UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

REGIONAL BUREAU FOR WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

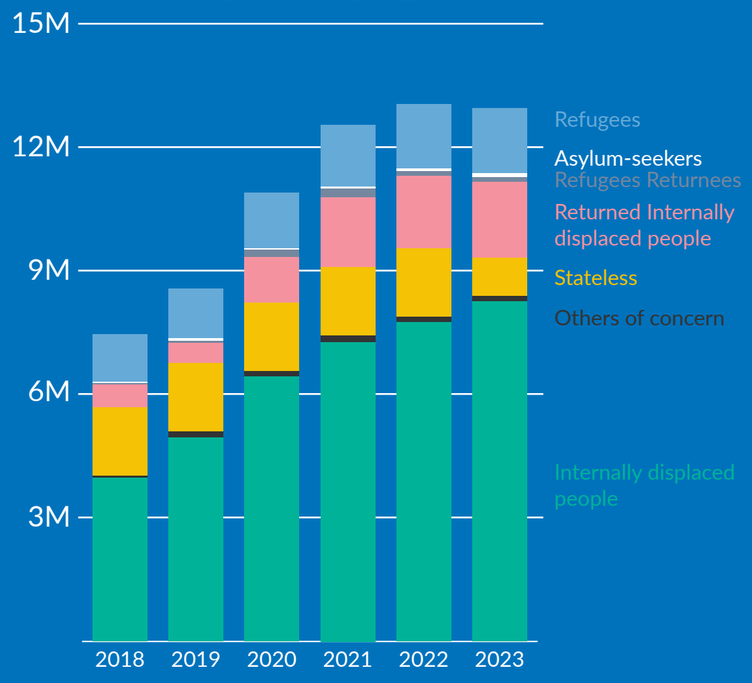
FORCIBLY DISPLACED POPULATION AND TRENDS FROM 2018-2023

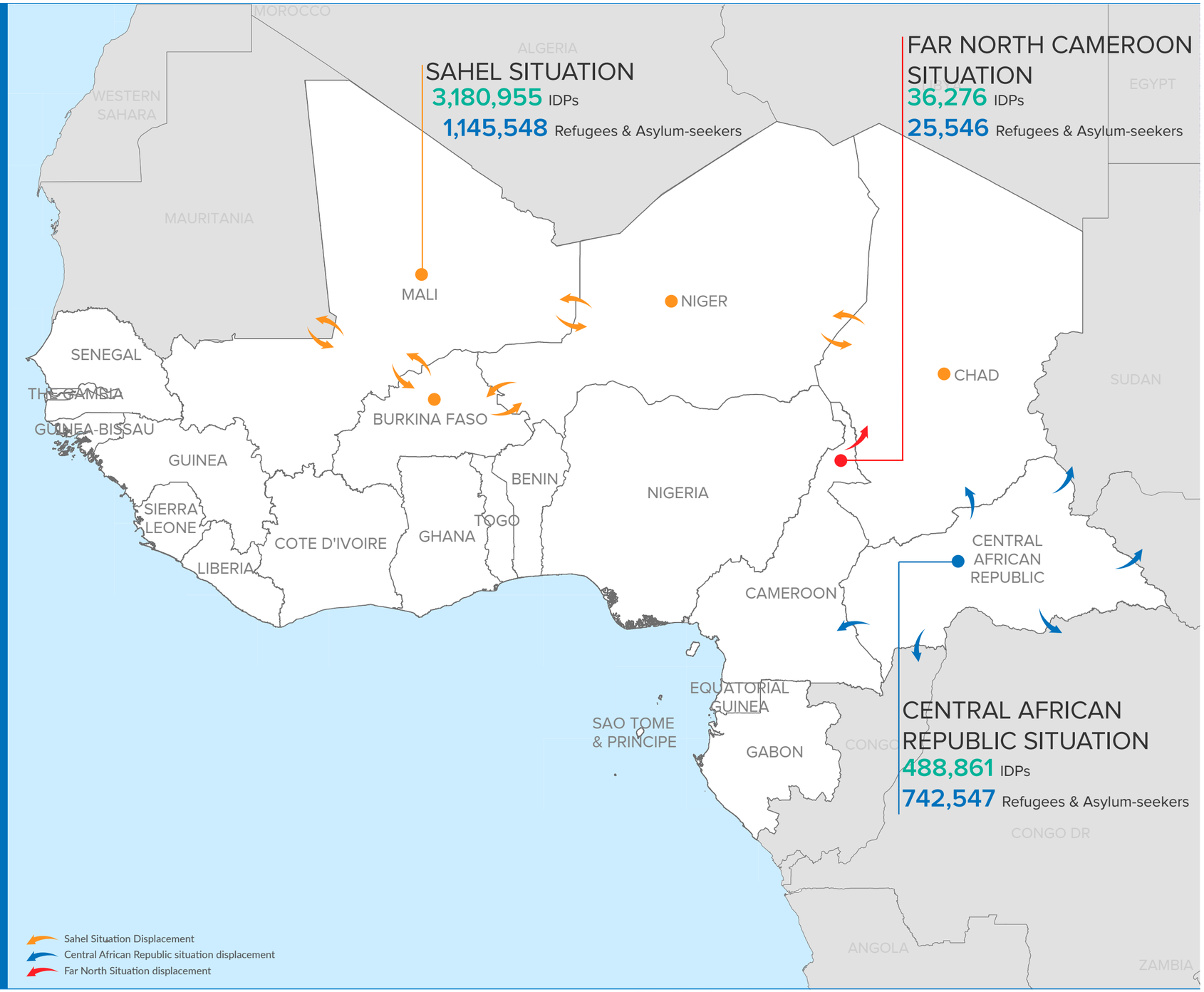
APRIL 2023

13.0 MILLION
FORCIBLY DISPLACED PEOPLE

Refugees	1.6M
Asylum-Seekers	93K
Refugees Returnees	121K
Returned IDPs	1.8M
Stateless	931K
Others of Concern	139K
Internally Displaced People	8.2M

General Trends 2018 - 2023





Source : Geographic data: UNCS. Population statistics: UNHCR Monthly Statistical Reports or latest available, IDP statistics from OCHA, IOM.

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

For more information, please contact rbwcadima@unhcr.org

REGIONAL BUREAU FOR WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

FORCIBLY DISPLACED AND STATELESS POPULATION

APRIL 2023

13.0 MILLION FORCIBLY DISPLACED POPULATION

The total forcibly displaced and stateless population to UNHCR in West and Central Africa (WCA) relates to the people UNHCR is mandated to protect and assist. It includes those who have been forcibly displaced; those who have returned home within recent years; those who are stateless or at risk of statelessness; and other groups to whom UNHCR has extended its protection or assisted on a humanitarian basis.

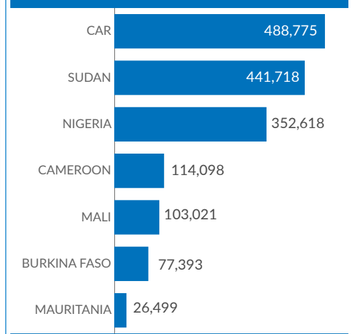
- **1.7** MILLION REFUGEES & ASYLUM-SEEKERS
- **8.2** MILLION INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS
- **931** K. STATELESS & AT RISK OF STATELESSNESS
- **1.8** MILLION RETURNED INTERNALLY DISPLACED
- **0.1** MILLION REFUGEES RETURNEES
- **0.1** MILLION OTHERS OF CONCERN

The total of 1.7 million refugees represents an 5% increase from April 2022. Chad hosts the largest number of refugees in the region with 36%. Cameroon is the second largest refugee-hosting country in the region with 29%. CAR, Sudan, and Nigeria are the main countries of origin (together 76%) of the region's refugees with a contribution of 29%, 26%, and 21% respectively.

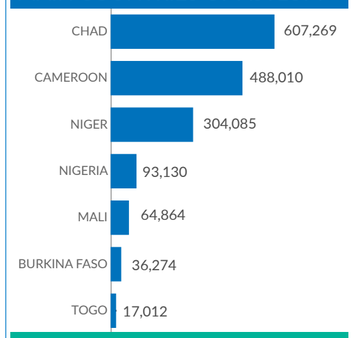
The number of internally displaced rose to an estimated 8.2 million. Nigeria hosts 43% of IDP population in the region. Burkina Faso is the second largest country in terms of IDPs (25%).

The Lake Chad Basin hosts 32% of forcibly displaced population in West and Central Africa. Central Sahel hosts the second largest number (32%) with the majority being Internally Displaced Persons in Burkina Faso (64%).

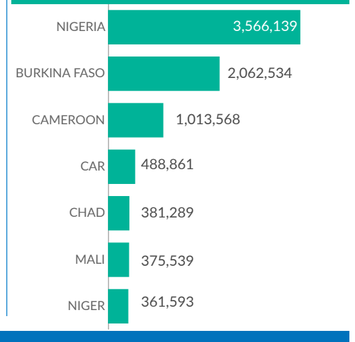
MAIN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN



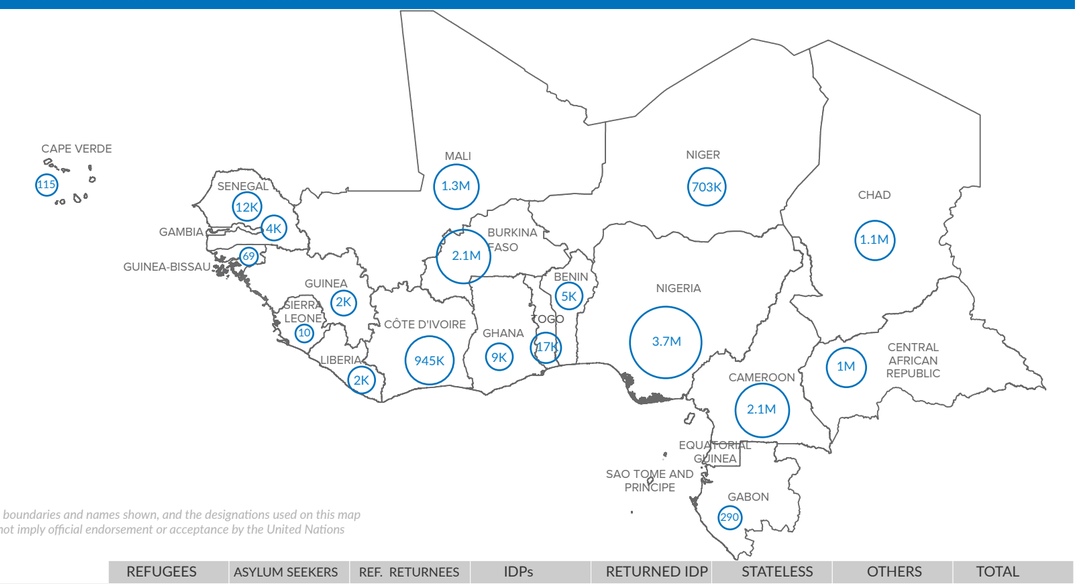
MAIN COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM



INTERNAL DISPLACEMENTS



PERSONS OF CONCERN BY COUNTRY



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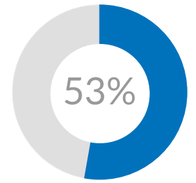
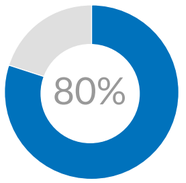
	REFUGEES	ASYLUM SEEKERS	REF. RETURNEES	IDPs	RETURNED IDP	STATELESS	OTHERS	TOTAL
BENIN	2,682	2,317						4,999
BURKINA FASO	35,721	553		2,062,534				2,098,808
CAMEROON	479,018	8,992		1,013,568	557,886			2,059,464
CAPE VERDE						115		115
CAR	11,324	6,817	31,662	488,861	499,430			1,038,094
CHAD	601,872	5,397		381,289			101,551	1,090,109
COTE D'IVOIRE	8,746	5,752				931,076	94	945,668
GABON	212	78						290
GAMBIA	3,750	400						4,150
GHANA	6,272	3,163						9,435
GUINEA	2,203	57						2,260
GUINEA BISSAU	32	37						69
LIBERIA	1,159	623						1,782
MALI	63,979	885	85,146	375,539	776,315			1,301,864
NIGER	255,509	48,576		361,593			37,604	703,282
NIGERIA	91,673	1,457	3,880	3,566,139				3,663,149
SENEGAL	11,819	286						12,105
SIERRA LEONE							10	10
TOGO	8,990	8,022						17,012
GRAND TOTAL	1,584,961	93,412	120,688	8,249,523	1,833,631	931,191	139,167	12,952,665

REFUGEE POPULATION PROFILE

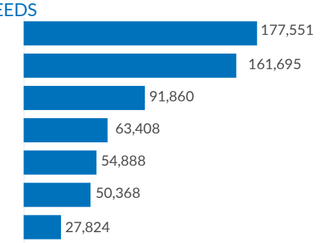
CHILDREN



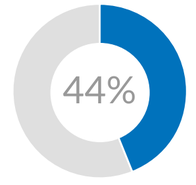
WOMEN & CHILDREN



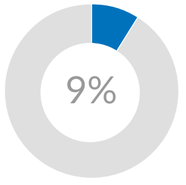
REFUGEES WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS



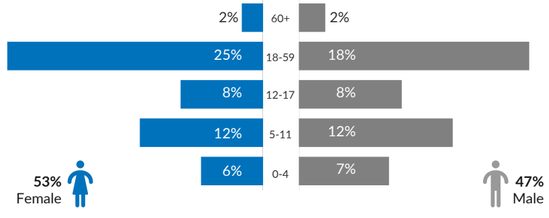
REFUGEES IN CAMP



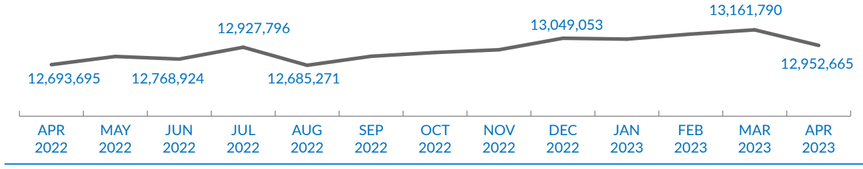
REFUGEES IN URBAN AREA



DEMOGRAPHICS

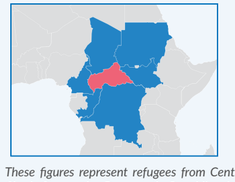


POPULATION TRENDS



SITUATION

CAR SITUATION

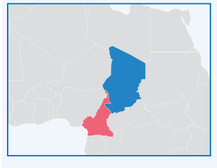


742,547 REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS

488,861 INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

These figures represent refugees from Central African Republic in neighboring countries (Cameroon, Chad, Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, South Sudan) and IDP in Central African Republic

FAR NORTH CAMEROON

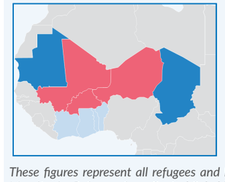


25,546 REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS

36,276 INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

These figures represent Cameroonian refugees in Chad and forcibly displaces people following the outbreak of violence in the Far North region of Cameroon in December 2021.

SAHEL SITUATION



1,145,548 REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS

3,180,955 INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

These figures represent all refugees and IDPs in Central Sahel (Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger), Chad and Mauritania. Refugees from Central Sahel in neighboring coastal countries (Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo) are also included.

Creation date: 15.05.2023, Sources: Geographic data: UNCS. Population statistics: UNHCR Monthly Statistical Reports or latest available, IDP statistics from OCHA, IOM. Statistics should be considered provisional and subject to change. For more information, please contact UNHCR RBWCA DIMA <rbwcadima@unhcr.org>