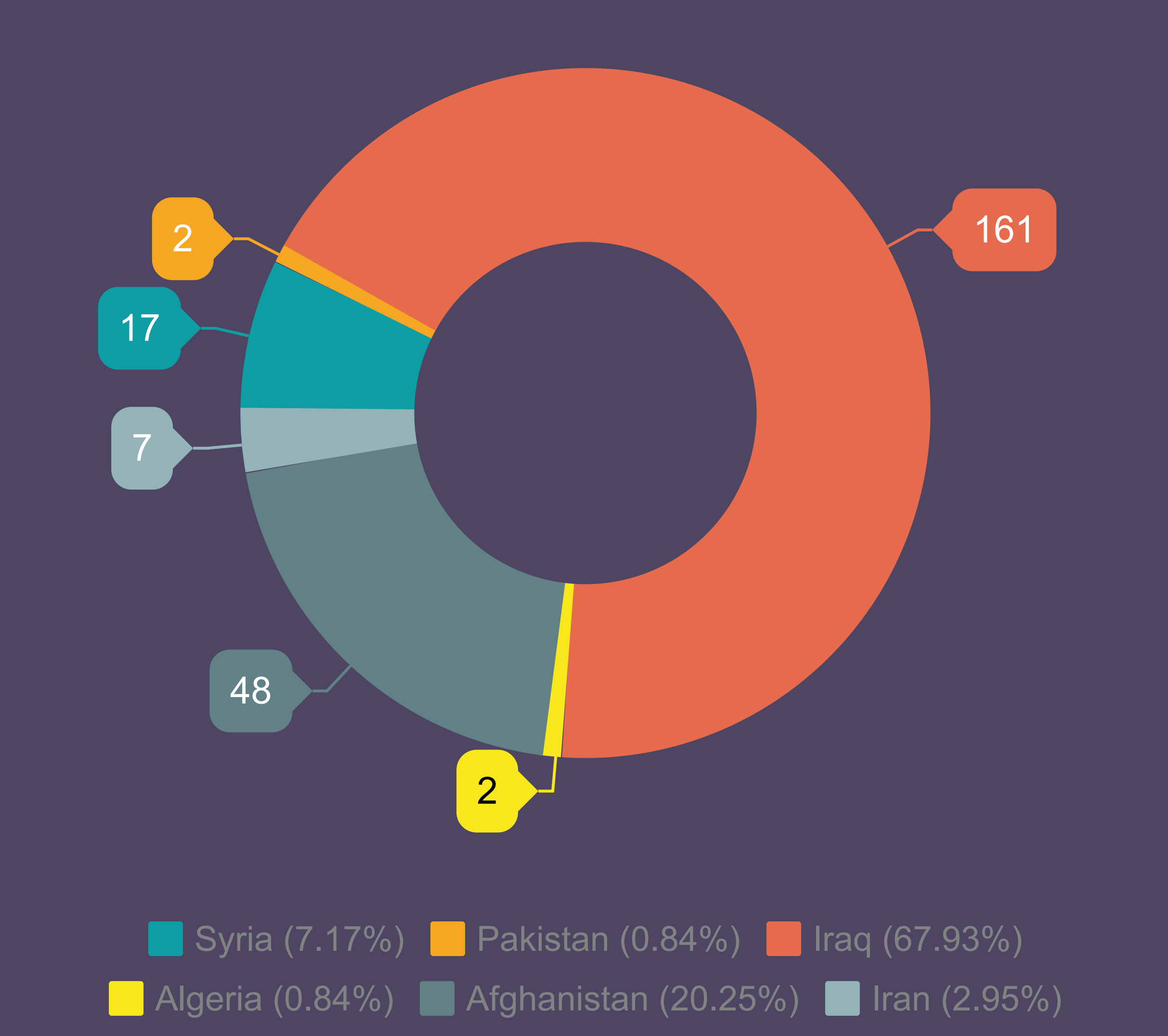




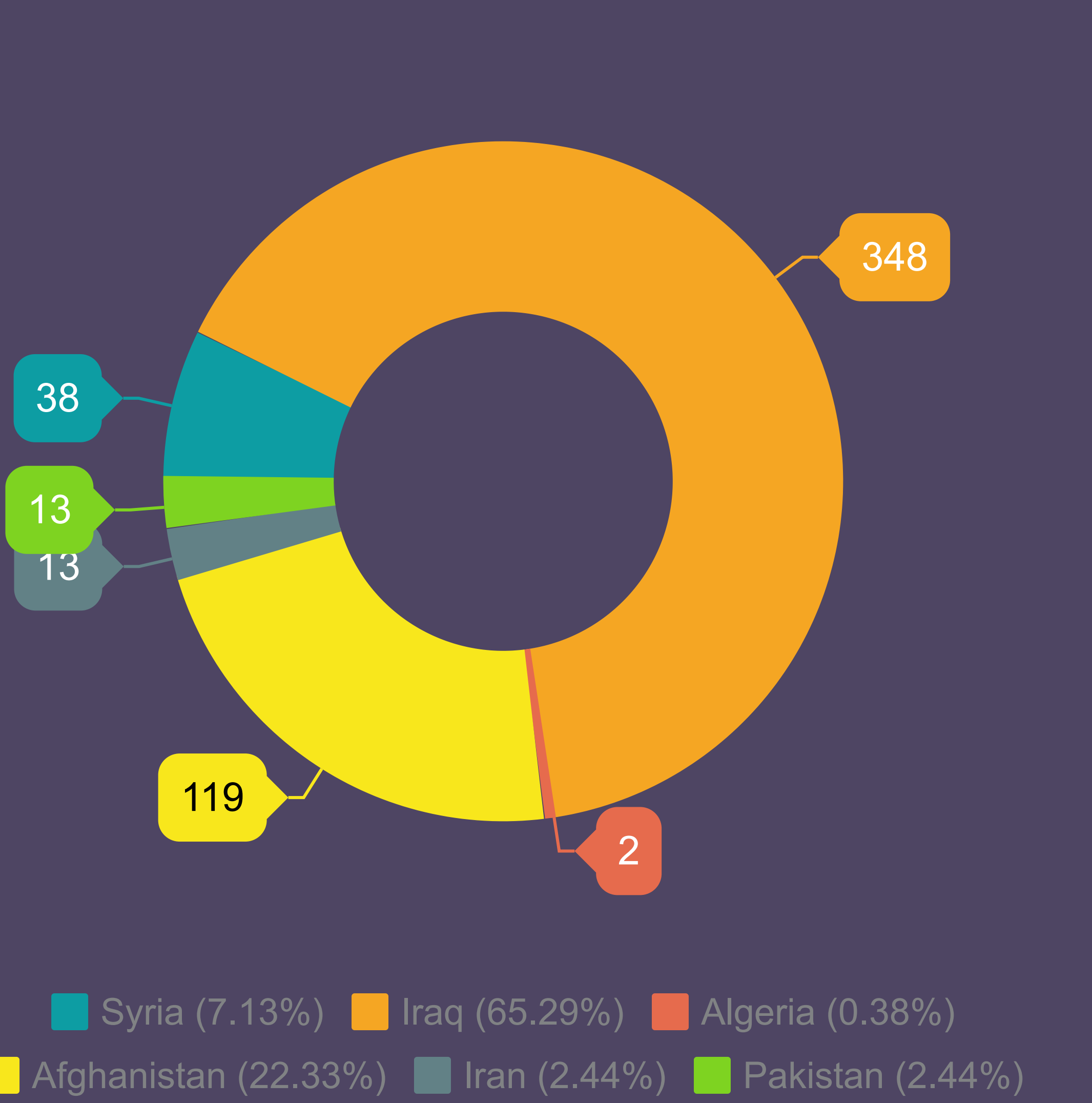
# Number of discontinued asylum procedures



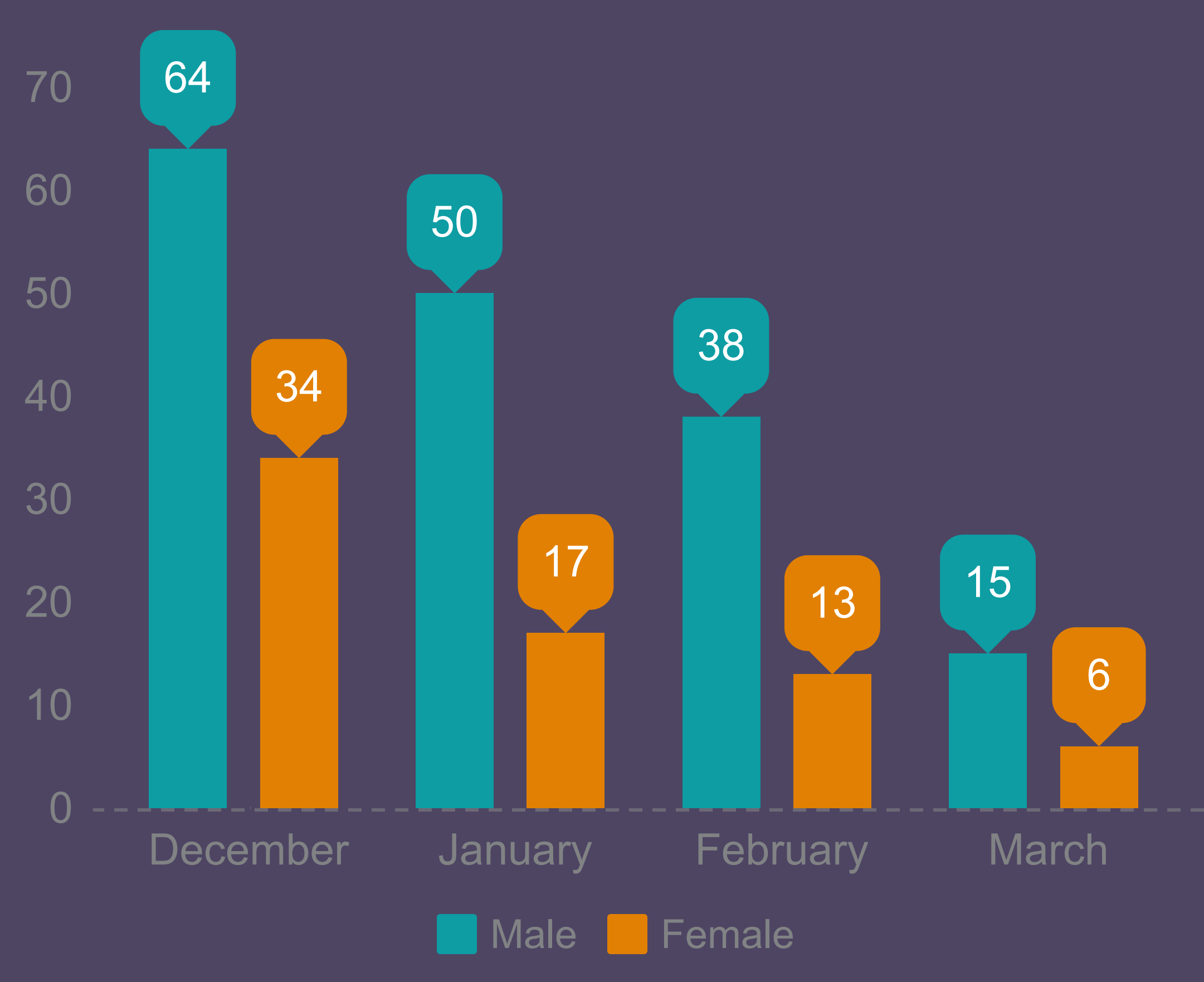
Average per month of ceased procedures



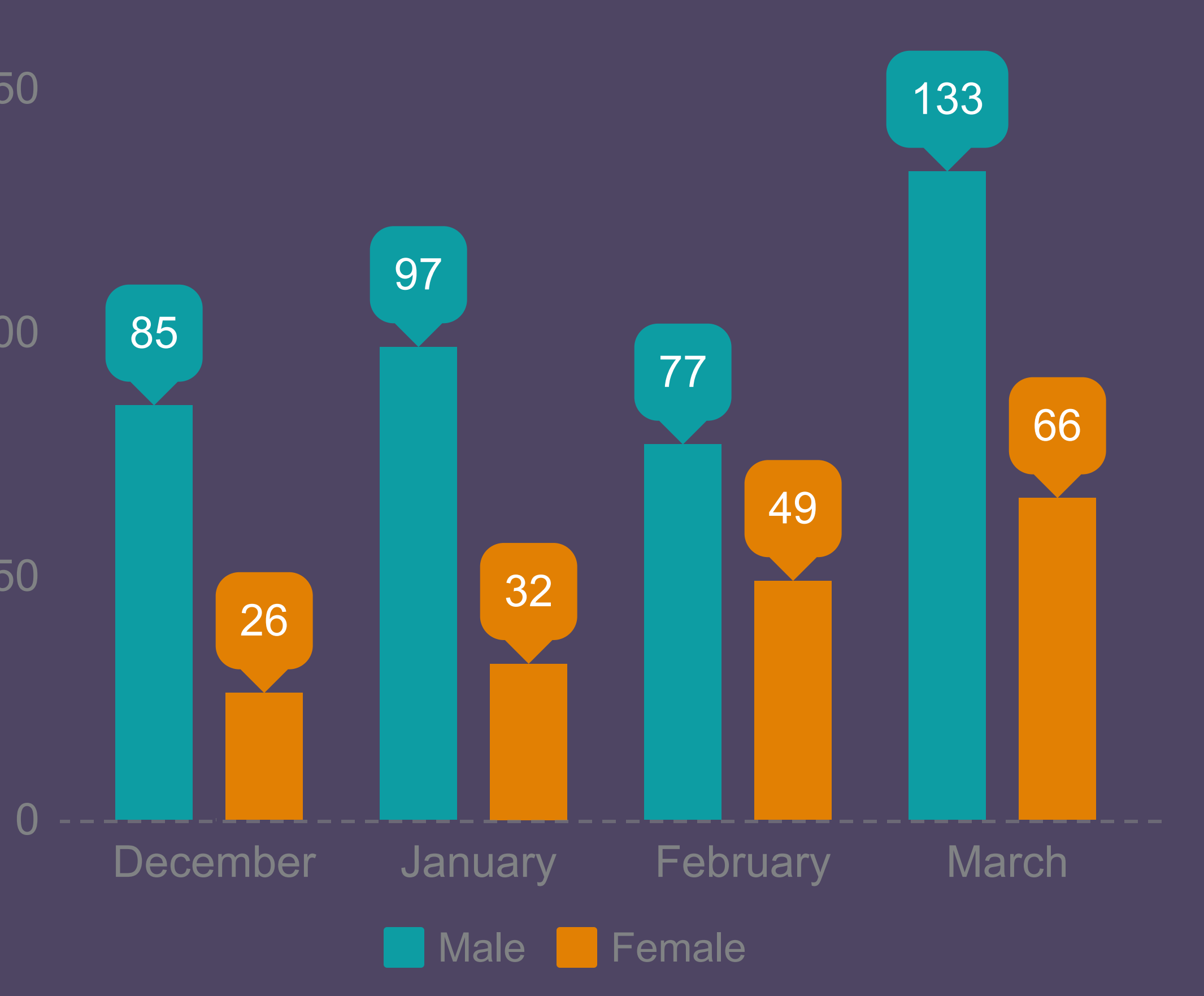
Average per month of terminated procedures



Gender on Ceased procedures

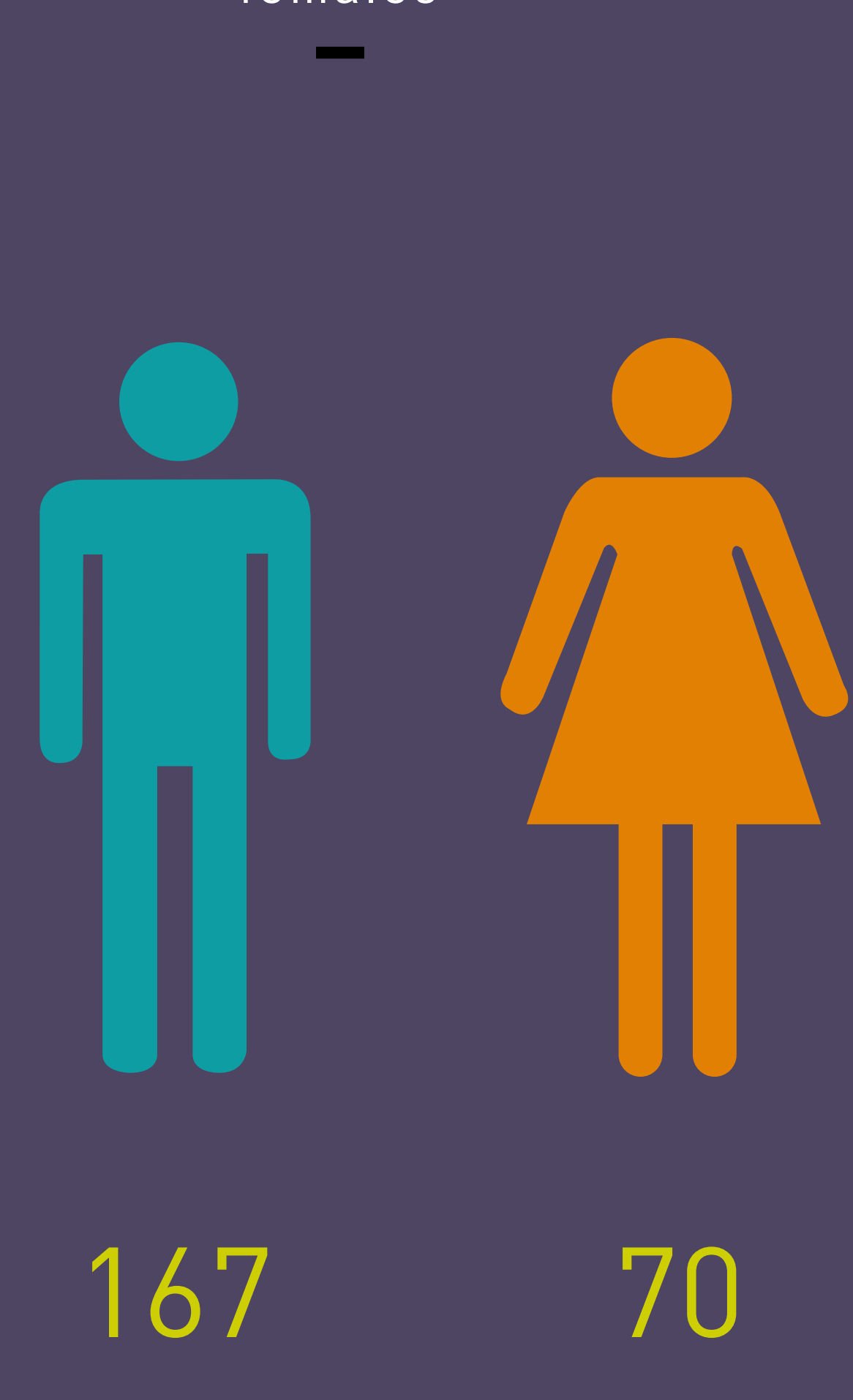


Gender on Terminated procedures



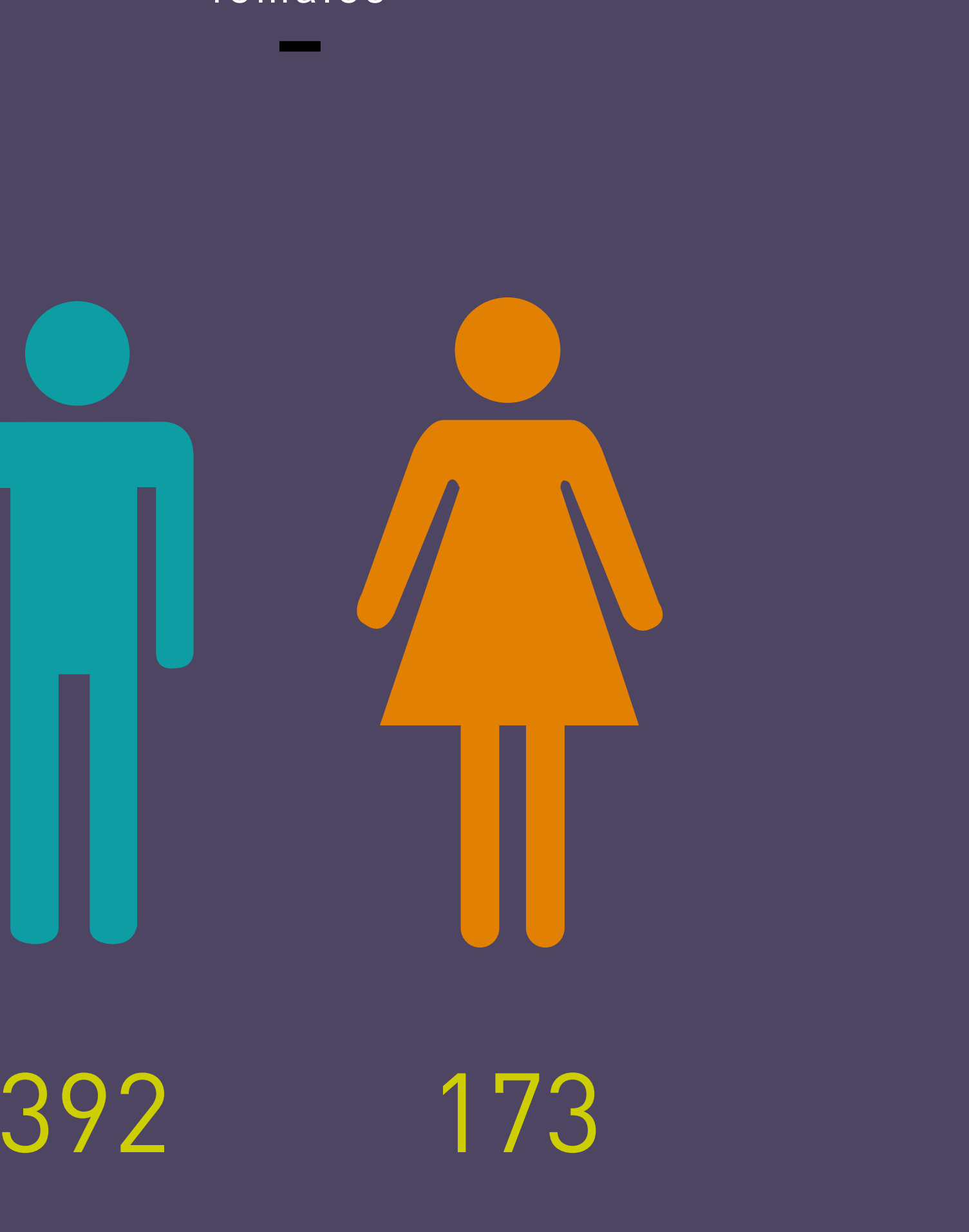
**Ceased procedures**

total number of males and females



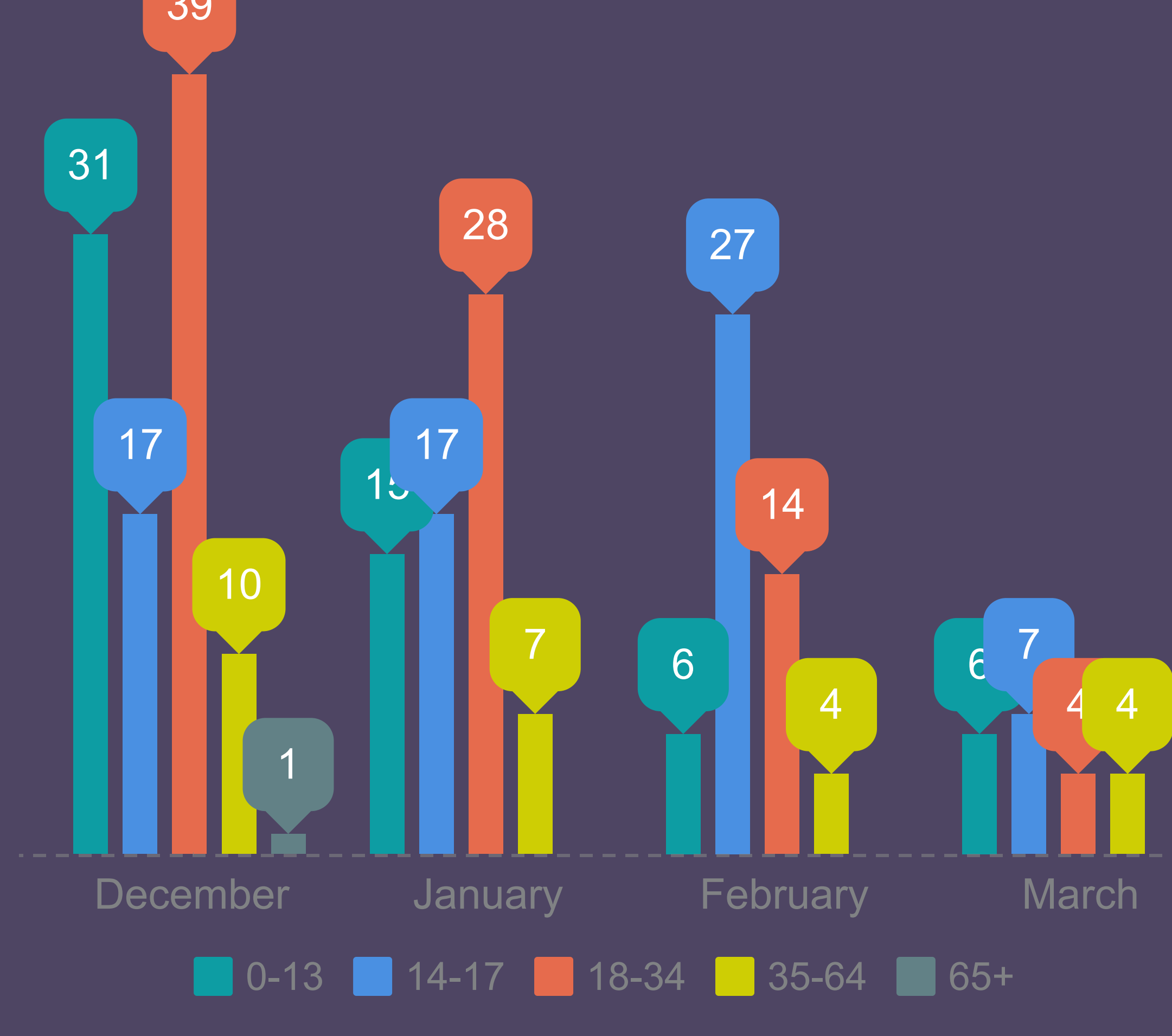
**Terminated procedures**

total number of males and females



**Cease Procedure**

Age Groups



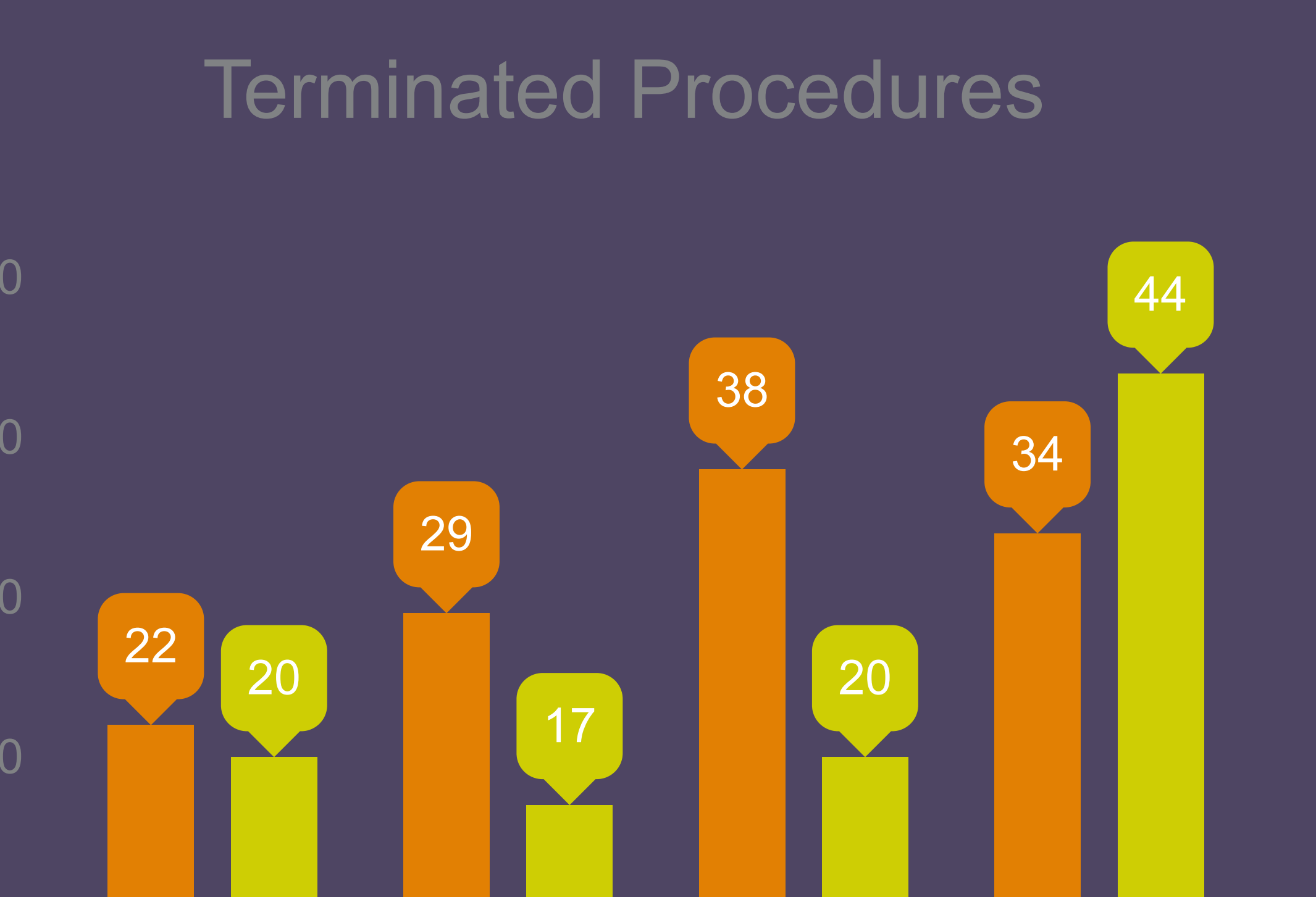
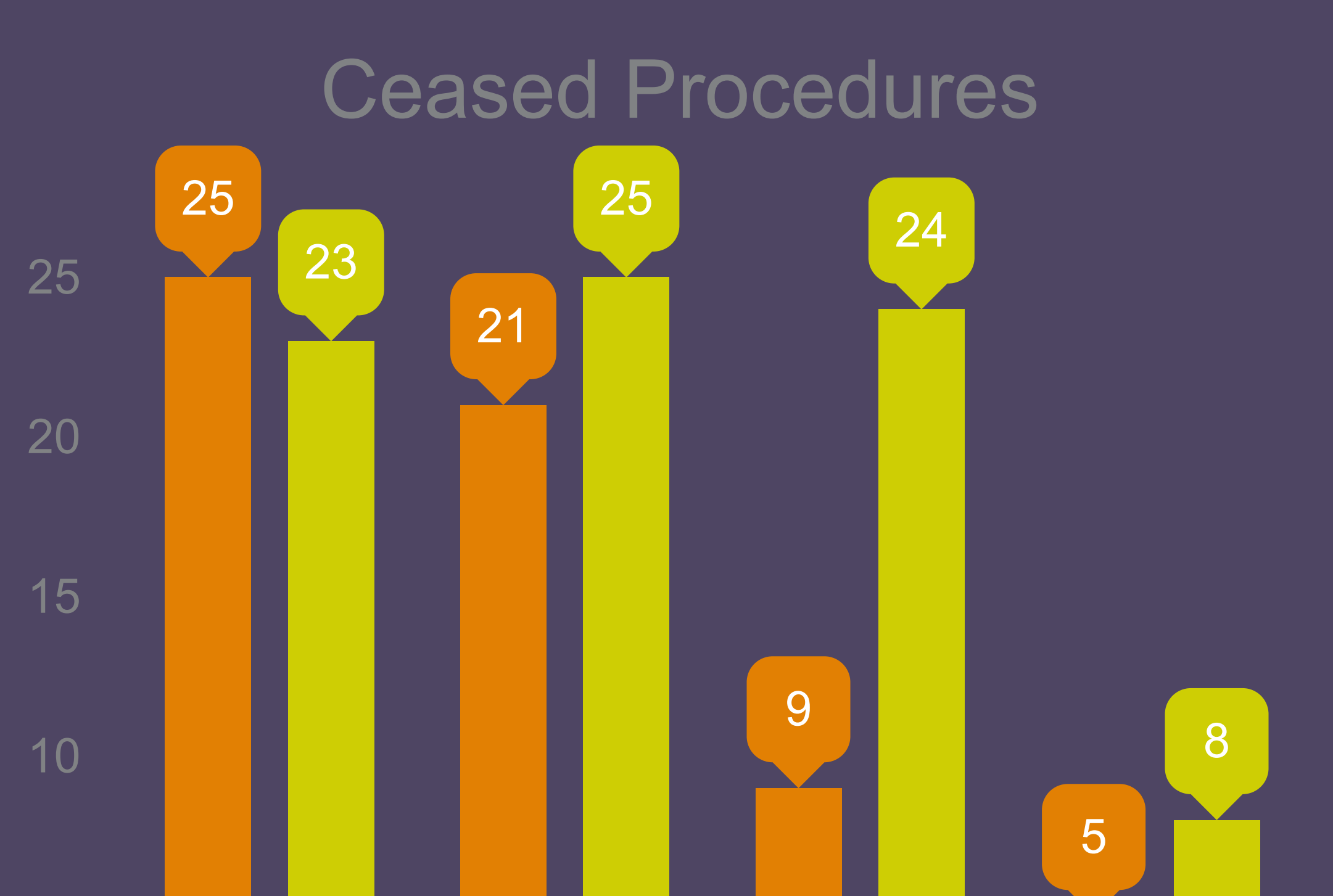
**Terminated Procedure**

Age Groups



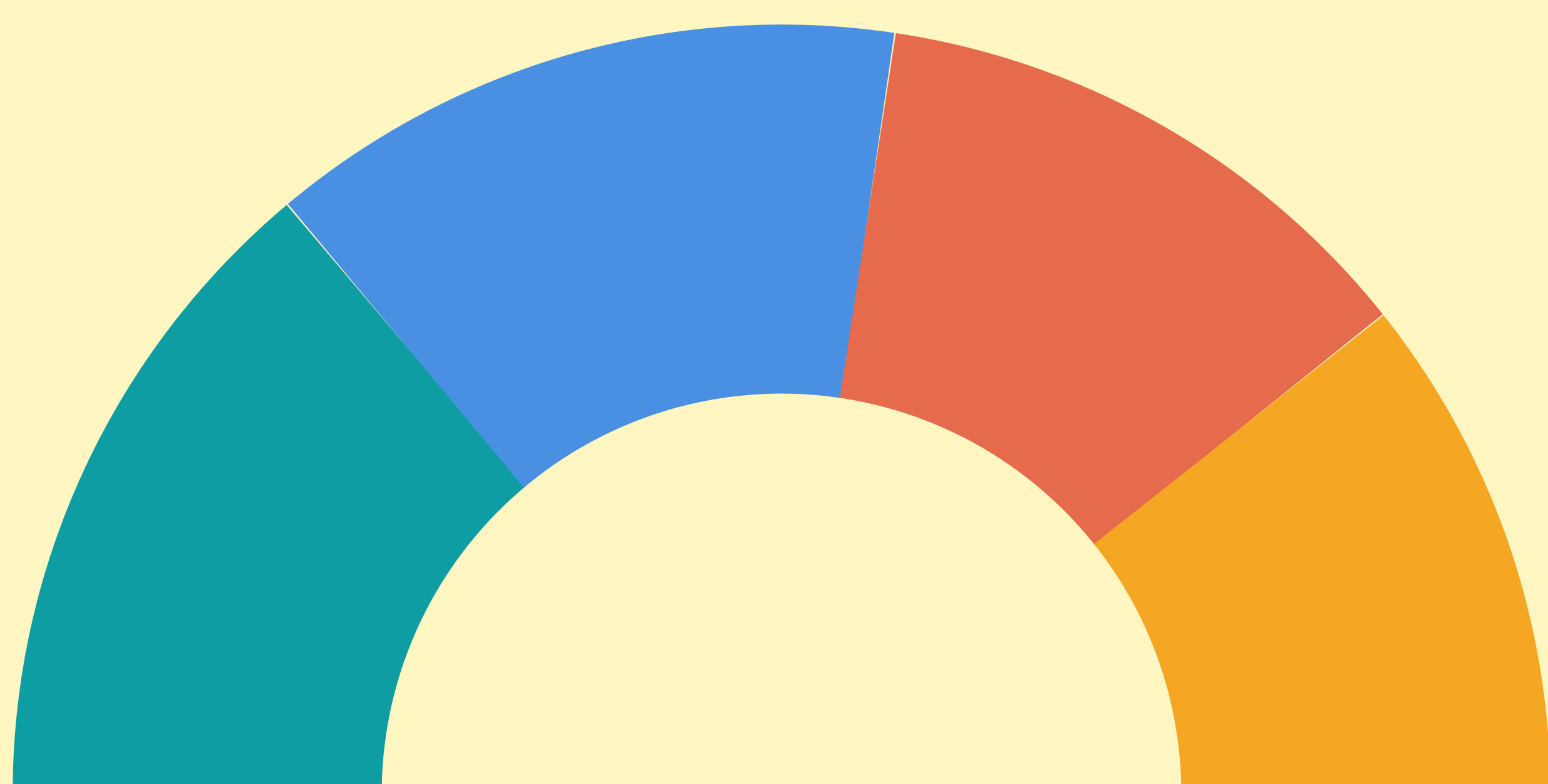
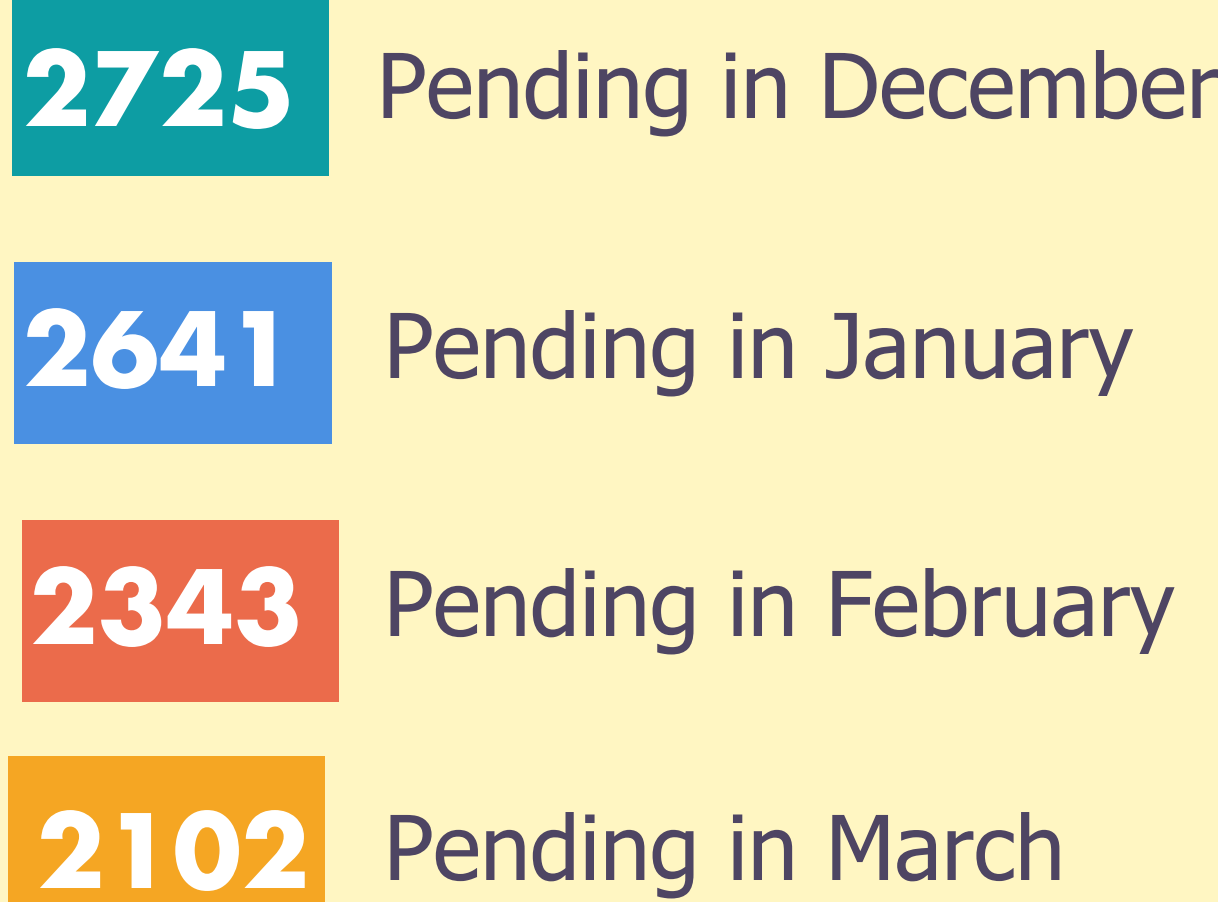
## Family Status of Children for the discontinued Procedures

Accompanied - Unaccompanied and Separated Children





# Number of pending asylum procedures

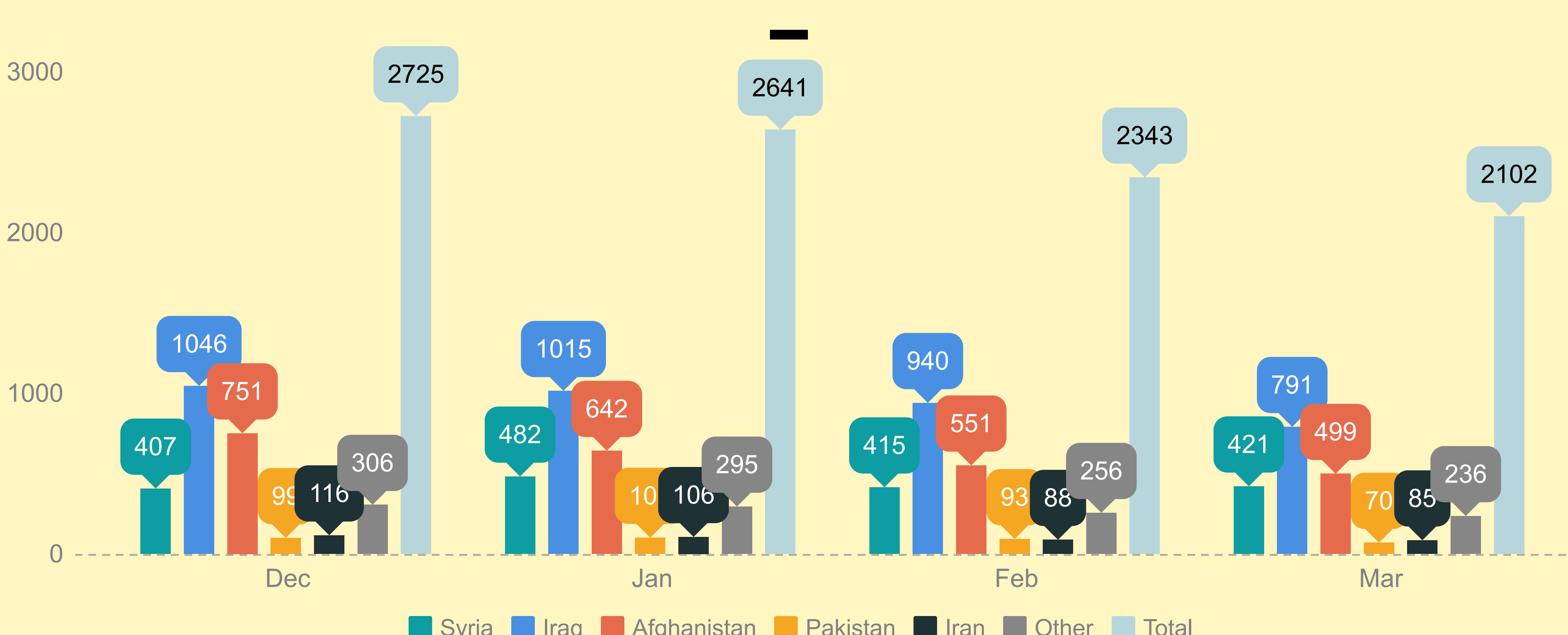


## Total of 9811

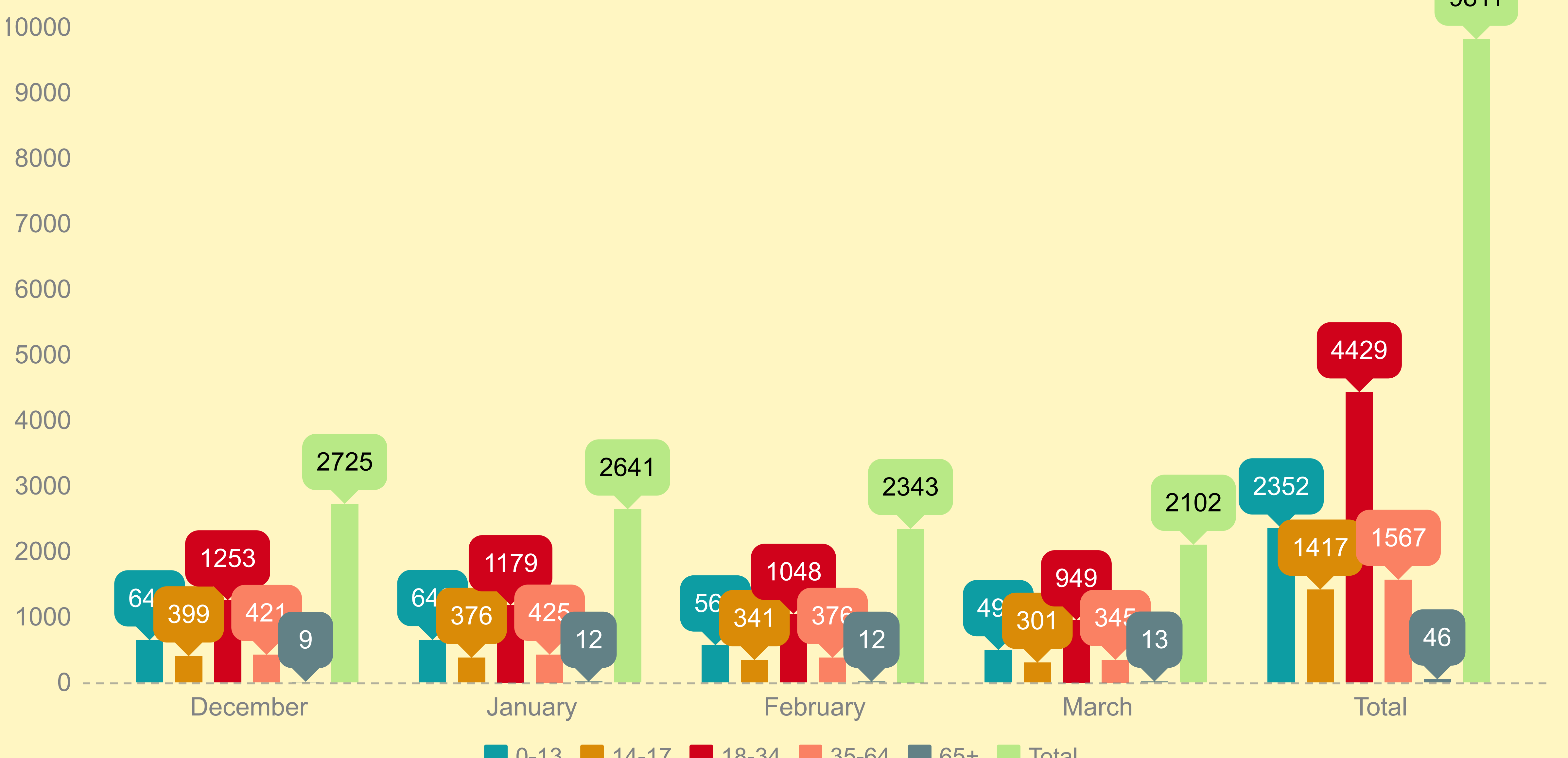
Asylum Applications are pending in the given months

## Nationality Breakdown

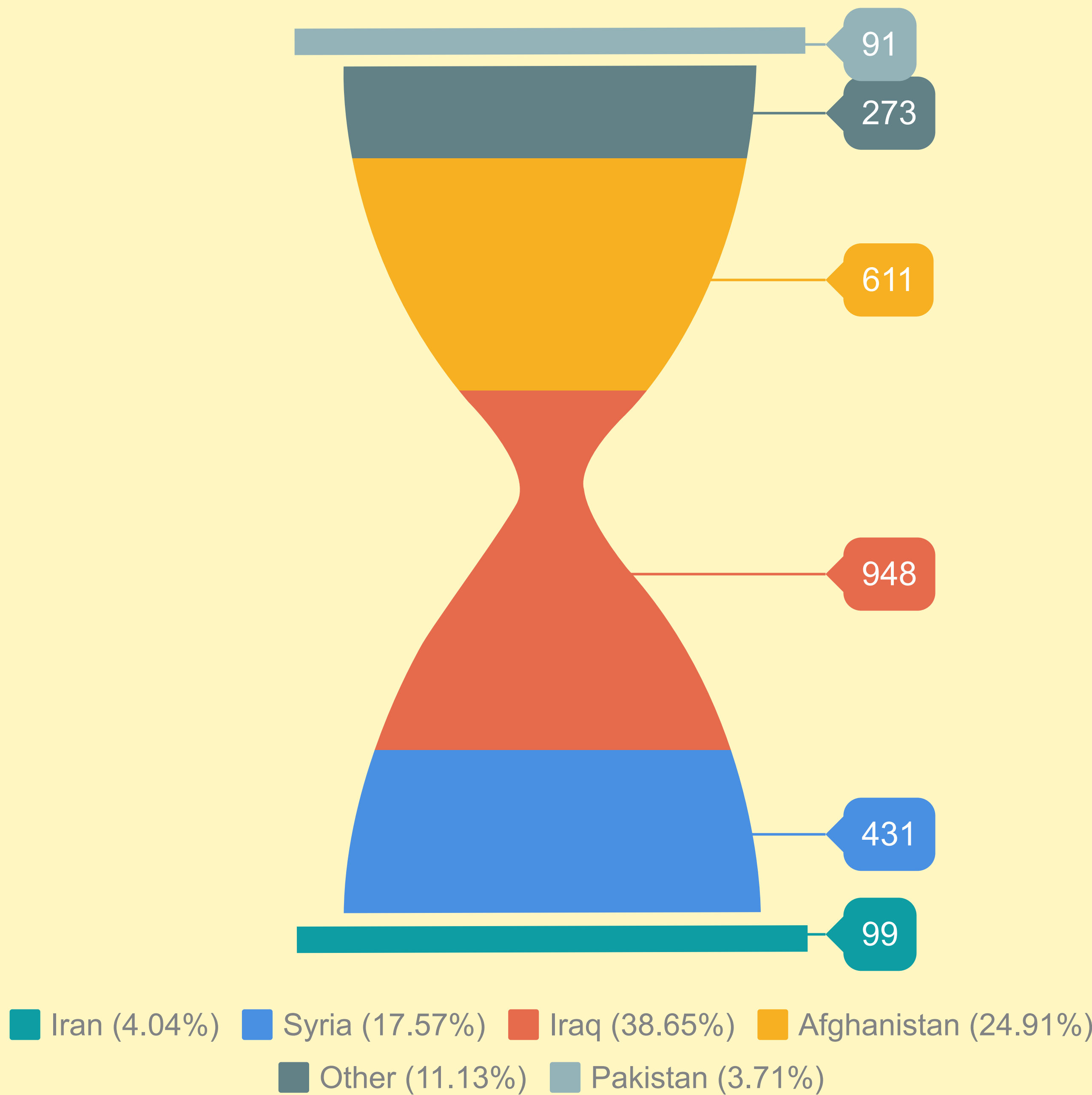
for the months of December, January, February and March



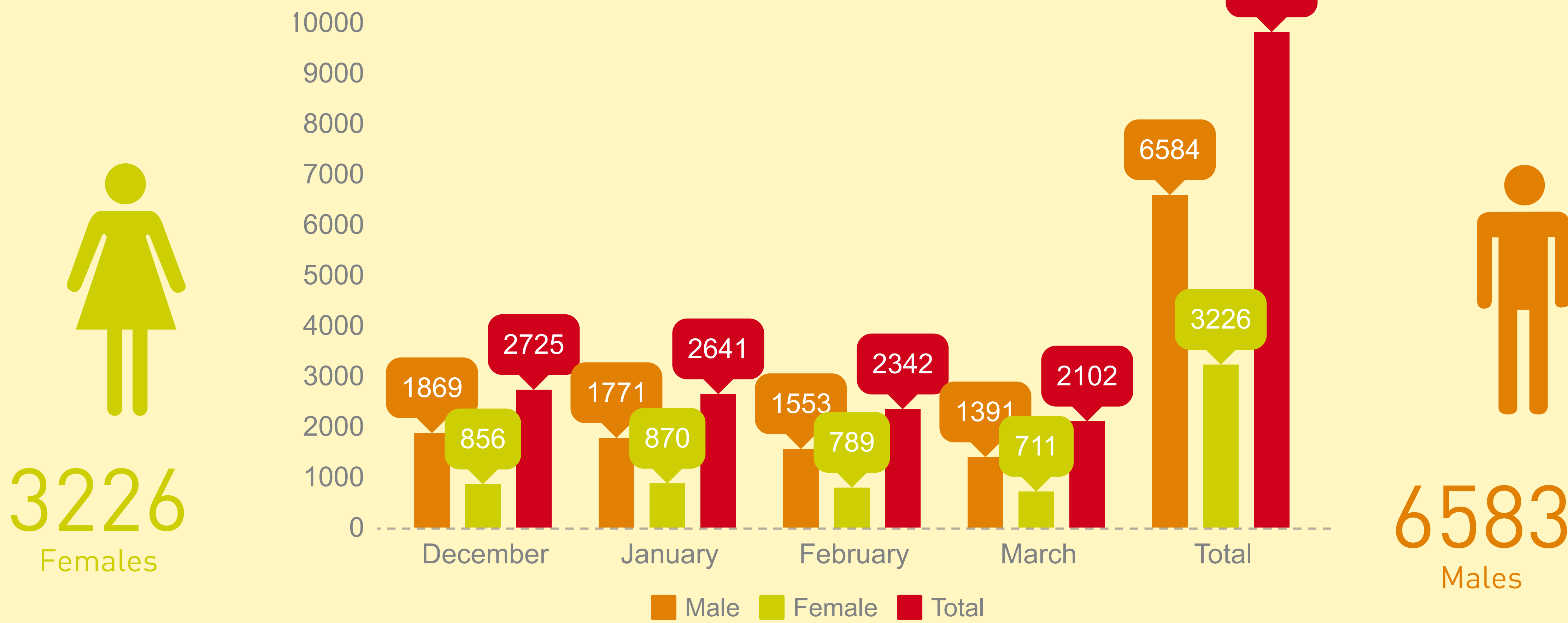
## Age groups of people pending asylum claims



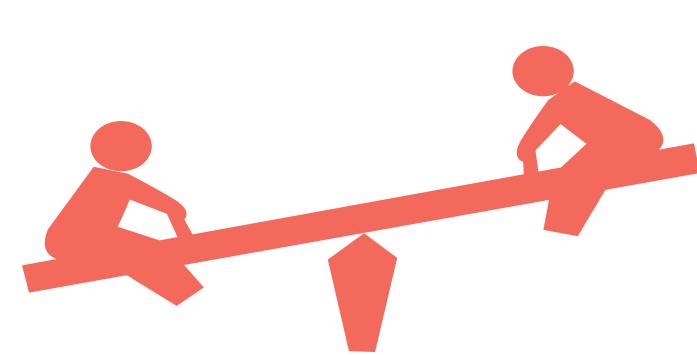
Average of the nationalities with pending asylum claims



## Gender breakdown on pending asylum claims



# Interviews conducted through Mobile Data Collection



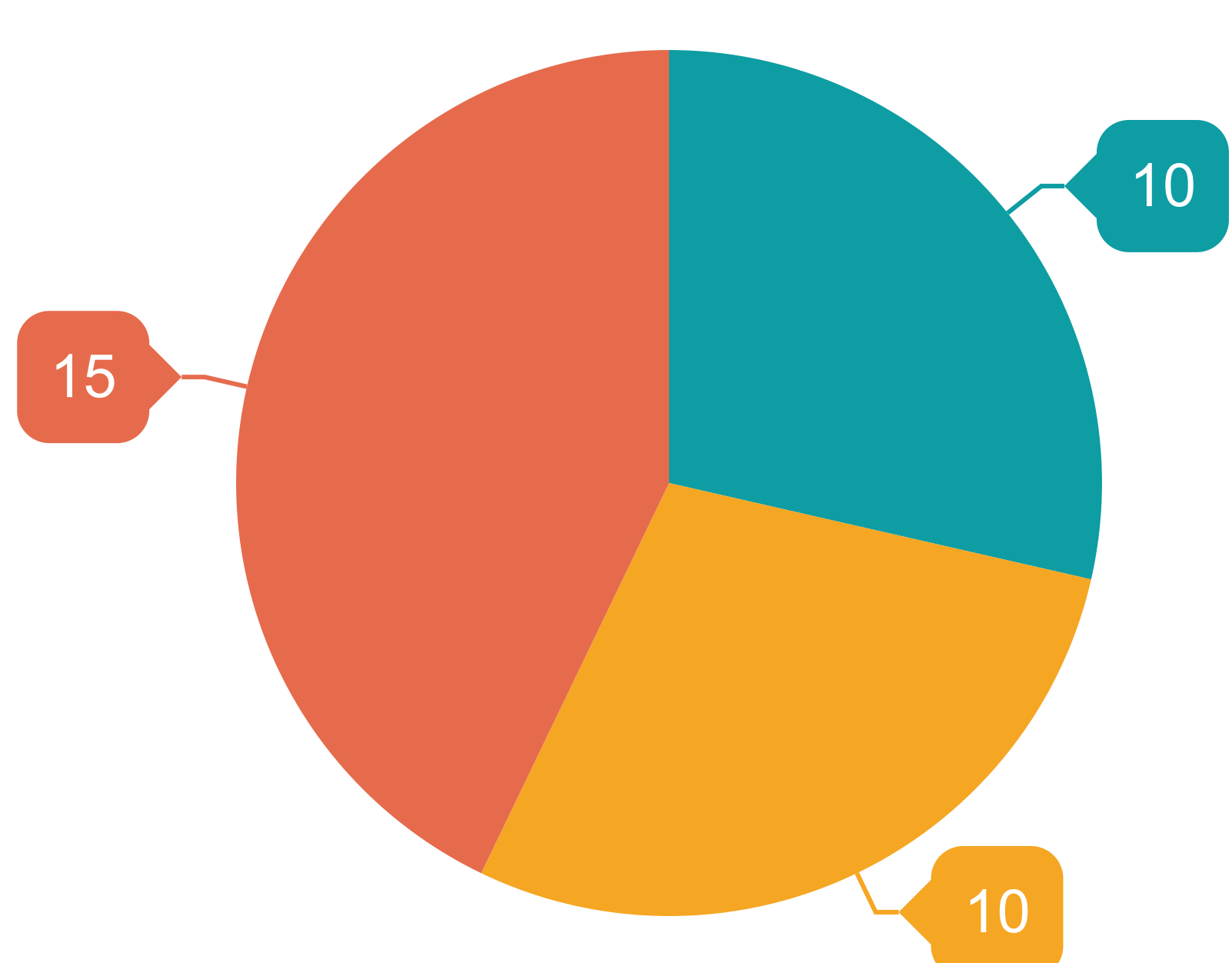
# 109

People Interviewed  
Between January and March 2018 in  
three centres



30 Interviews In January    30 Interviews In February    49 Interviews In March

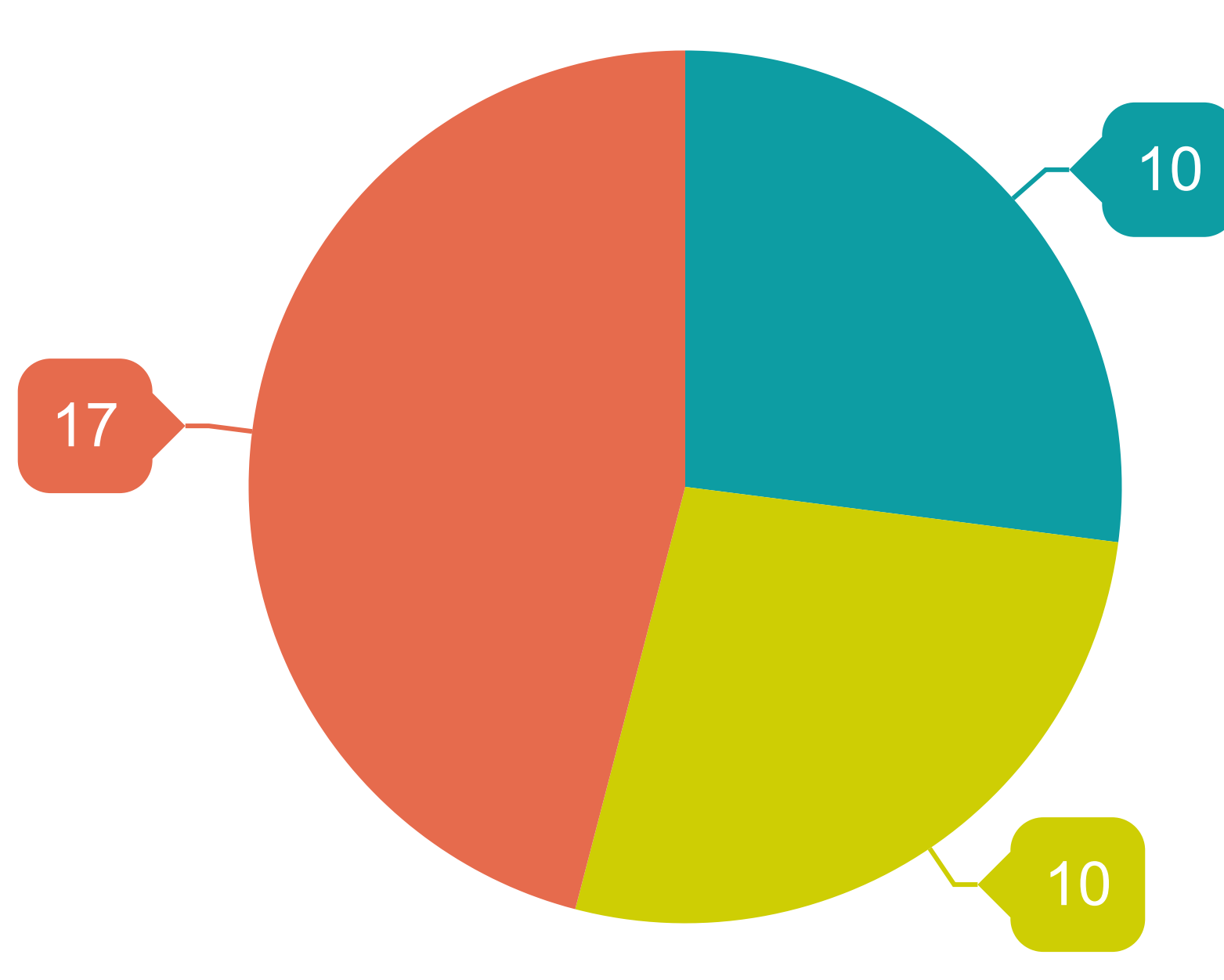
Interviews conducted in each centre monthly



Voenna Rampa



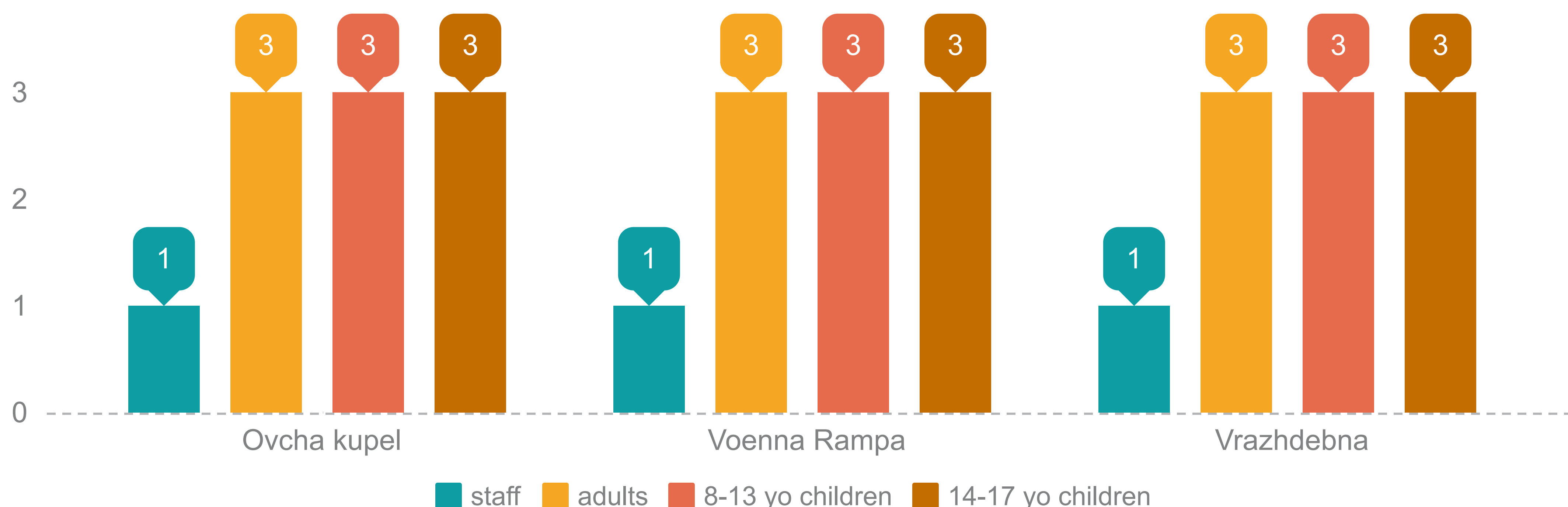
Vrazhdebna



Ovcha Kupel

## JANUARY

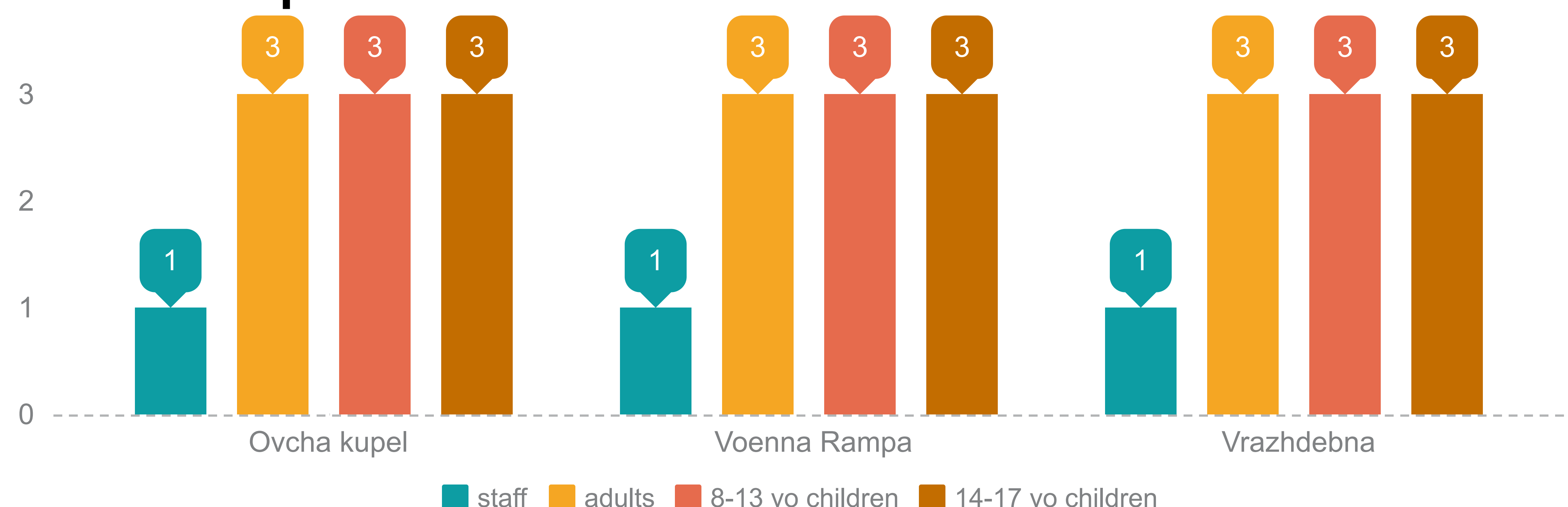
## Respondent's of data collection by age



staff    adults    8-13 yo children    14-17 yo children

## February

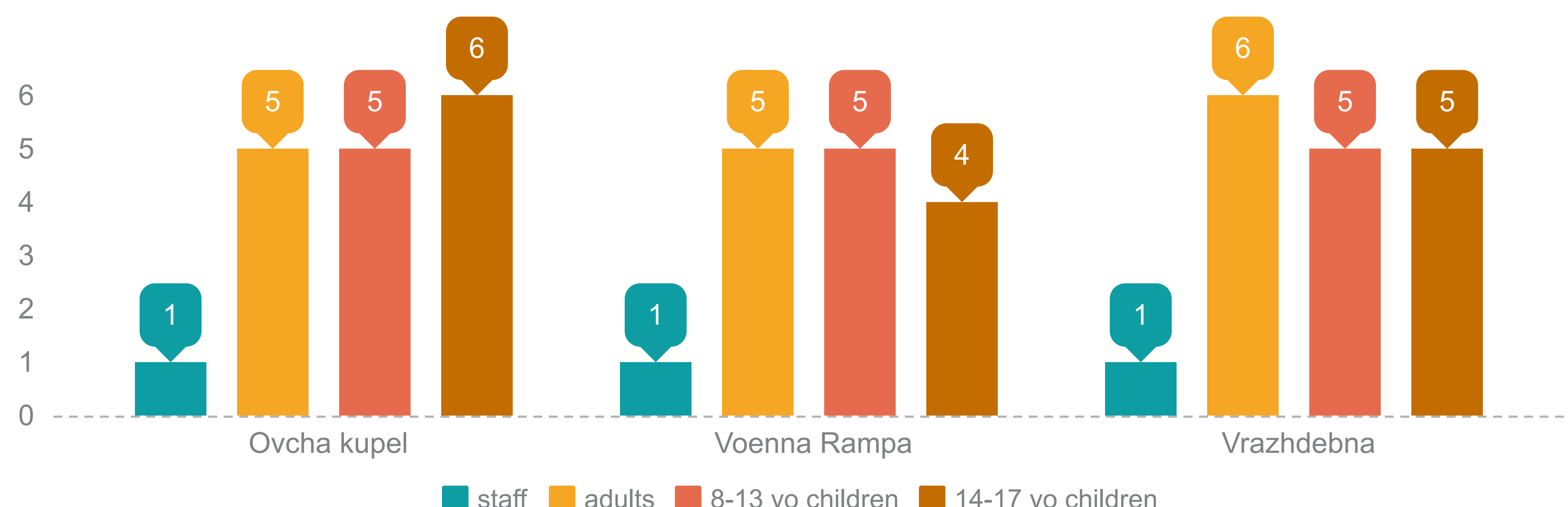
## Respondent's of data collection by age



staff    adults    8-13 yo children    14-17 yo children

## March

## Respondent's of data collection by age



staff    adults    8-13 yo children    14-17 yo children

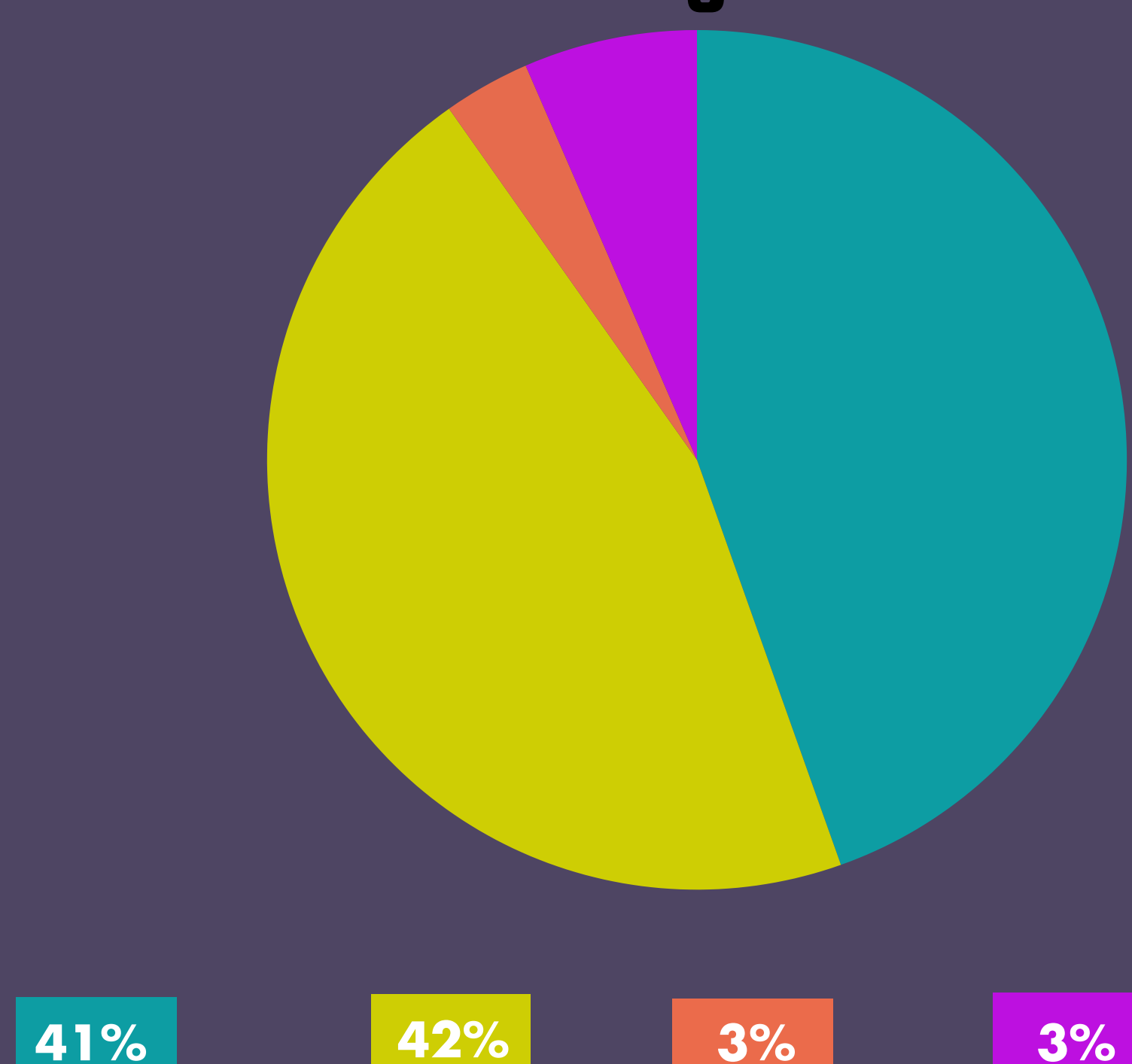




# Responses on Mobile Data Collection

The following statistics are responses from interviews conducted with staff, adults and children living in the reception centers. Mobile Data collection tool was used in the conducted Interviews.

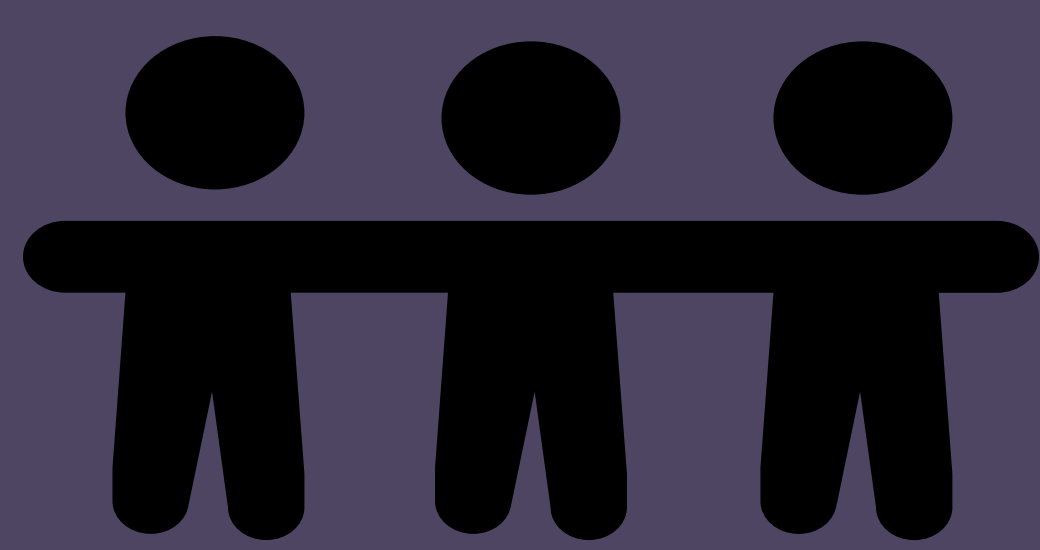
**Awareness** of respondents on provision of recreational activities from the organisations.



**Dietary** Needs and food in the facilities

30

children interviewed



Voenna Rampa

9 respondents



Ovcha Kupel

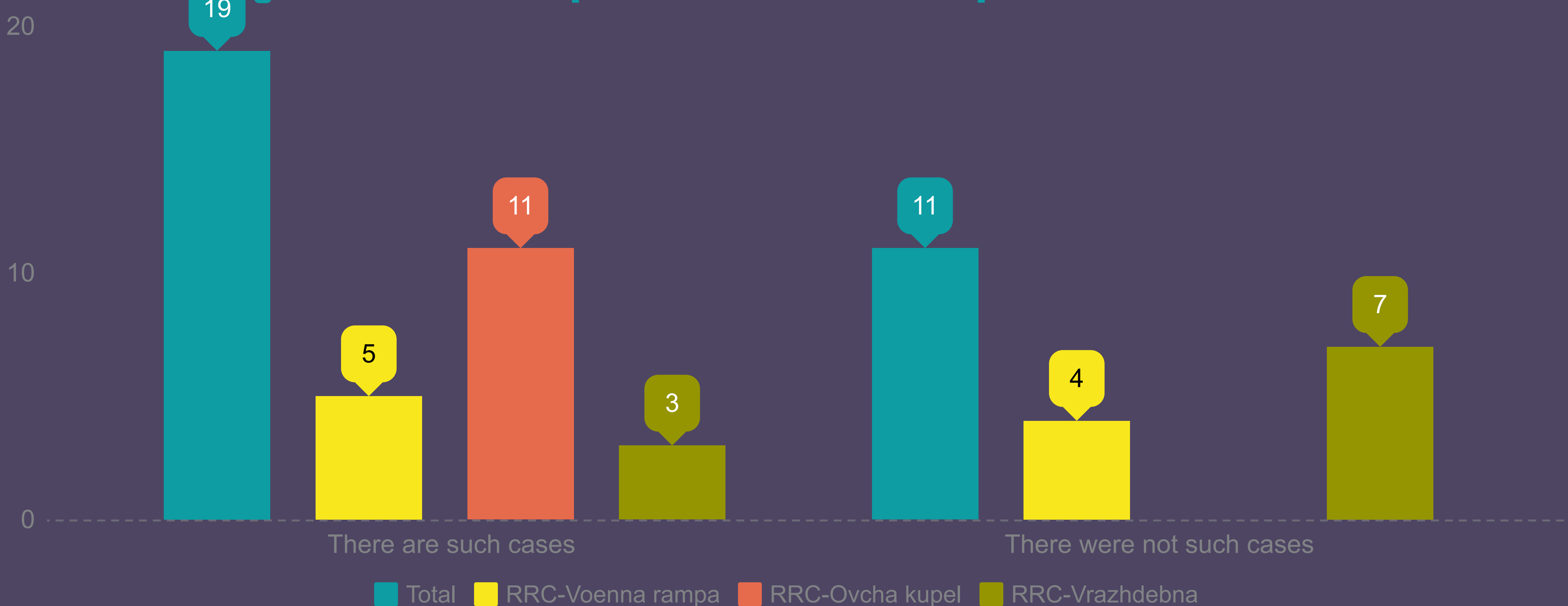
11 respondents



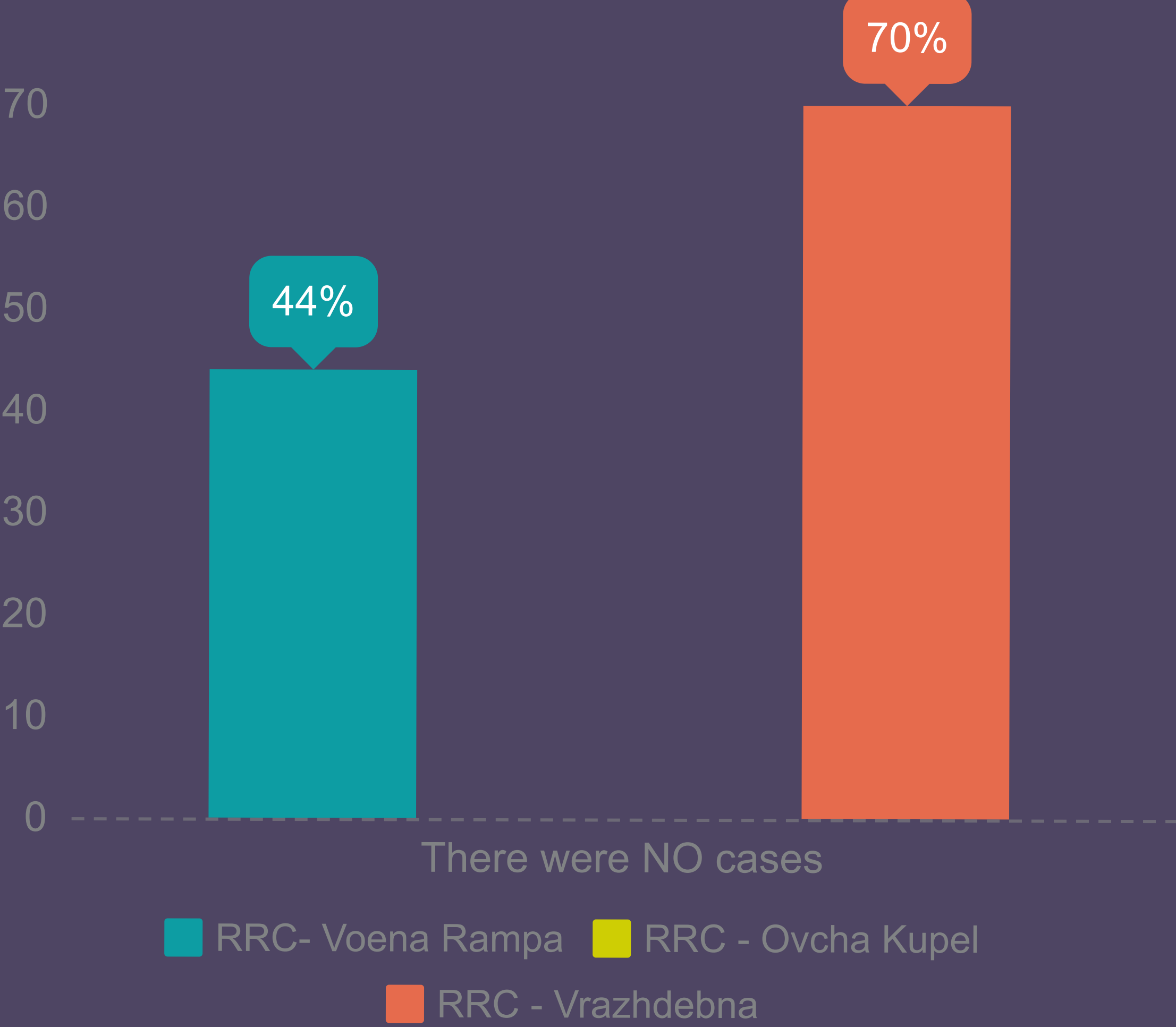
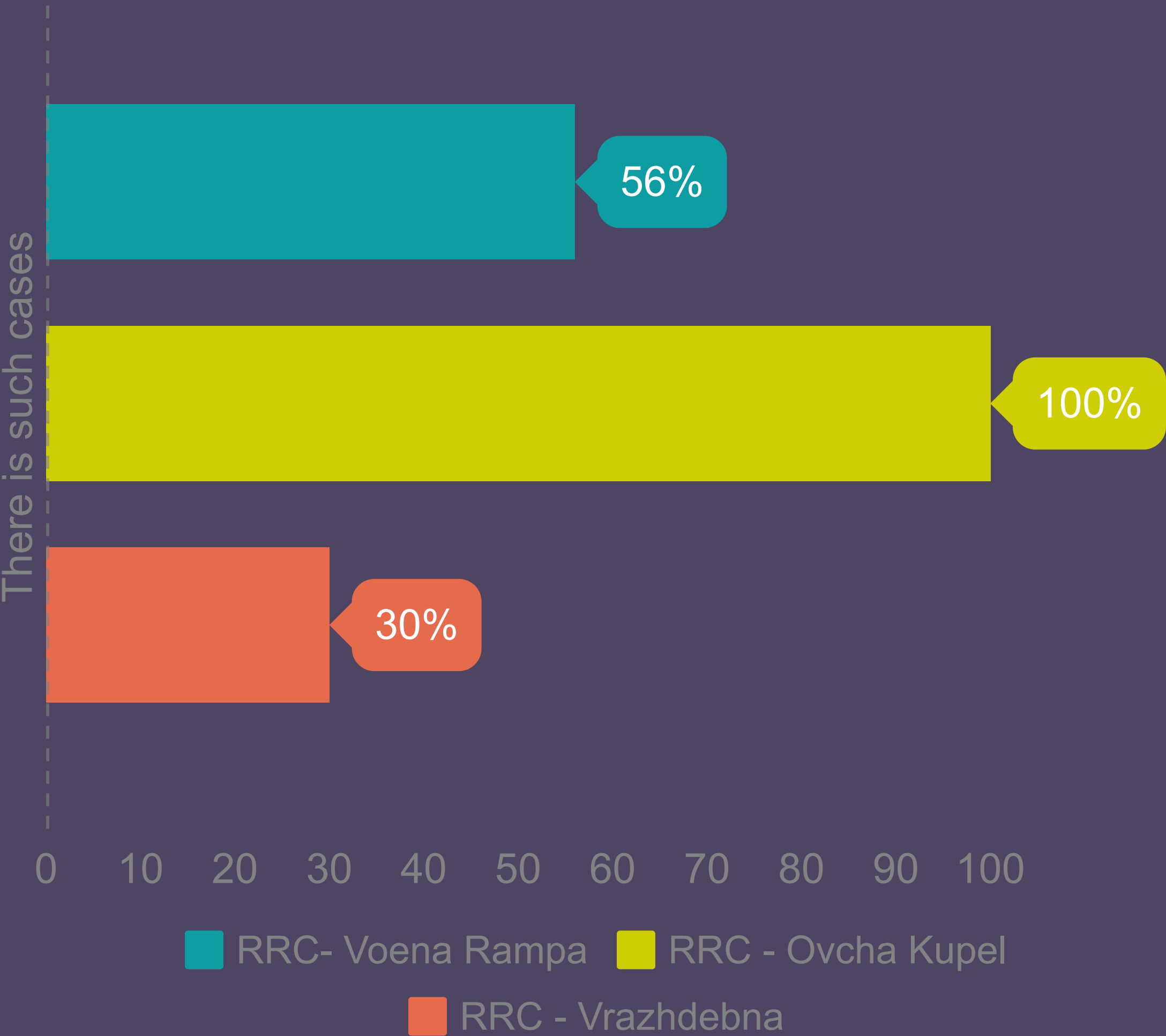
Vrazhdebna

10 respondents

Children reporting that their dietary needs and freedom of conscience and religion are not compatible with the food provided in the center



Percentages of **positive** and **negative** answers of children in the facilities



**Positive** perception of children of their situation on short-term (their well being).



14-17

years old perceptions

8-13

years old perceptions



# Reception Centers Conditions

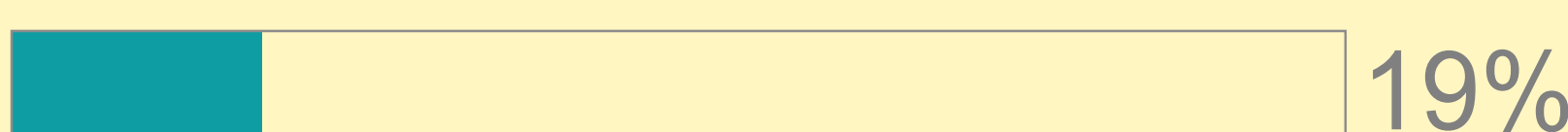
## Occupancy Rate

monthly of the reception centers  
including children

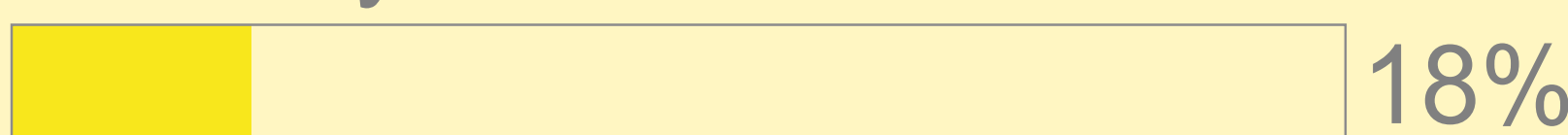


Sofia

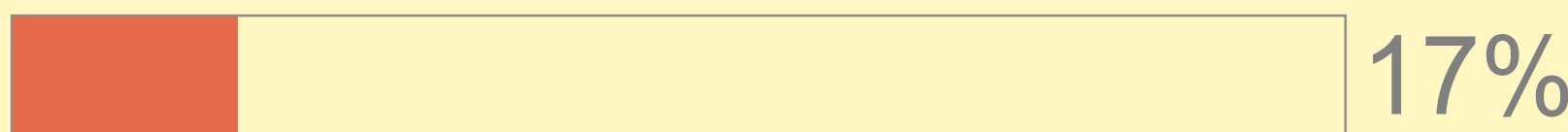
December



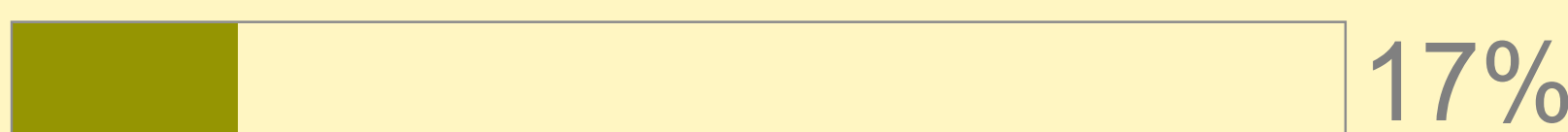
January



February



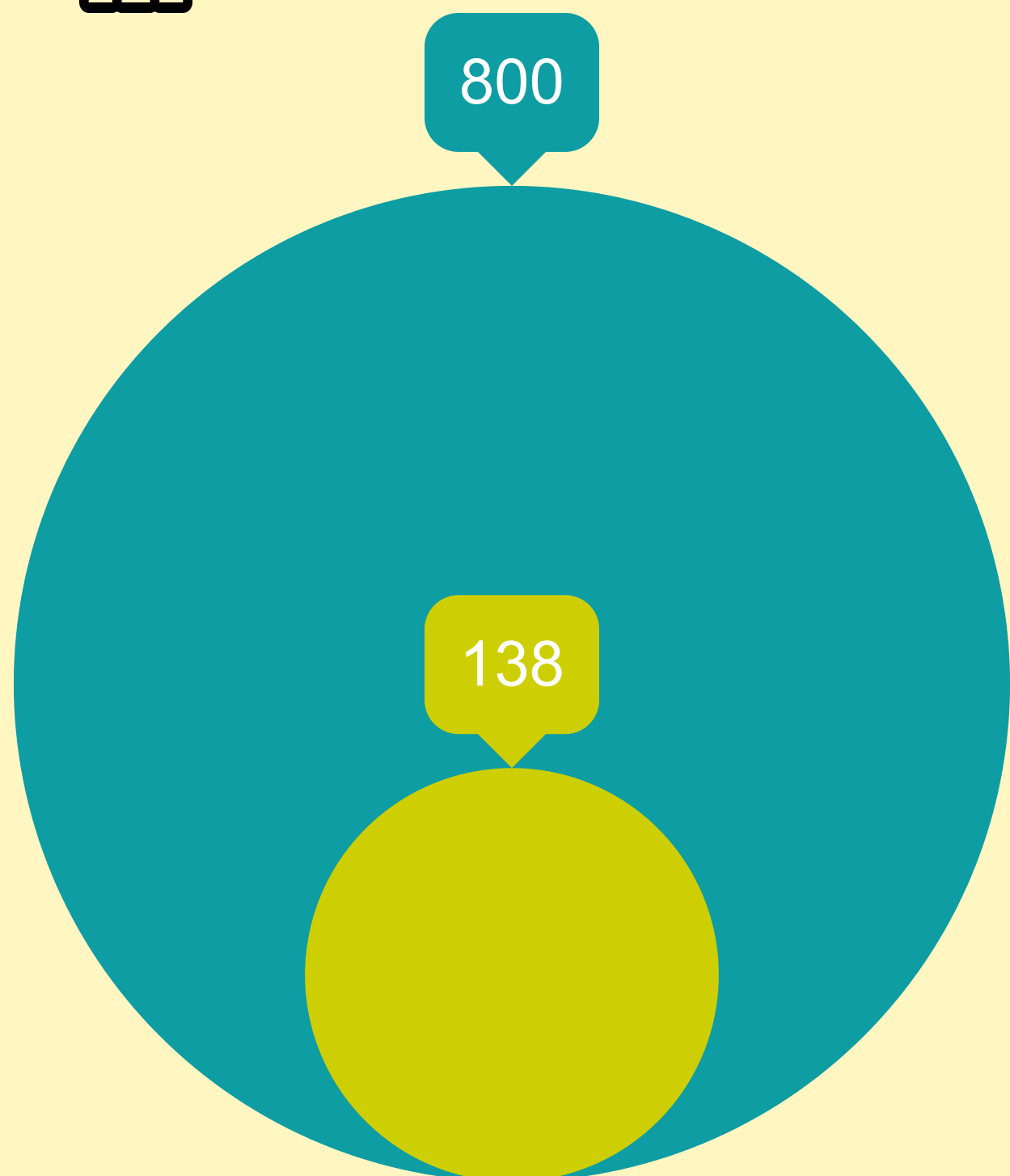
March



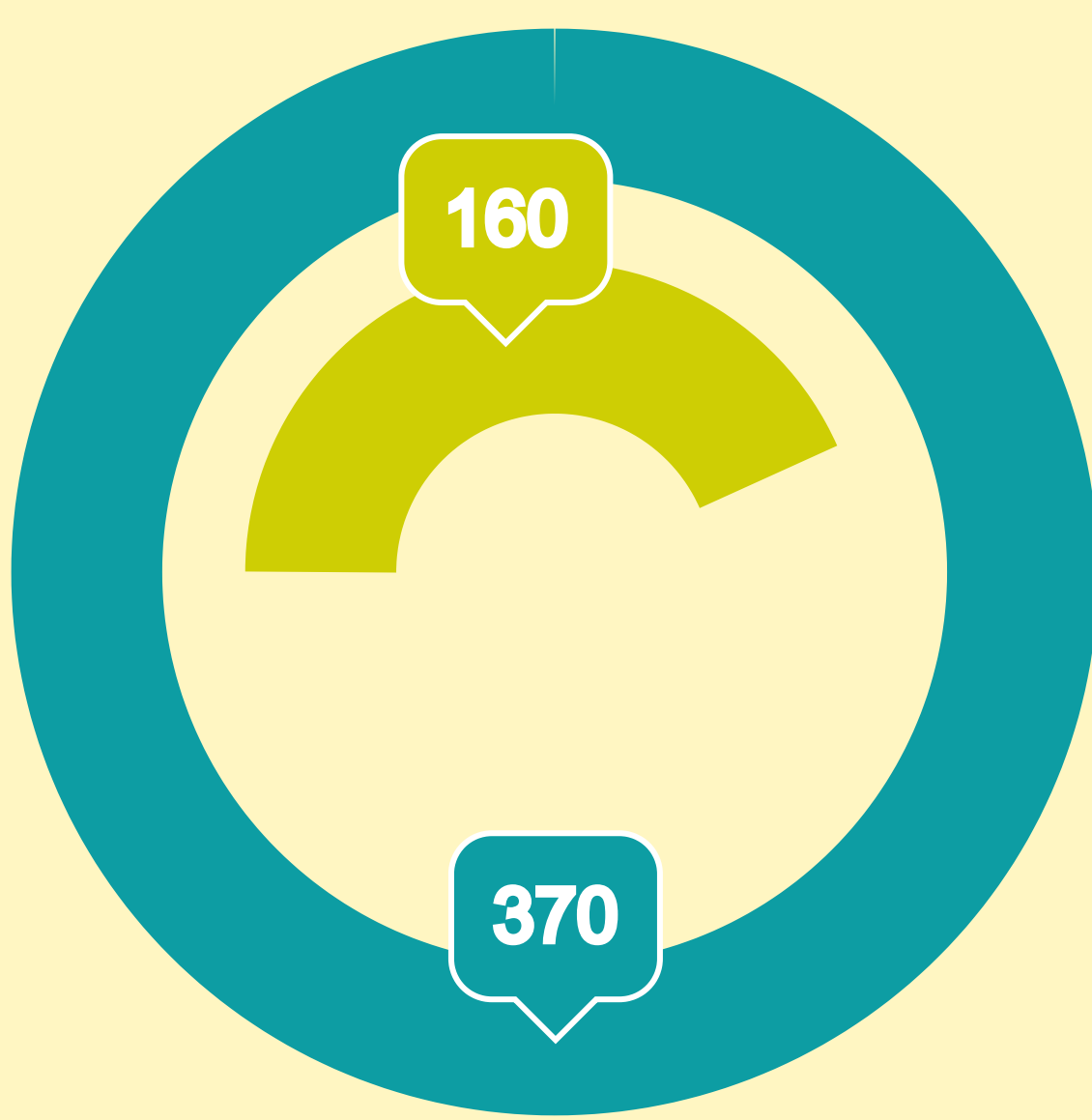
Outside of  
Sofia



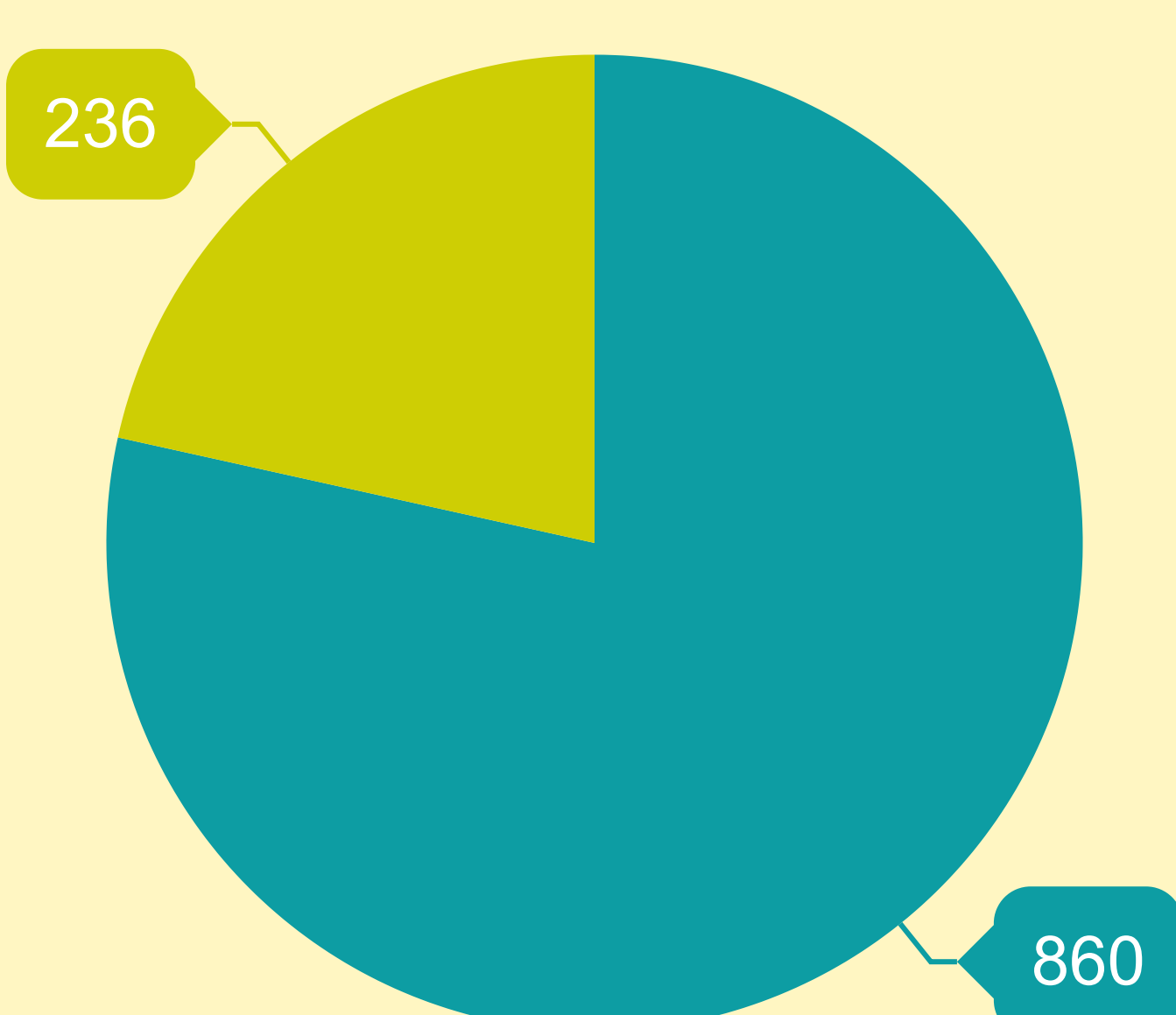
Voenna Rampa



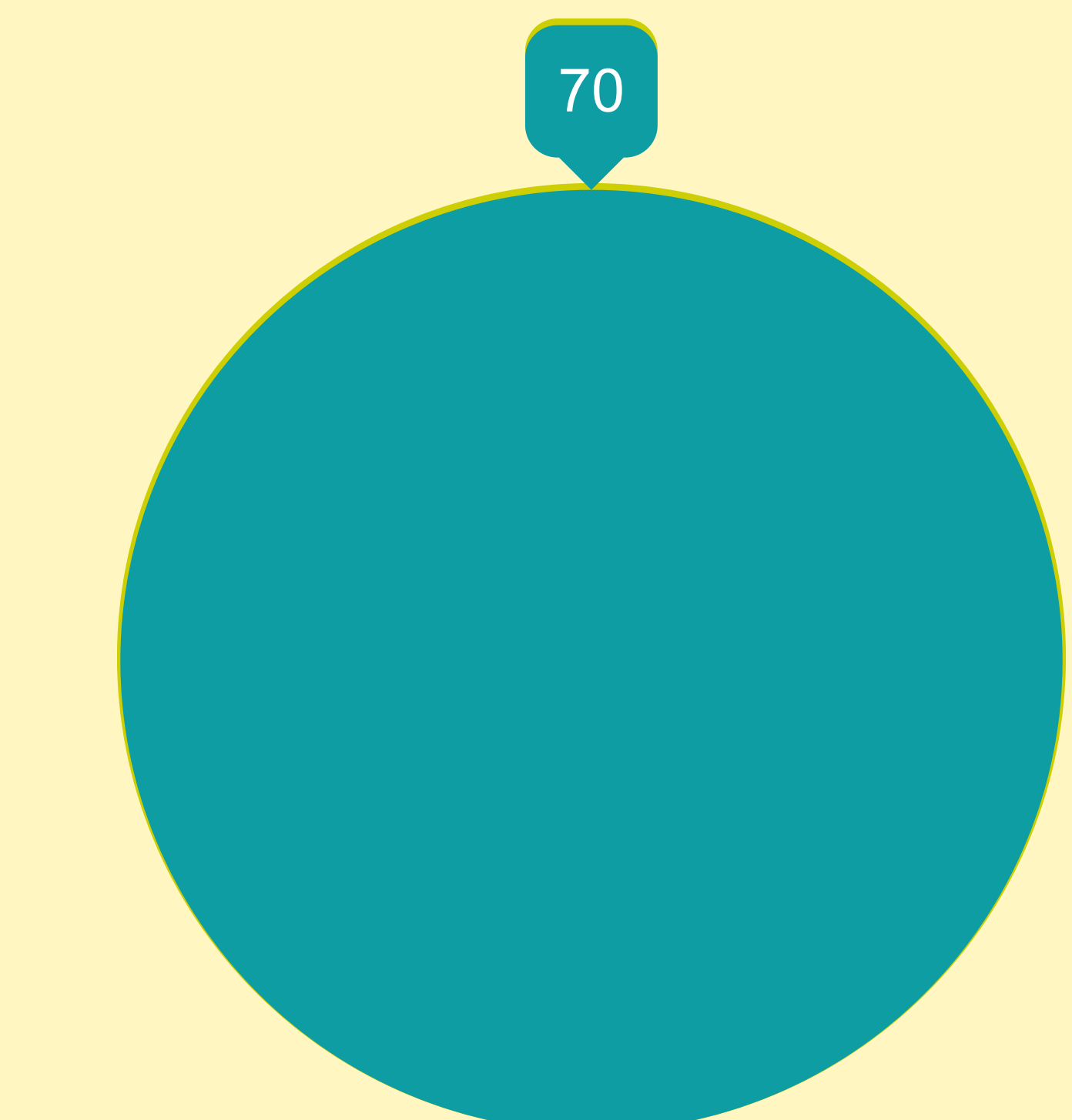
Vrazhdebna



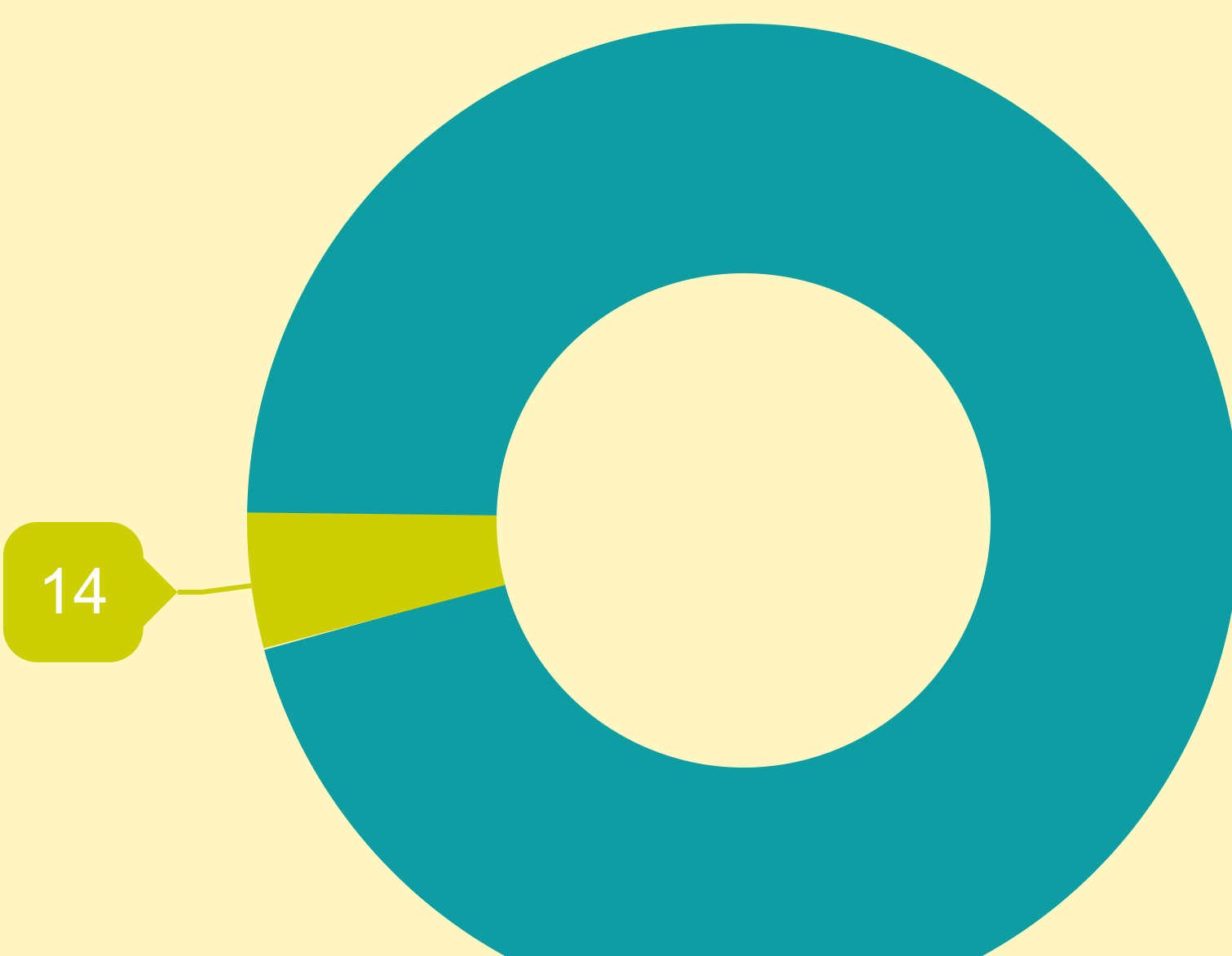
Ovcha Kupel



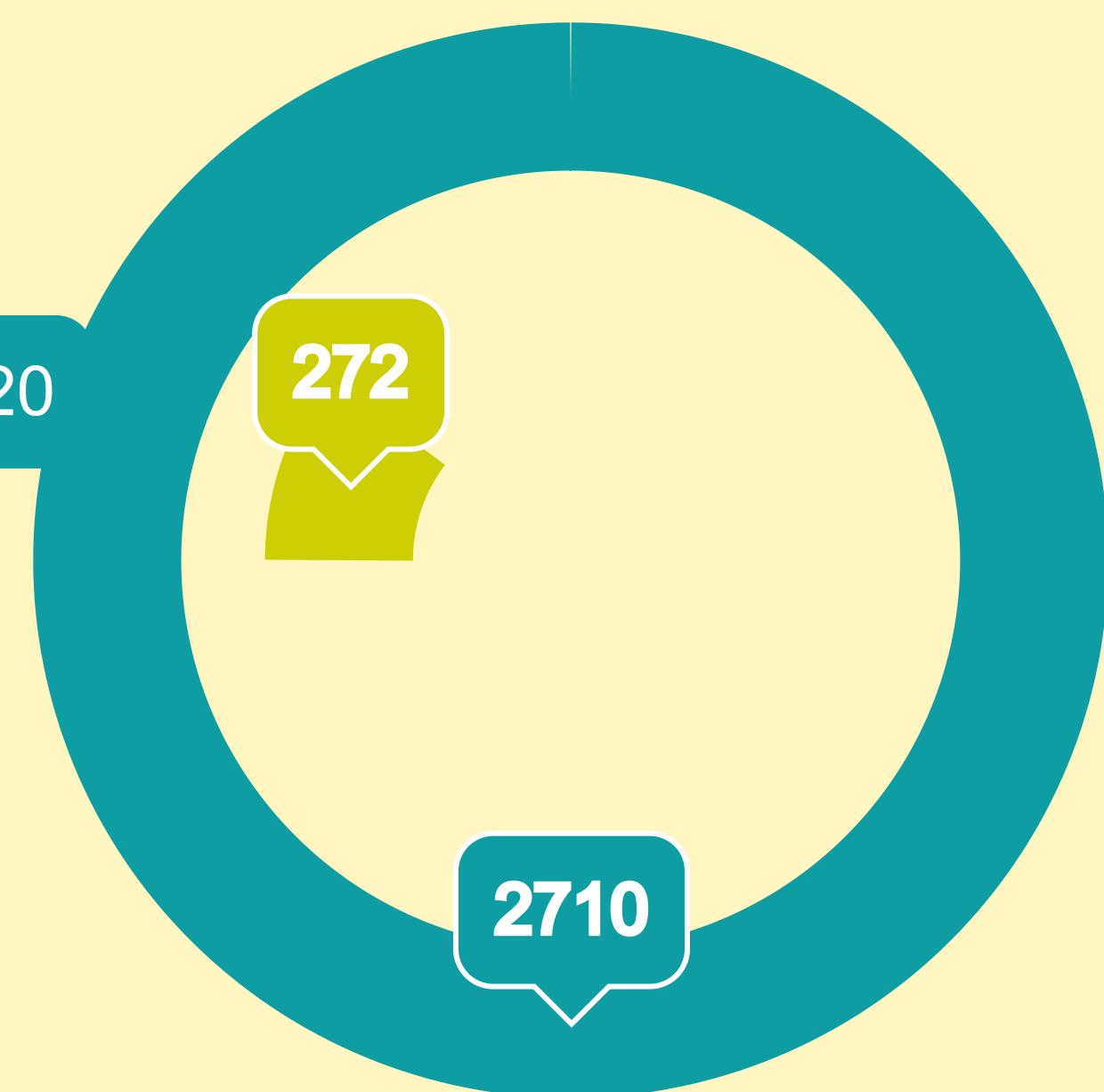
Banya



Pystrogor



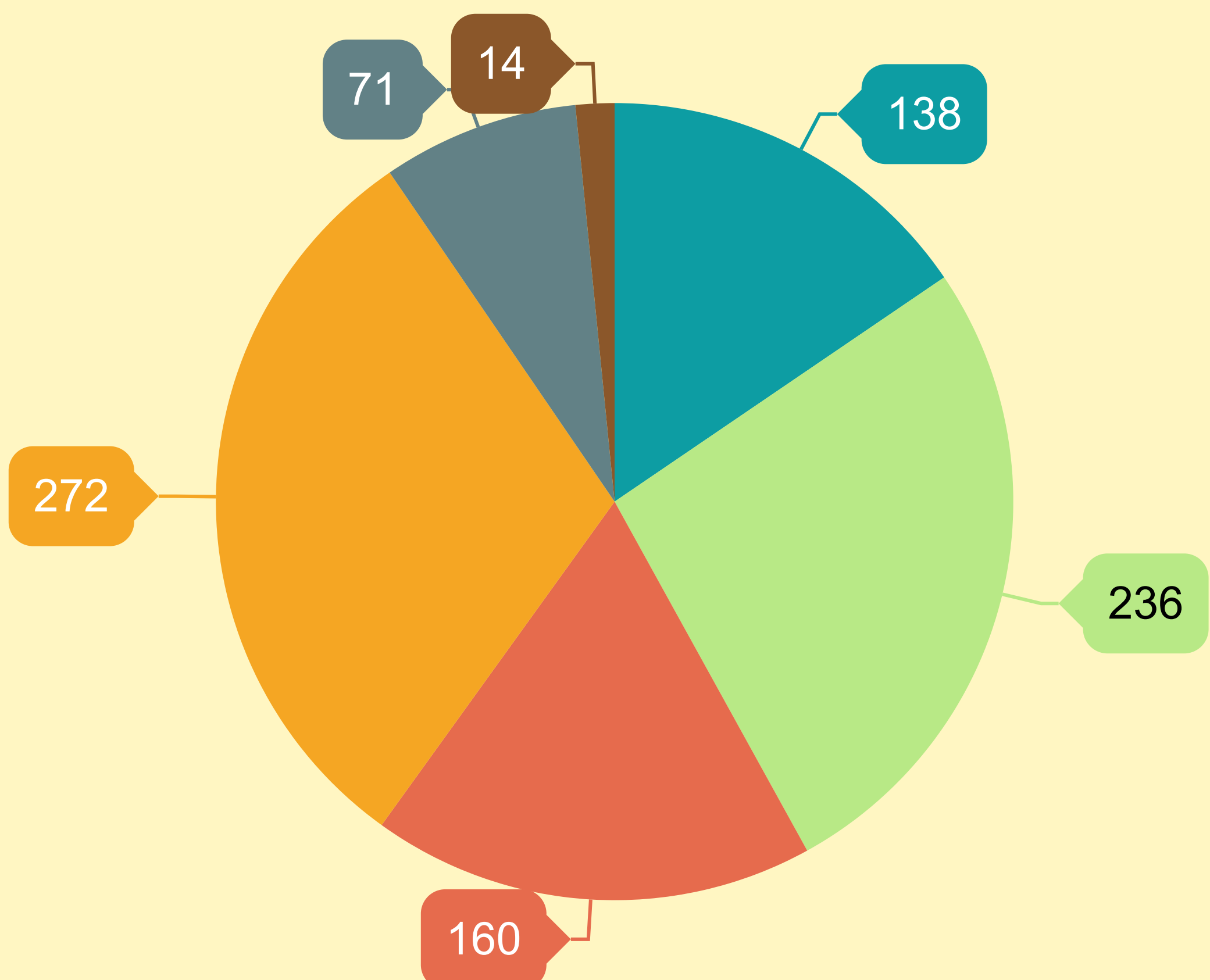
Harmanli



Total Capacity Average Accommodation

Total Capacity Average Accommodation

## Average number of residents per center during the last 4 months



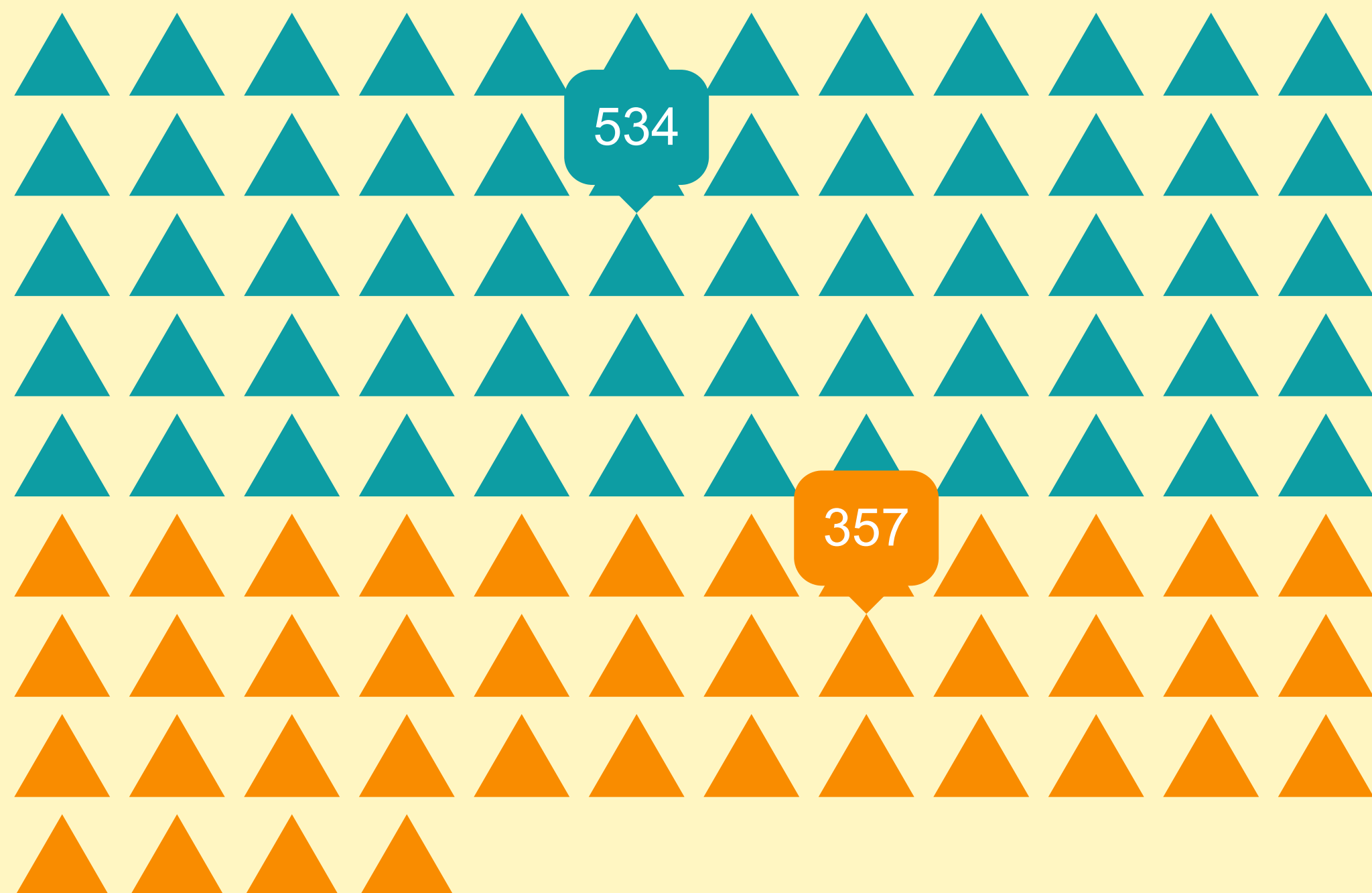
RRC-Voenna rampa (15.49%) RRC-Ovcha kupel (26.49%) RRC-Vrazhdebna (17.96%) RRC-Harmanli (30.53%)  
RRC-Banya (7.97%) TC-Pastrogor (1.57%)

## Occupancy rate for centers in the 4 months



RRC-Voenna rampa (8.42%) RRC-Ovcha kupel (13.37%)  
RRC-Vrazhdebna (21.29%) RRC-Harmanli (4.95%)  
RRC-Banya (50%) TC-Pastrogor (1.98%)

## Difference of accommodation in Sofia and the other centers outside Sofia



Inside Sofia (59.93%) Outside Sofia (40.07%)

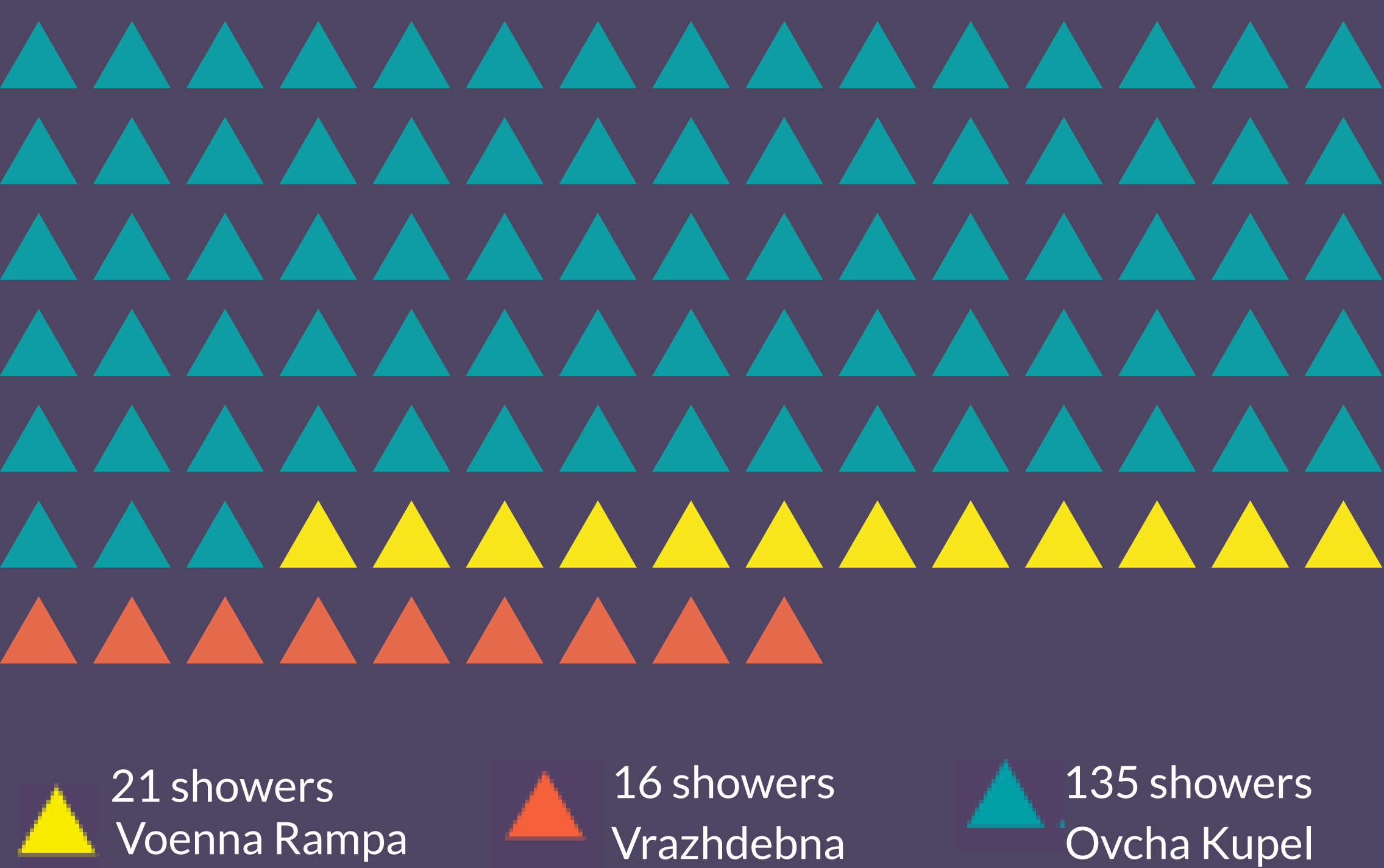


# Availability and Functionality of Toilet and showers in the reception centers

## The below statistics

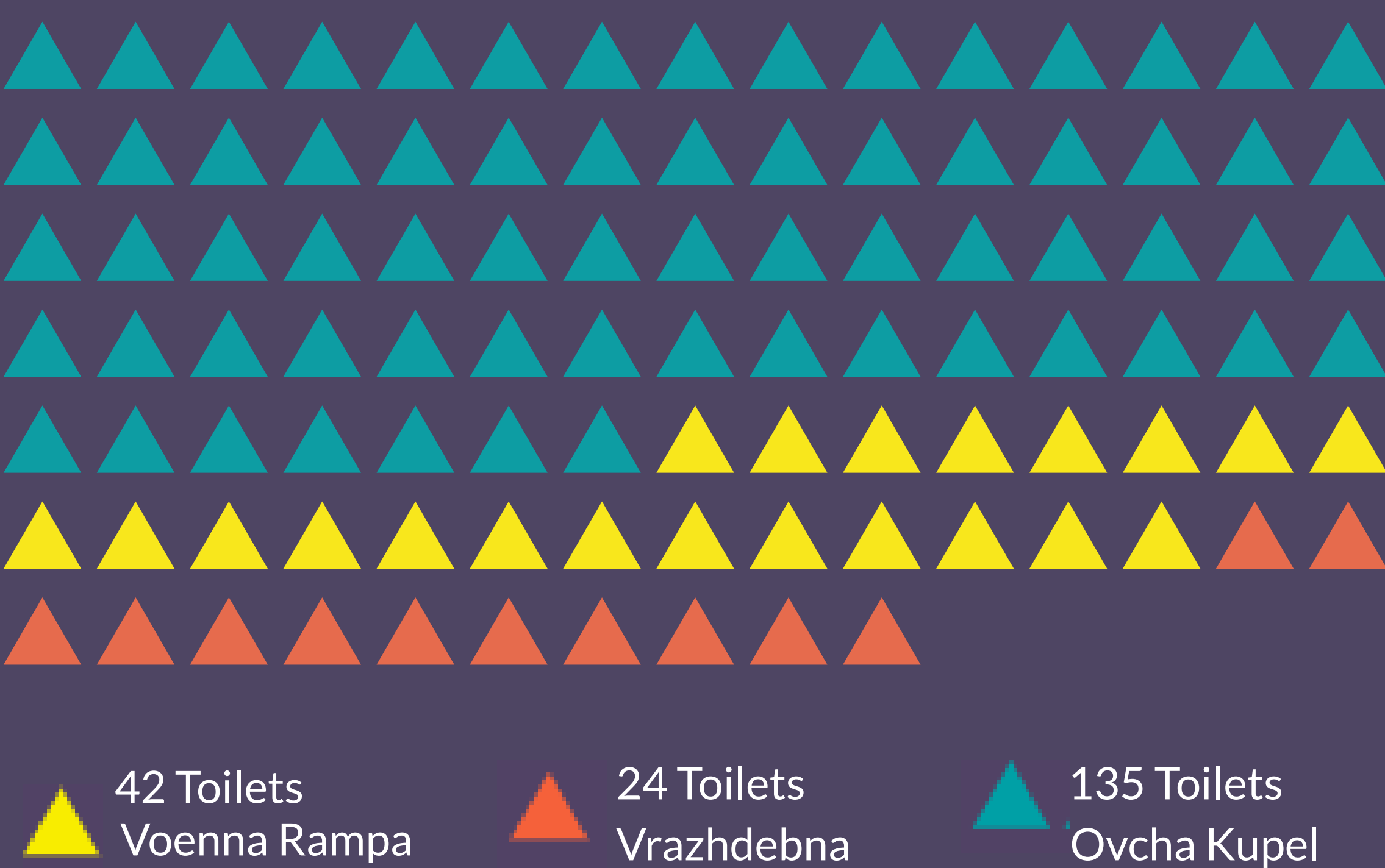
*represent official data and the responses from direct interviews with people living in the centres*

The official data on the availability of toilets and showers represent the three centres where Mobile data collection was conducted: Ovcha Kupel, Vrazhdebna and Voenna Rampa. We asked the residents of the centres on the functionality of the showers and toilets.



### Showers

- Voenna Rampa: shared shower between men and women: Women use it before noon, while men can use it in the afternoon
- Vrazhdebna: shared shower between men and women: women use it before noon, while men can use it in the afternoon
- Ovcha Kupel: each room is equipped with a shower.

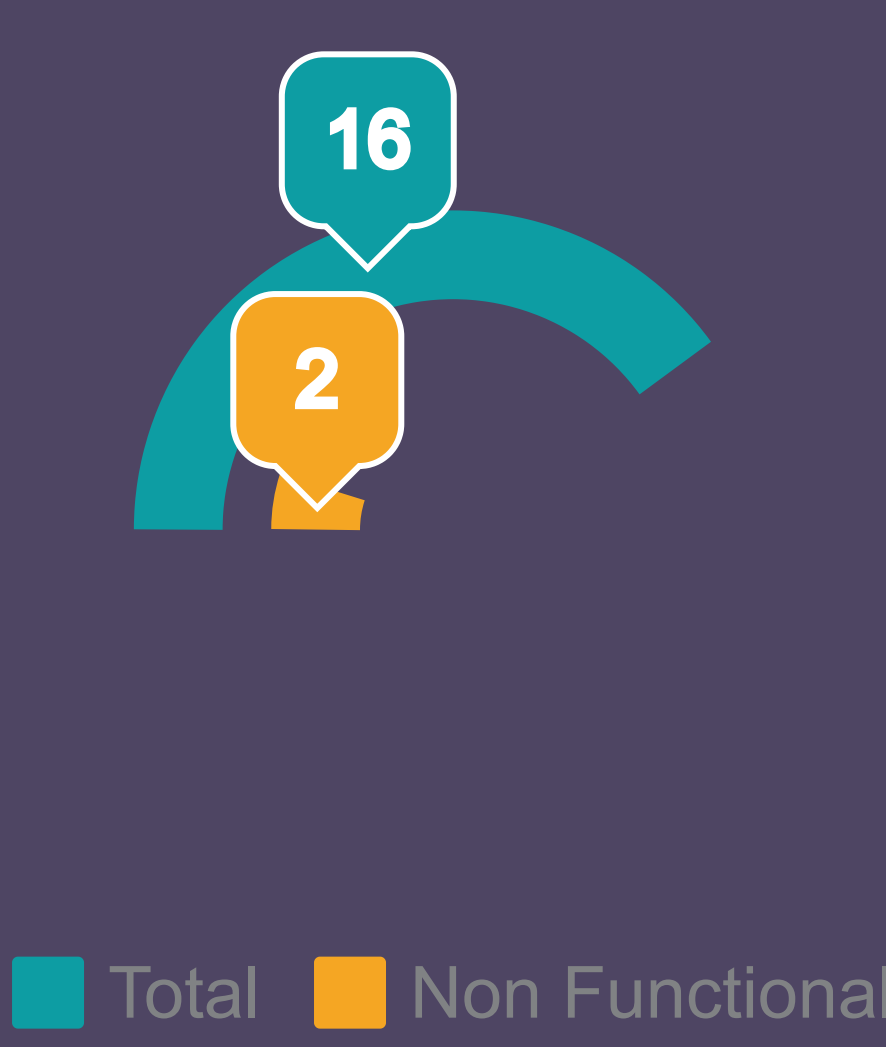
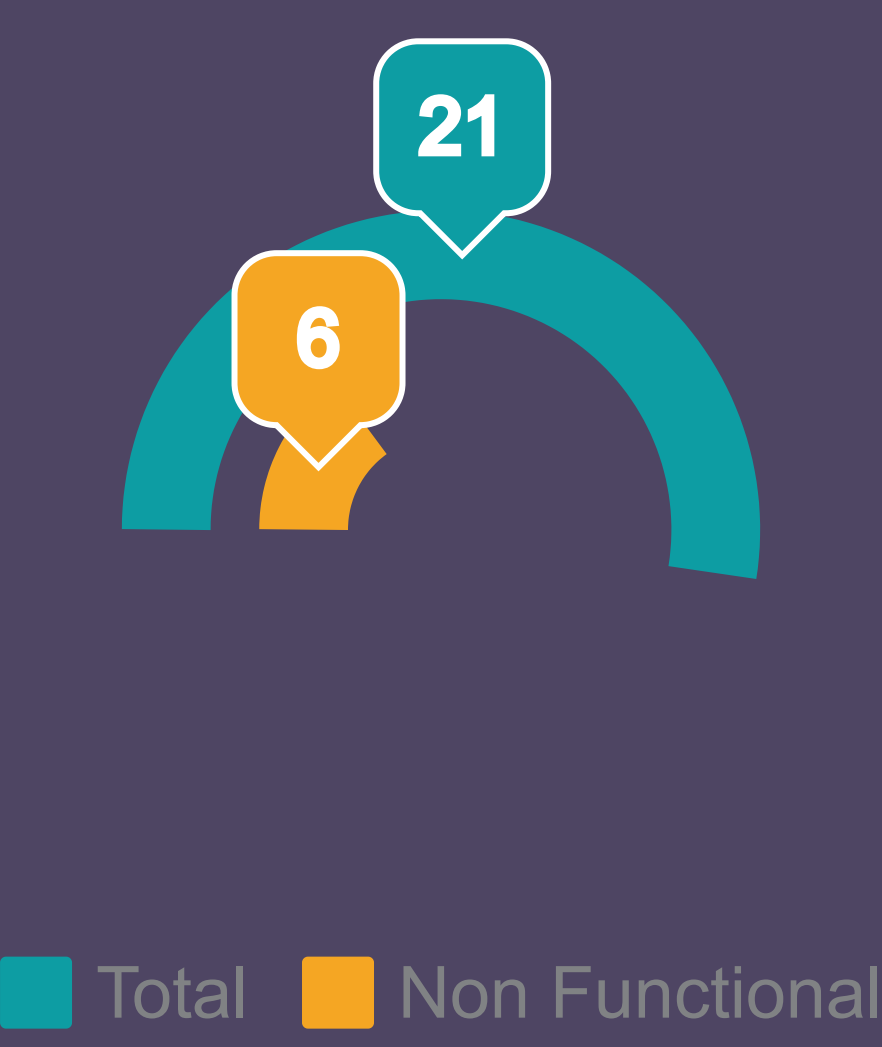
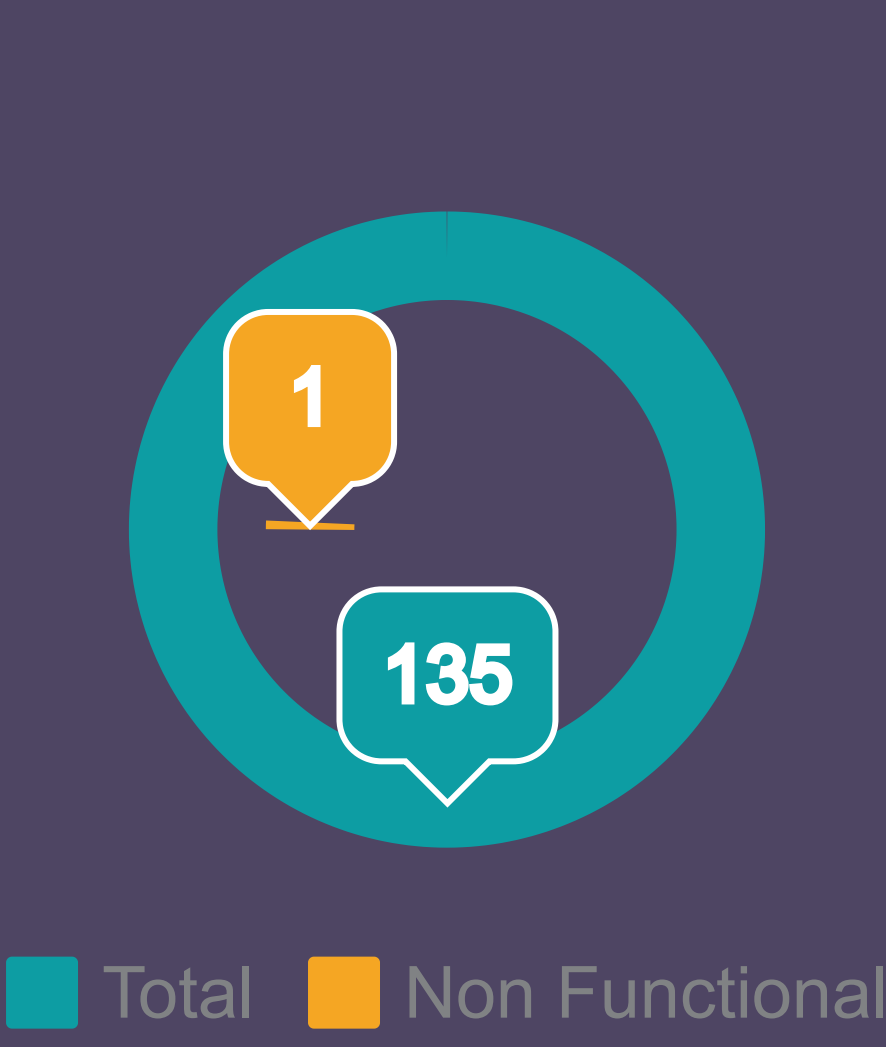


### Toilets

- Voenna Rampa: Toilets are situated on each floor.
- Vrazhdebna: Toilets are situated on each floor
- Ovcha Kupel: each room is equipped with separate toilets.

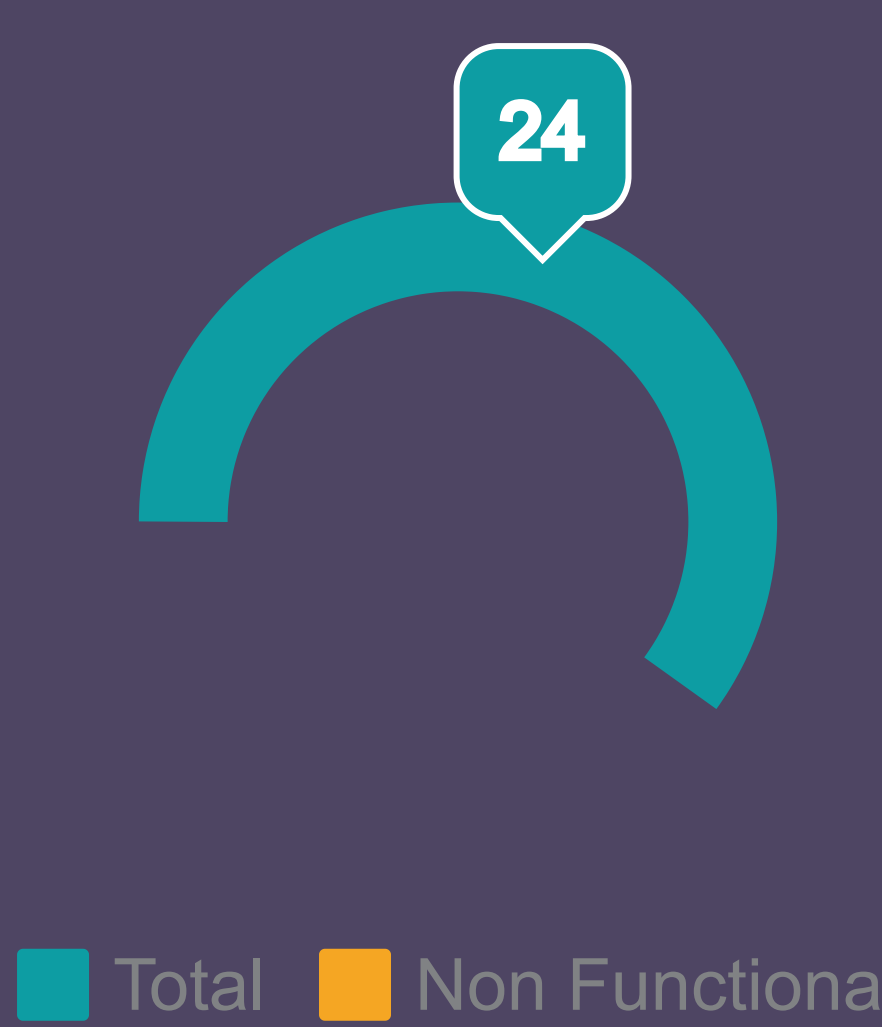
## Functional Showers

according to respondents on the mobile data collection



## Functional Toilets

according to respondents on the mobile data collection



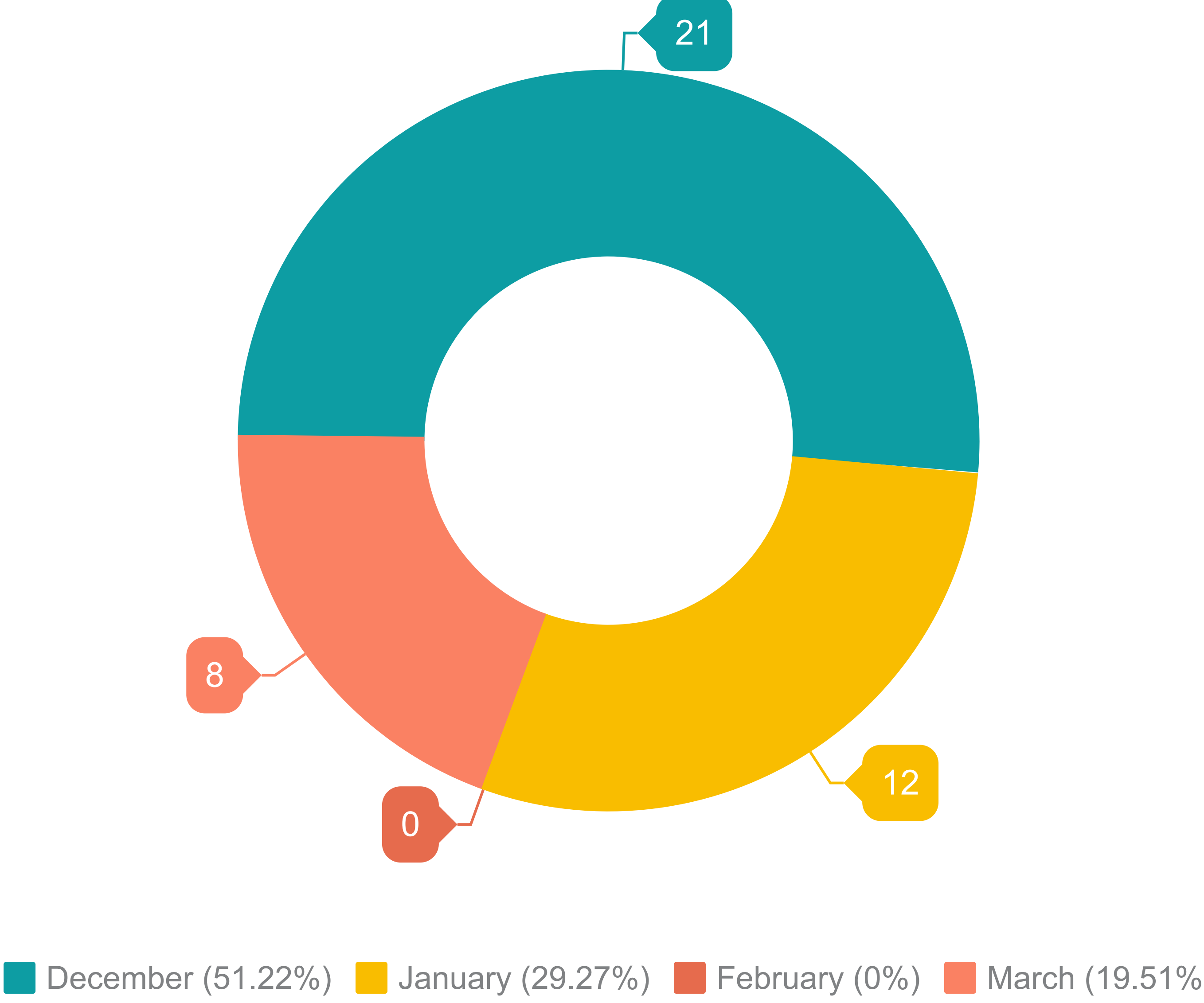
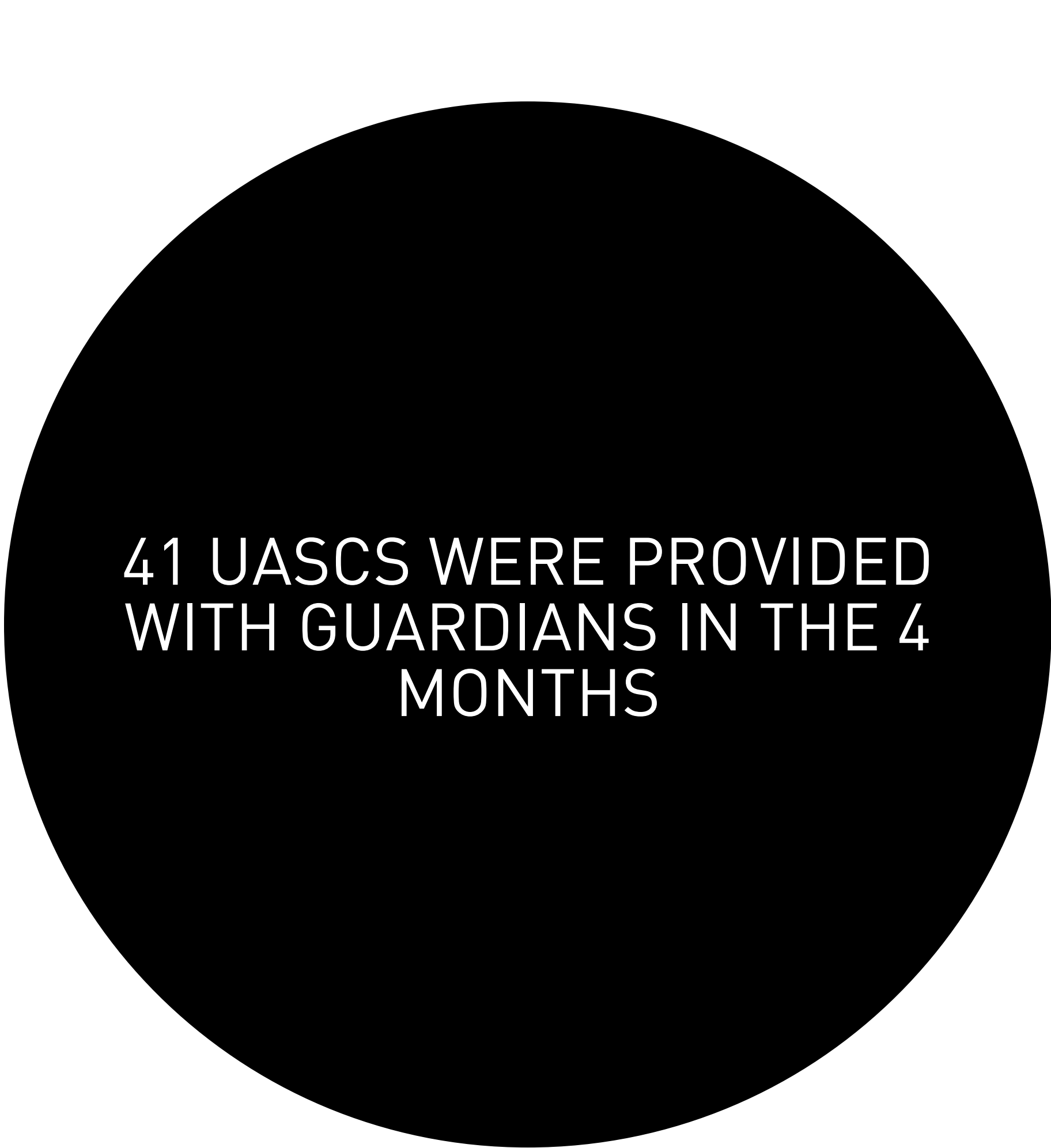
There were 10 respondents for each of the centers that provided the data for this answer. In some of the months of data collection respondents chose not to answer this question.

The official data of the availability of showers and toilets has not changed during the whole period of data collection.

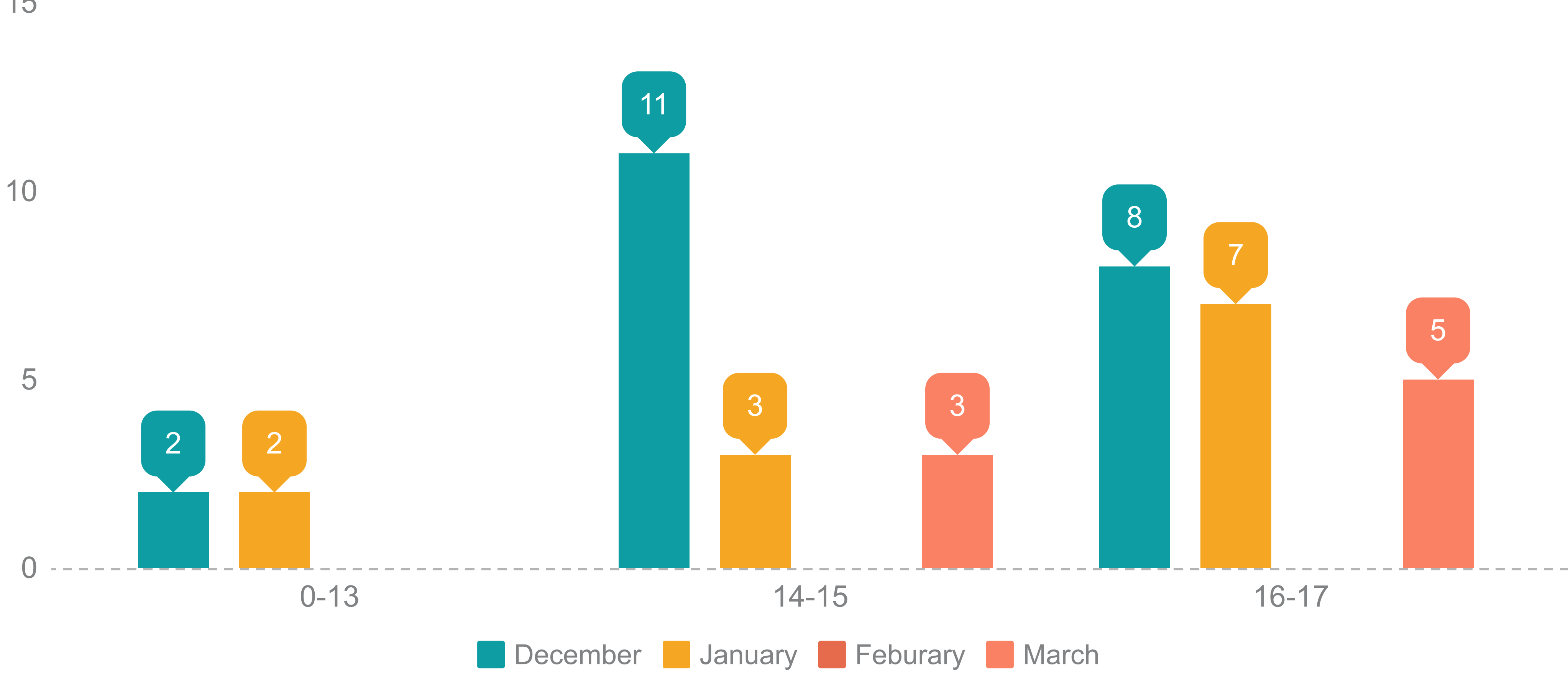


# Appointment of Guardians for UASCs

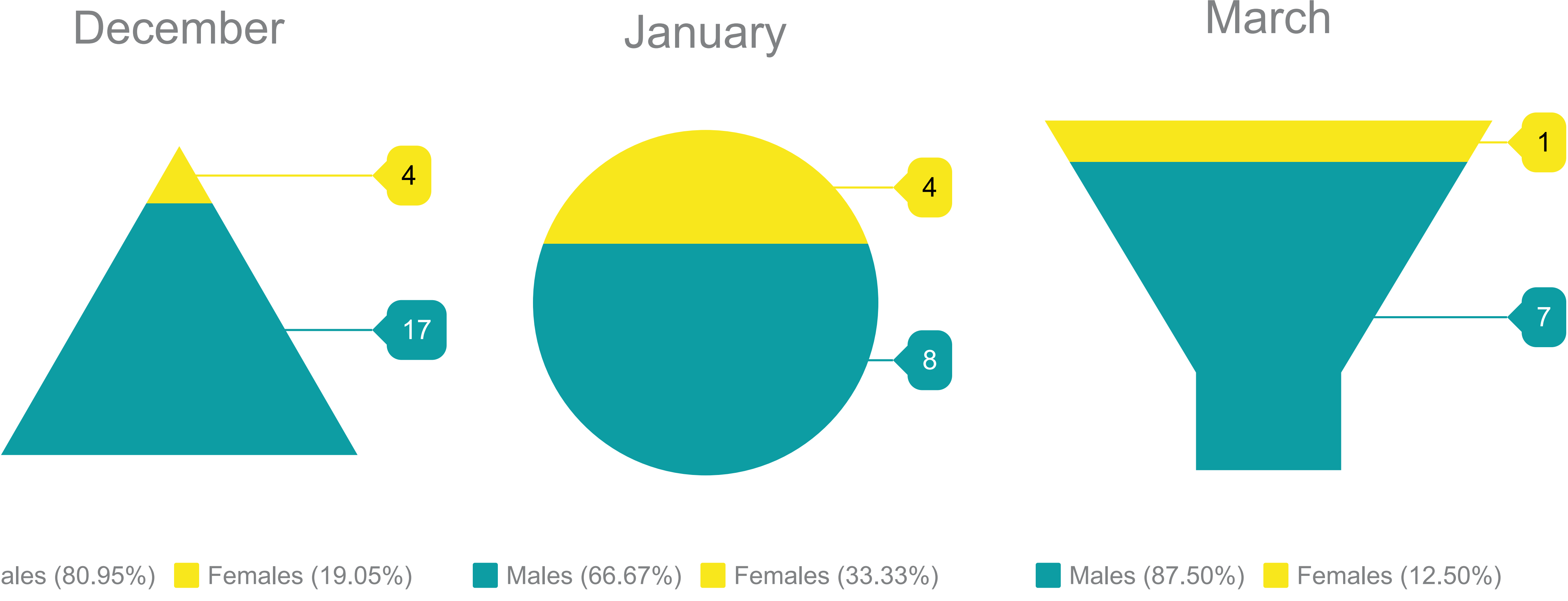
Under the Child Protection Act, any child has the right to legal aid in all judicial and administrative proceedings concerning the child’s interests (Art. 15, Child Protection Act). Judicial proceedings in which a legal representative of the child has not been present are thus considered invalid. In addition, the Child Protection Act requires that a representative of the Social Assistance directorate is present or sends a statement or report (Art. 15, Child Protection Act). Unaccompanied and separated children who are asylum seekers are appointed a representative who is an employee of the respective municipality where the child is accommodated (Art. 25 LAR). Thus, the appointment of a guardian depends on the triggering of an asylum procedure. The representative is not a lawyer and cannot represent the child in court instead of a lawyer. He or she plays the role of guardian and has the obligation to defend the interests of the child in the asylum procedure, to represent the child before all administrative bodies and institutions (including social, health, educational) in keeping with the best interest of the child, to represent the child in administrative proceedings and to undertake actions to ensure legal aid for the child (Art. 25 LAR)



## Age disaggregation of the UASC provided with Guardians by the authorities



## Male and Female UASC provided with Guardianship in December, January, February and March



## Male and Female UASC provided with Guardianship disaggregated by AGE for the respective months

