

# Tunisia

September 2024

As of 30 September, **16,562 refugees and asylum-seekers** are registered with UNHCR, most from countries covered by UNHCR non-return advisories.\*

Among them are people with **urgent protection needs**, including gender-based violence survivors, LGBTQI+ individuals, and unaccompanied children.

In response to the changing context, UNHCR has **adapted its operations** by directly assuming activities previously implemented by several of its partners.

## KEY FIGURES

**16,562**

**forcibly displaced people** registered in Tunisia as of 30 September, including 13,051 asylum-seekers and 3,511 refugees.

**83%**

**of registered individuals** originate from countries covered by UNHCR non-return advisories,\* including Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia, and Syria.

**847**

**individuals supported with financial assistance** in September 2024.

**993**

**document renewals** in September 2024.

**16**

**departures on resettlement** in September 2024.

\* In specific circumstances, UNHCR issues positions on returns that provide country-specific policy guidance on the feasibility of return, based on the conditions in a particular country of origin.

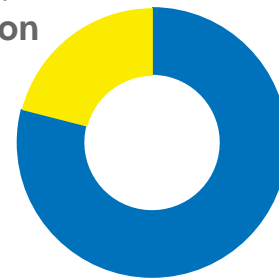
## FUNDING (AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER)

**USD \$15.5 million**

requested for Tunisia in 2024.

Unfunded 21%

**\$3.2 million**

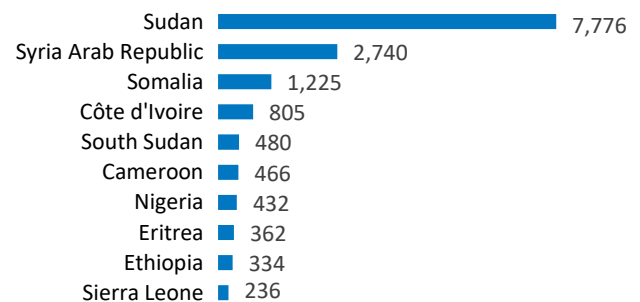


Funded 79%

**\$12.3 million**

## POPULATION OF CONCERN

### Country of origin



Data as of 30 September 2024.

## Operational context

At the crossroads of Africa and Europe, Tunisia remains exposed to complex movement patterns involving refugees and migrants along the central Mediterranean route. Individuals from Central, West, East, and the Horn of Africa, as well as the Middle East, often undertake perilous journeys through Libya and Algeria to reach Tunisia. Among those arriving are particularly vulnerable individuals in need of international protection, including victims of torture, gender-based violence survivors, as well as unaccompanied children.

In response to the evolving context, UNHCR has adapted its response by absorbing activities previously implemented by some of its partners, thereby ensuring that registered asylum-seekers and refugees at heightened risk continue to receive critical assistance, including healthcare, legal services, shelter, and multi-purpose cash support.

## Operational response

### PROTECTION

- UNHCR continued its efforts to renew cards for registered refugees and asylum-seekers, successfully renewing a total of 993 cards. In addition, 13 newborns were registered, and their details were added to registered parents' file. UNHCR also collected and recorded 92 documents (national IDs, birth certificates, and school or training certificates) from individuals renewing their cards.
- UNHCR conducted protection interviews and vulnerability assessments for 115 registered refugees and asylum-seekers to identify the most appropriate interventions and referrals to services.
- UNHCR and its legal partner provided legal assistance, advice, and consultations to 38 refugees and asylum-seekers.
- UNHCR continued to process best interest procedures to find solutions for unaccompanied children. Additionally, 10 children received psychosocial support and healthcare.
- The UNHCR helpline received a total of 2,333 phone calls from 1,404 unique callers, the majority of whom are registered with UNHCR. The helpline offers information, counselling, and orientation to specialized services.

### SAFE SHELTER

- In September, 473 refugees and asylum-seekers resided in UNHCR-run safe shelters, where they benefited from essential services, including case management, counselling, and food assistance. With safe shelters at full capacity, UNHCR established a waiting list for those seeking accommodation.
- UNHCR also offered protection initiatives and empowerment programs to people living in the safe shelters, providing access to a range of activities such as language courses, sports, movie screenings, and regular hygiene awareness sessions.
- UNHCR continued to provide rental and utilities support to the Jdariya temporary safe shelter, which hosts some 470 refugees and asylum-seekers.

**HEALTH**

- UNHCR focused on providing health-related counselling (234 individuals), medical check-ups (23 individuals), referrals for health assistance (47 individuals), and covering medical expenses for the most vulnerable cases (15 individuals).
- UNHCR expanded its health interventions in collaboration with WHO by hiring public health staff to sustain medical services and referrals previously managed by a partner.

**EDUCATION**

- As the new school year began, UNHCR, in collaboration with child protection authorities, facilitated the enrollment of children from several registered refugee families.
- UNHCR, in collaboration with a partner organization, launched English classes at two safe shelters in Tunis, enrolling 140 students. The four-month program, held twice a week, is open to individuals of all ages and background. To ensure personalized instruction, individual proficiency testing was conducted for all participants.

**CASH-BASED INTERVENTIONS**

- With the endorsement of the Tunisian government, UNHCR continued to implement cash-based interventions, including multipurpose cash assistance, cash for food, and food vouchers, benefiting approximately 847 individuals. This included 216 multipurpose cash handouts, 157 cash-for-food handouts for individuals living in shelters, and 3,651 food vouchers specifically for unaccompanied children. Eligibility continues to be determined through regular vulnerability assessments to ensure that assistance reaches the most vulnerable individuals.

**SELF-RELIANCE**

- UNHCR focused on expanding vocational training opportunities in collaboration with local training centers and institutions, providing a small number of refugees with marketable skills that improve their prospects for third-country solutions.
- UNHCR and its partners continued their efforts to enhance self-reliance opportunities and strengthen the resilience of asylum-seekers and refugees. A limited number of job placements were secured and approved by the Tunisian authorities.

## Financial information

**UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation.**

European Union | Austria | United States of America | France | Netherlands | Switzerland | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | Monaco | Italy | Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development | Other private donors

**Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked contributions.**

Sweden | Norway | España con ACNUR | Denmark | Netherlands | France | Japan for UNHCR | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | Germany | Private donors in the Republic of Korea | Switzerland | Republic of Korea | Private donors in Italy | Belgium | Ireland | Private donors in the Netherlands | Australia | Sweden for UNHCR

---

### CONTACTS

**Ruben Julian Hamburger**, Associate External Relations Officer, Tunisia  
[hamburge@unhcr.org](mailto:hamburge@unhcr.org)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

[Global Focus Tunisia](#) | [Help page](#) | [Operational data portal Tunisia](#) | [Facebook](#)