UNHCR CAMEROON MONTHLY UPDATES

KEY HIGHLIGHTS October 2024

Source des données des réfugiés: Gouvernement du Cameroun avec le support du HCR ::

Contact for more info DIMA Unit Cameroon ***cmr_yaim@unhcr.org***

UNHCR Cameroon needs to support refugees, asylum seekers, and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the country. This update provides detailed demographic, socio-economic, and educational data, as well as information on persons with specific needs, underscoring the complex and multifaceted nature of the refugee and IDP crisis in Cameroon. The monthly update highlights the demographic diversity, educational and occupational challenges, and specific needs of the displaced populations. The data emphasizes the importance of targeting interventions and creating support mechanisms to address the varied and pressing needs of these vulnerable groups. The Cameroonian government and international organizations must collaborate to provide necessary aid and ensure the well-being of these populations.

Population Overview:

Refugees and Asylum Seekers: Cameroon hosts 409,961 refugees and 15,280 asylum seekers.
Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): The country has 1,036,775 IDPs, with an additional 658,544 returnees.
Major Countries of Origin: Refugees primarily come from the Central African Republic 287,210 , Nigeria 125,313 , Chad 4,397 , and Niger 5,763 .

Demographic Distribution:

A significant portion of the refugees are women and children. Specifically, 53% of the refugee population are women and girls, and 56% are children.
Age Groups: Refugees are categorized into various age groups, with notable populations in the 0-4, 5-11, 12-17, 18-59, and 60+ age ranges.

Education Levels:

The educational attainment of refugees varies, with 46% having no education, 27% having primary education, and smaller percentages having informal, secondary, university, or technical/vocational education.

Occupations:

45% of refugees are engaged in various occupations such as homemakers, traders, drivers, pensioners, maneuvers, and breeders. 18% are students, 15% are unemployed, and 10%are farmers.

Ethnicity and Religion:

Ethnicity: The majority of ethnicities are Peulh 42% , Kanuri 12% .
Religion: The religious makeup includes 74% Muslims, 24% Christians, and 2% others.

Persons with Specific Needs:

Categories: There are several categories of persons with specific needs including children at risk, women at risk, single parents, older persons, unaccompanied or separated children, and persons with disabilities.
Top Concerns: The highest numbers are children at risk of not attending school 30,202 , individuals with vision disabilities 5,340 , and older persons with children 3,020 .

Legal and Marital Status:

Legal Status: Refugees and asylum seekers are categorized based o their arrival years, with significant influxes noted in 2014 and subsequent years. Marital Status: The majority of the refugee population is single 67%, followed by married individuals 25%.

Regional distribution:

The distribution of refugees and IDPs across various regions in Cameroon shows significant numbers in different regions. The East region hosts the largest refugee population with 165,047 individuals. The Far-North has 121,041 refugees, while Adamaoua has 56,928 . The North region accommodates 38,019 refugees, and the Centre has 25,799. The Littoral region has 17,106 refugees.

Challenges and Needs:

UNHCR MCO in Cameroon grapples with significant challenges in managing and supporting its large refugee and internally displaced populations. Due to increasing global crises, UNHCR Cameroon faces immense strain, with regions like the East and Extreme-Nord hosting 165,047 and 121,041 refugees respectively, the strain on resources is immense. These populations include a high percentage of children and women, requiring specialized services such as education, healthcare, and protection. The diverse educational levels among refugees, ranging from no education to university, indicate a need for comprehensive educational programs. Additionally, significant numbers of refugees are unemployed or engaged in low-income occupations, highlighting the necessity for vocational training and employment opportunities. The presence of vulnerable groups, such as unaccompanied children, single parents, and individuals with disabilities, further underscores the urgent need for targeted humanitarian aid and robust social support systems to address their specific needs and ensure their well-being.

UNHCR CAMEROON IN A GLANCE

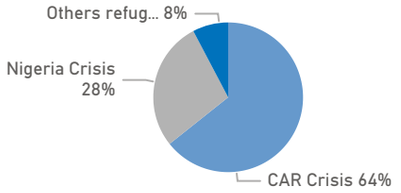
October 2024

Central African | Nigeria | IDP Far North | IDP NWSW | Other Refugees

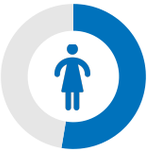
Population Type: All | Region: All | Zone: All

2,120,560
Total of Persons we serve

409,961 Refugee
15,280 Asylum Seeker
1,036,775 Internally Displaced
658,544 Returnees IDP



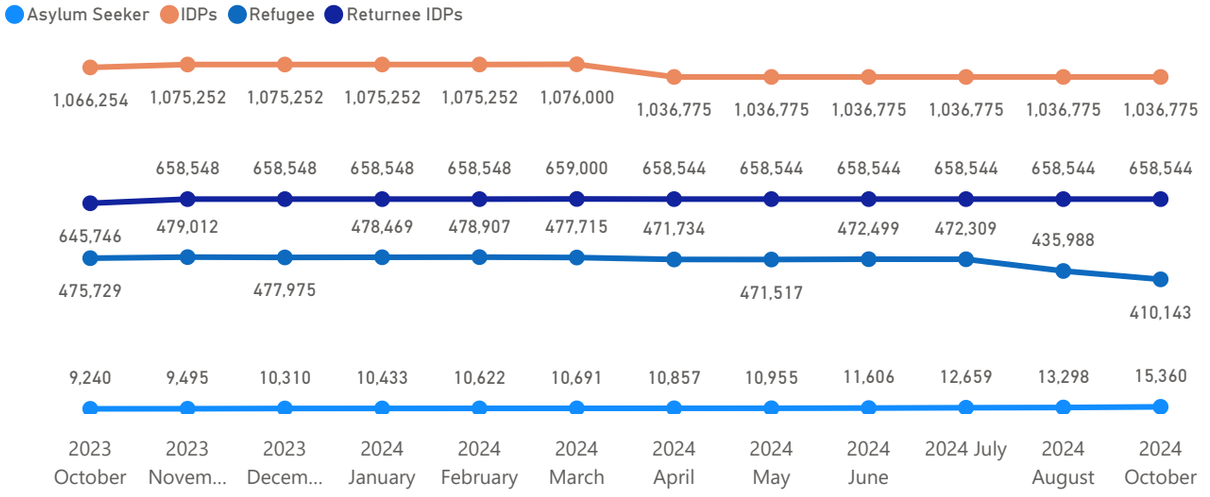
Distribution by crisis



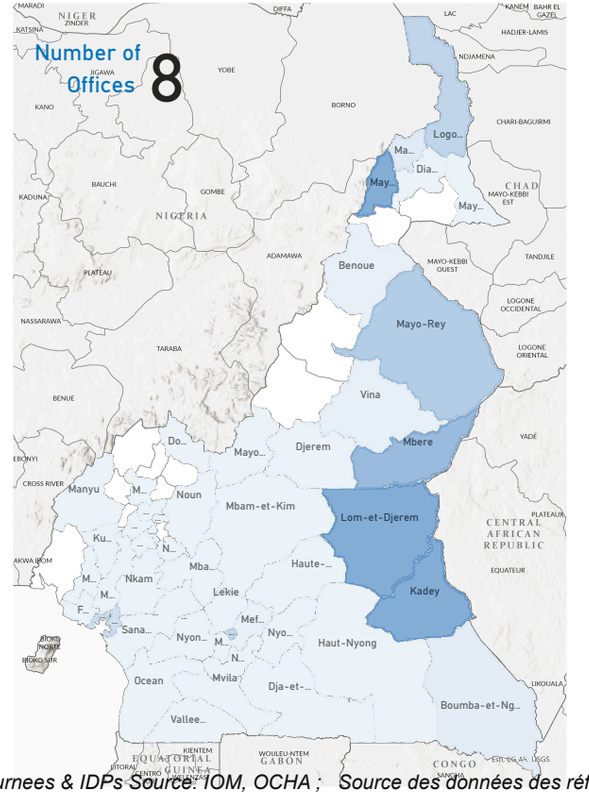
53% Of refugees are women and girls

56% Of refugees are children

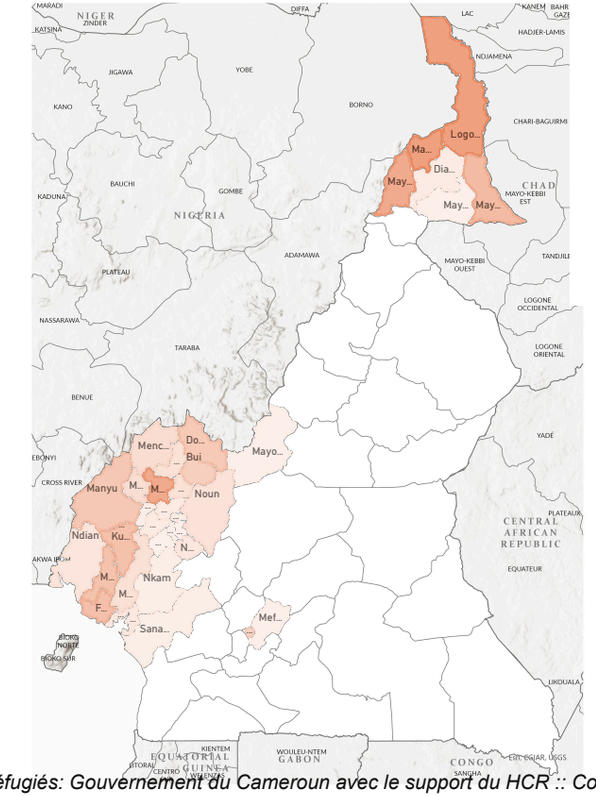
61% Of IDPs are children



Refugee and Asylum Seeker by Department



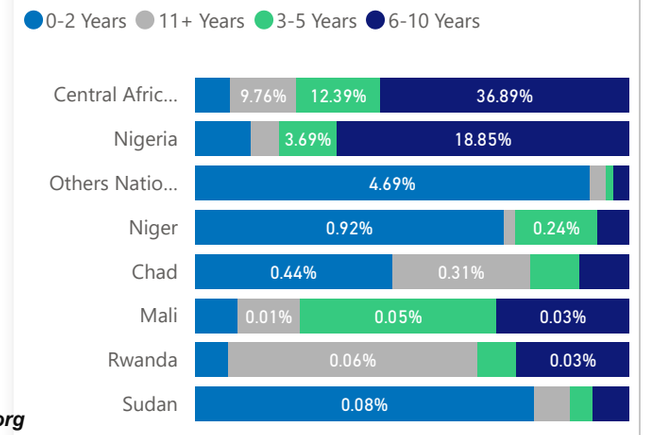
IDPs by Department



Refugee By country of origin

Central African Republic	287,181
Nigeria	125,313
Chad	4,339
Others Nationalities	23,089
Niger	5,763
Rwanda	440
Mali	446
Soudan	434

Number of years spent in Cameroon



Returnees & IDPs Source: IOM, OCHA ; Source des données des réfugiés: Gouvernement du Cameroun avec le support du HCR :: Contact for more info DIMA Unit Cameroon ***cmr_yaim@unhcr.org***

DEMOGRAPHIC POPULATION IN CAMEROON

October 2024

Central African | Nigeria | Other Refugees

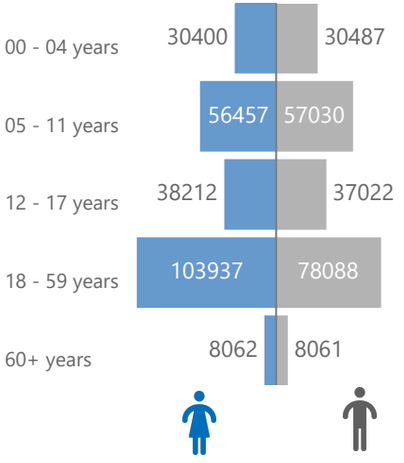
Region: All

Zone: All

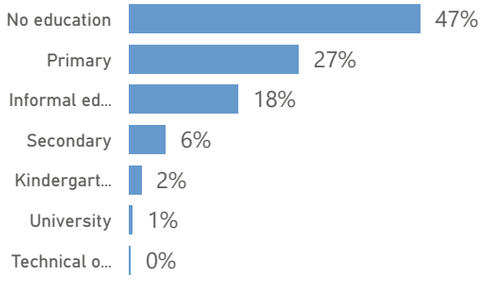
Legal Status: Asylum Seeker | Refugee

201,897
School age children

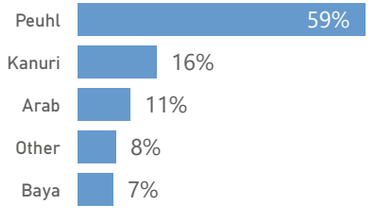
Population distribution (gender and age group)



Education Level



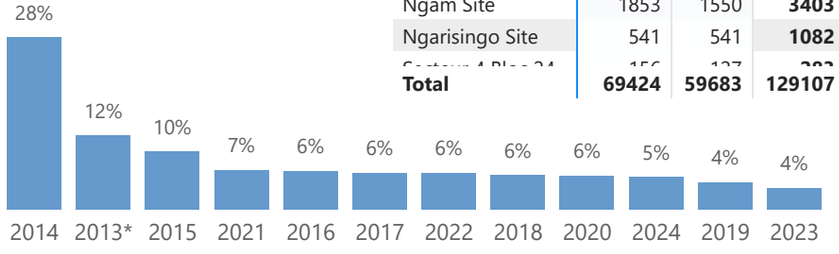
Ethnicity



Marital Status

Marital Status	Percentage
Single	67.34%
Married	25.12%
Widowed	3.64%
Divorced	1.78%
Separated	0.69%
Common Law Married	0.60%
Unknown	0.51%
Engaged	0.32%
Partnership	0.01%

Year of arrival of refugees



Refugees by age group

Region	00 - 04 years		05 - 11 years		12 - 17 years		18 - 59 years		60+ years		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Est	10014	9921	19600	20395	14611	14397	40824	29170	2917	3198	**165047**
Extreme-Nord	9821	9763	16820	16539	10741	10382	25371	16799	2413	2392	**121041**
Adamaoua	4233	4330	7265	7481	5299	5235	13257	7524	1163	1141	**56928**
Nord	2610	2646	5405	5321	3064	2970	9257	5390	724	632	**38019**
Centre	1337	1316	2418	2288	1494	1298	5892	9307	178	271	**25799**
Littoral	575	675	1282	1336	931	944	3613	7457	122	171	**17106**
Sud-Ouest	1	1	46	49	73	84	259	380	31	23	**947**
Nord-Ouest			13	18	7	17	62	60	10	5	**192**
Sud	3	2	2	5	1	5	19	68		5	**110**
Ouest		2	1	2	1		3	29		1	**39**
Mayo-Kebbi			1	3	1	3	2	2			**13**
Total	**28594**	**28657**	**52855**	**53435**	**36225**	**35333**	**98559**	**76186**	**7558**	**7839**	**425241**

Site/Camp	Female	Male	Total
Minawao	41385	35046	**76431**
Gado Badzere Site	9125	7814	**16939**
Mbile Site	5330	4854	**10184**
Lolo Site	4880	4542	**9422**
Borgop Site	3774	3086	**6860**
Timangolo Site	2379	2121	**4500**
Ngam Site	1853	1550	**3403**
Ngarisingo Site	541	541	**1082**
Sector 4 Plot 24	156	127	**283**
Total	**69424**	**59683**	**129107**

Education Age

Region	04-05 Years		06-11 Years		12-18 Years		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Adamaoua	2078	2115	6221	6415	5995	5800	**28624**
Centre	697	677	2054	1950	1686	1534	**8598**
Est	5447	5721	17006	17552	16430	16133	**78289**
Extreme-Nord	4858	4864	14420	14140	11937	11577	**61796**
Littoral	348	372	1112	1156	1050	1105	**5143**
Mayo-Kebbi Est		1	3	1	3	1	**9**
Nord	1706	1738	4570	4466	3373	3229	**19082**
Nord-Ouest			13	18	9	20	**60**
Ouest		2	1	1	1		**5**
Sud-Ouest							
Total	**15134**	**15492**	**45448**	**45751**	**40568**	**39504**	**201897**

*Returnees & IDPs Source: IOM, OCHA ; Source des données des réfugiés: Gouvernement du Cameroun avec le support du HCR:: * Arrived before 2013:: Contact for more info DIMA Unit Cameroon* ***cmr_yaim@unhcr.org***

PERSONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS IN CAMEROON

October 2024

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Central African | Nigeria | Other Refugees

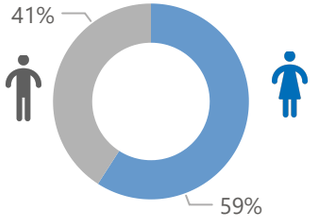
Region: All

Zone: All

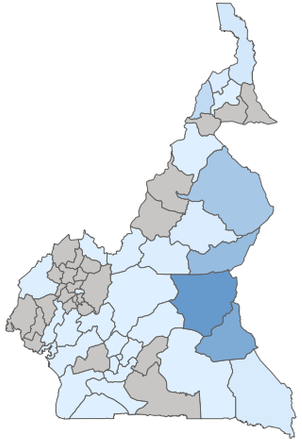
Areas of Responsibility: Child Protection | General Protection | SGBV

139,294 Person with Specific Needs

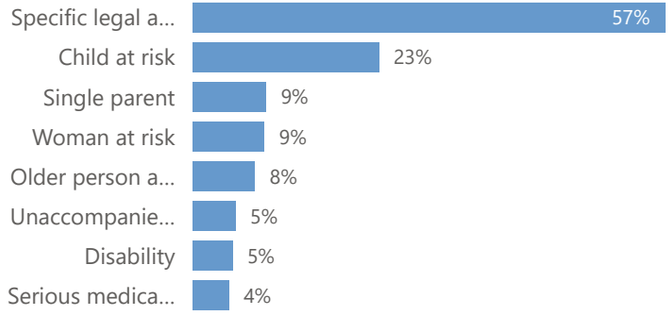
Gender



Male | Female



Person with Specific Needs



31,342 Child at Risk

SPN Sub Category	# Refugee
Child at risk of not attending school	30202
Child with special education needs	602
Child spouse	532
Child parent	316
Child engaged in other forms of child labour	43
Child carer	35
Teenage pregnancy	28
Child engaged in worst forms of child labour	20
No legal documentation	10
Child associated with armed forces or groups	5

6,120 Serious Medical Condition

SPN Sub Category	# Refugee
Other medical condition	4067
Chronic illness	1022
Difficult pregnancy	371
Malnutrition	336
Critical medical	263
Mental illness	109
Woman at risk	18
Addiction	12
Emotions and behavior	3

1,202 SGBV

SGBV	# Refugee
Threat of forced marriage	538
Victim/Survivor of SGBV in country of asylum	319
Victim/Survivor of SGBV in country of asylum	171
Victim/Survivor of SGBV in country of origin	100
Threat of honour killing/violence	52

6,694 Disability

SPN Sub Category	# Refugee
Vision	3020
Hearing	1319
Emotions and behavior	1002
Lower Body Mobility	990
Communication	564
Upper Body Mobility	253
Remembering and concentrating	38
Self-Care	31
Physical disability - moderate	21
Mental disability - moderate	9

12,376 Single Parent

(Top 10) Single Parent	# Refugee
Single HR - parent	11374
Single HR - caregiver	615
Single HR - grandparent	459
Woman at risk	15
Single woman at risk	9
Child parent	3
No legal documentation	2
Single older person	2
Child at risk of not attending school	1
Older person with children	1

179 Family Unity

Family Unity Sub-Category	# Refugee
Family reunification required	136
Tracing required	43

10,497 Older at Risk

Older Person at Risk	# Refugee
No legal documentation	2
Older person unable to care for self	4032
Older person with children	5337
Other medical condition	1
Single HR - grandparent	1
Single HR - parent	1
Single older person	1651
Single woman at risk	1
Woman at risk	2

7,191 Unaccompanied or separated child

(Top 6) Unaccompanied or separated child	# Refugee
Separated child	6790
Unaccompanied child	378
Child headed household	26
Child in foster care	10
Child in institutional care	10
No legal documentation	5

12,088 Woman at Risk

(Top 4) Single Parent Sub-Category	# Refugee
Woman at risk	8008
Single woman at risk	2593
Lactating	1597
Single HR - parent	10

SOCIO-ECONOMICS DATA OF REFUGEES IN CAMEROON

October 2024

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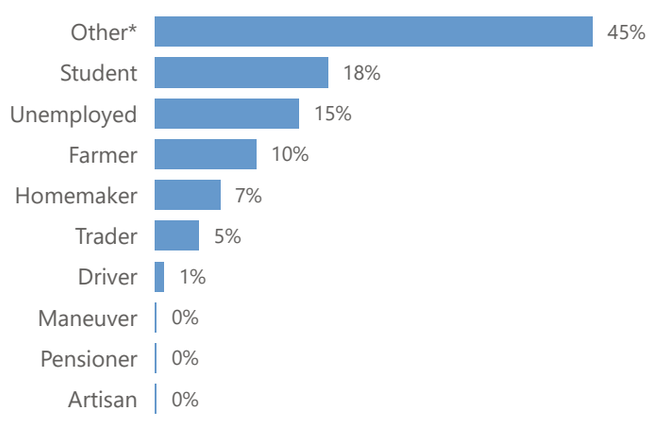
Central African | Nigeria | Other Refugees

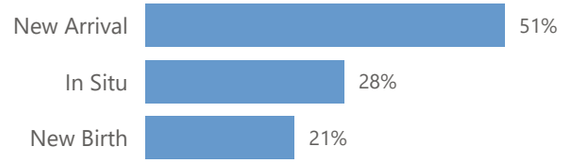
Region: All

Zone: All

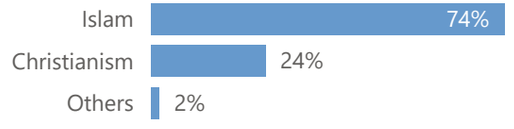
Occupation



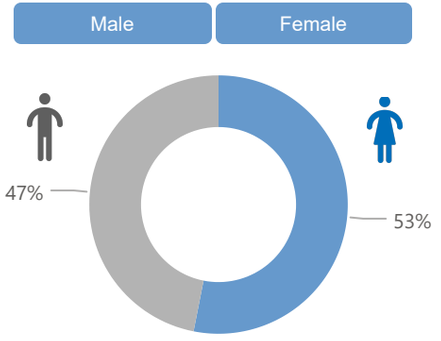
Registration Reason



Religion

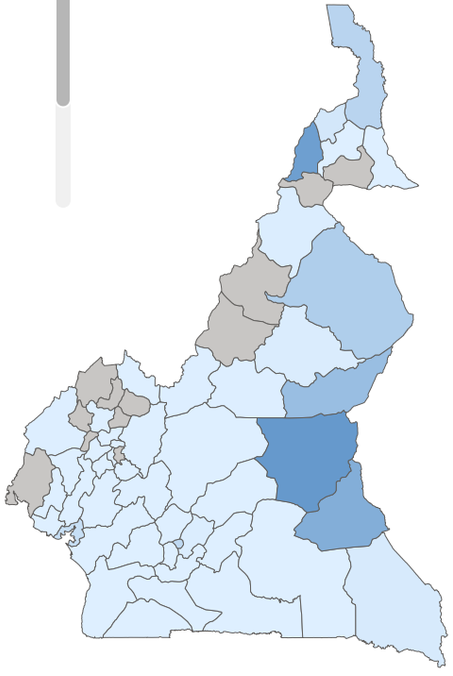


Central African



Occupations	Adamaoua	Centre	Est	Extreme-Nord	Littoral	NDjamena	Nord	T
Other*	16377	9052	52365	6	5120		3188	
Student	15644	4323	31824	3	3448	1	8171	
Unemployed	7537	2012	36531		730		12444	
Farmer	9004	1036	16595	1	339		7942	
Homemaker	4098	1330	15155	1	1016		1779	
Trader	2966	1204	9832		1066		1504	
Driver	408	226	2435	2	414		325	
Maneuver	13	19	52		6		5	
Artisan	6		84				3	
Pensioner	12	3	58		2		2	

Nigeria



Occupations	Adamaoua	Centre	Est	Extreme-Nord	Littoral	Mayo-Kebbi Est	ND
Other*	293	129	7	94967	20	7	
Student	187	35		8760	5	5	
Farmer	25	5		7643	2		
Homemaker	52	8	3	4843	2	1	
Unemployed	169	56	1	2560	2		
Trader	34	51	1	1851	10		
Driver	6	4		295	4		
Pensioner	2			22			
Maneuver				11			
Breeder				10			

Other Nationalities

Occupations	Adamaoua	Batha	Bioko Norte	Centre	Est	Extreme-Nord	Lac	Littor
Other*	59	3	2	3144	123	707	1	
Student	20			1374	18	255		
Unemployed	28			852	35	29		
Trader	5			870	19	26		
Farmer	23			202	59	137		
Homemaker	20			345	95	97		
Driver	1			78	4	4		
Maneuver	2			7		1		
Breeder								
Pensioner					1			