UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

SOMALIA

Refugees and Asylum-seekers

as of 30 June 2026

Key figures

32,966
Total Individuals

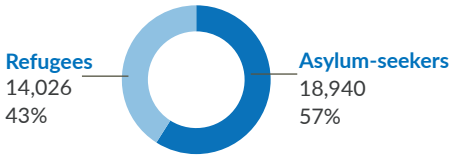
11,678
Households
Average family size: 3

70% Women & Children

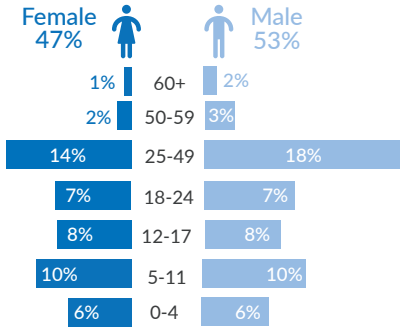
46% Children (0 -17 years)

51% Adults (18 - 59 years)

2% Elderly (60+)



Age-gender breakdown

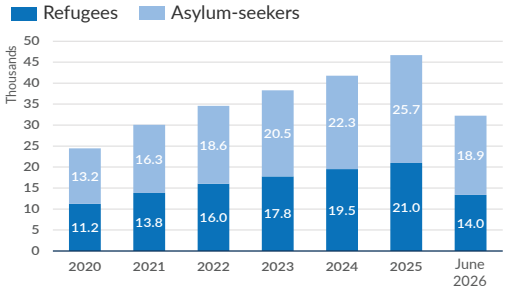


Country of origin

Country of origin	Total Individuals	Percentage
Ethiopia	23,430	71%
Yemen	7,634	23%
Syria	1,179	4%
Sudan	444	1%
Tanzania	127	<1%
Eritrea	103	<1%
Others*	49	<1%
Total	32,966	

*Others include: Palestine (19 individuals); Bangladesh (6)...In total refugees and asylum-seekers registered in Somalia come from 18 different countries.

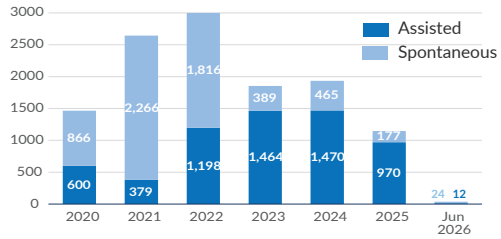
Total population trend



The observed reduction in the refugee and asylum-seeker population in 2026 is attributed to the deactivation of 'no-show' cases identified during the 2025 verification exercise.

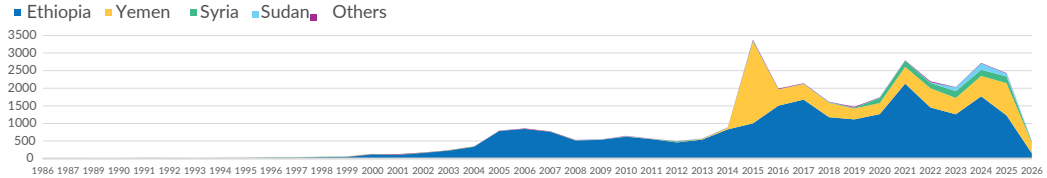
Refugee returnees

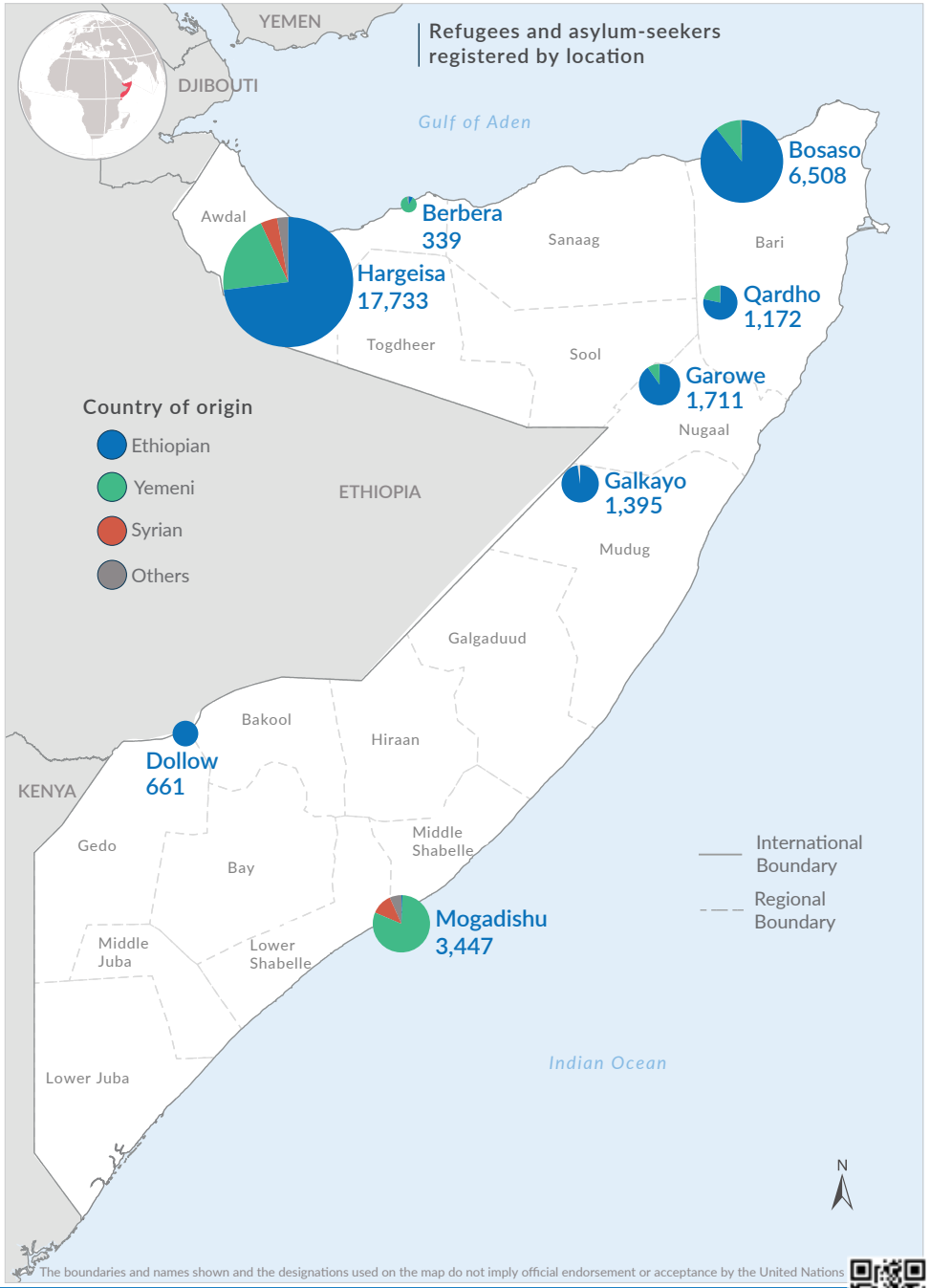
36: total refugee returnees in Somalia from January to June 2026 (12 assisted by UNHCR and 24 spontaneous)



Cumulatively, since December 2014, a total of 142,023 refugees have returned to Somalia: 97,600 Assisted by UNHCR, and 44,423 spontaneous Returnees.

Trend of new arrival by country of origin | Refugees and Asylum-seekers





The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on the map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

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as of June 2026

Status by location

Location	Asylum Seeker	Refugee	Total	
Puntland	8,523	2,258	10,781	*33%*
Somaliland	9,110	8,967	18,077	*55%*
South Central	1,307	2,801	4,108	*12%*
Total	**18,940**	**14,026**	**32,966**	

Sex and age breakdown

Gender	00 - 04	05 - 11	12 - 17	18 - 59	60+	Total	
Female	1,803	3,153	2,477	7,560	273	15,266	*47%*
Male	1,865	3,379	2,510	9,382	564	17,700	*53%*
Total	**3,668**	**6,532**	**4,987**	**16,942**	**837**	**32,966**	

Persons with specific needs

Category	F	M	Total
Child at risk	64	72	**136**
Disability	260	450	**710**
Family unity	15	28	**43**
Older person at risk	314	561	**875**
Serious medical condition	830	684	**1,514**
SGBV	54	2	**56**
Single parent	218	16	**234**
Specific legal and physical protection needs	21	107	**128**
Torture	26	68	**94**
Unaccompanied or separated child	288	278	**566**
Woman at risk	348	0	**348**
Total	**2,438**	**2,266**	**4,704**

Location, Country of Origin and Status

Location	Country of Origin	Asylum Seeker	Refugee	Total
Puntland	Ethiopia	8,518	1,298	**9,816**
	Yemen		946	**946**
	Syria		12	**12**
	Eritrea	5		**5**
	Palestine		2	**2**
Puntland Total		**8,523**	**2,258**	**10,781**
Somaliland	Ethiopia	9,036	3,897	**12,933**
	Yemen		3,941	**3,941**
	Syria		726	**726**
	Sudan	13	329	**342**
	Eritrea	48	50	**98**
	Palestine		8	**8**
	Bangladesh		6	**6**
	Egypt	4	1	**5**
	Djibouti	3	2	**5**
	South Sudan		3	**3**
	Cameroon		2	**2**
	Jordan	1	1	**2**
	Lebanon	2		**2**
	Zimbabwe	1		**1**
	Iraq		1	**1**
	Sri Lanka	1		**1**
	Uganda	1		**1**
Somaliland Total		**9,110**	**8,967**	**18,077**
South Central	Yemen		2,747	**2,747**
	Ethiopia	669	12	**681**
	Syria	403	38	**441**
	Tanzania	127		**127**
	Sudan	98	4	**102**
	Palestine	9		**9**
	Lebanon	1		**1**
South Central Total		**1,307**	**2,801**	**4,108**
Total		**18,940**	**14,026**	**32,966**

Refugee recognition framework

Country of Origin	Somaliland	Puntland	South Central
Yemen	**Group**	**Group**	**Group**
Syria	**Group**	**Group**	Individual
Ethiopia	Individual	Individual	Individual
Sudan	**Group**	Individual	Individual
All Others	Individual	Individual	Individual

Group = Prima Facie
Individual = Refugee Status Determination (RSD)

Comments

Refugee recognition modalities in Somalia vary by region and responsible authority.

In Puntland and Somaliland, State-level authorities have applied prima facie refugee recognition for specific nationalities, such as Yemeni and Syrian refugees, based on executive decisions adopted at the respective State level.

In contrast, in South-Central Somalia, the Federal Government, through the National Commission for Refugees and IDPs (NCRI), has primarily applied individual asylum procedures.

To date, a formal presidential declaration on prima facie refugee recognition at the Federal level has been issued only for Yemeni refugees. As a result, asylum-seekers in South-Central Somalia, including Syrians, are registered and processed as asylum-seekers pending individual Refugee Status Determination.

Published: July 2026 **Sources:** UNHCR, Government **Feedback:** Information Management and Registration unit Mogadishu, sommoim@unhcr.org