ETHIOPIA
Refugees and Asylum-seekers

As of 31 March 2025

1,075,982
Total Refugees and Asylum-seekers
(1,012,327 refugees | 63,655* asylum-seekers)

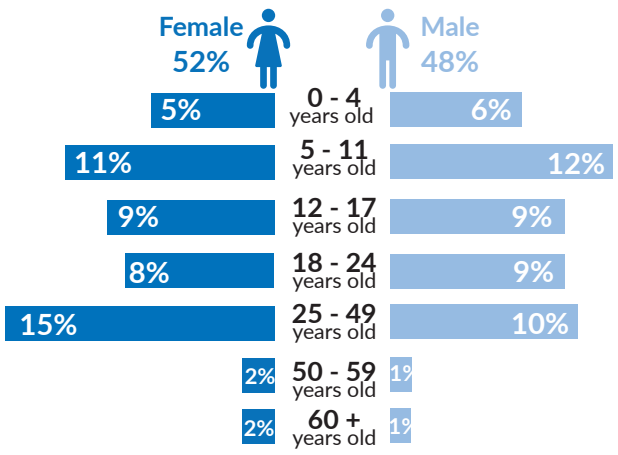
290,864
Households
(average family size: 4)

78% Women & Children
52% Children (0 -17 years)
46% Adults (18 - 59 years)
3% Elderly (60+)

Context & Highlight

Ethiopia is the third largest refugee hosting country in Africa, home to over 1M refugees and asylum seekers—mainly from South Sudan, Somalia and Eritrea. Following the outbreak of armed conflict in Sudan (April 2023) , Ethiopia is receiving thousands of forcibly displaced people at several points of entry.
On 6 March 2024, the Ethiopian government's Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) in collaboration with the National ID Program (NIDP) and UNHCR launched the issuance of digital identity documents to foster inclusion of refugees in the national system.

Age-gender breakdown

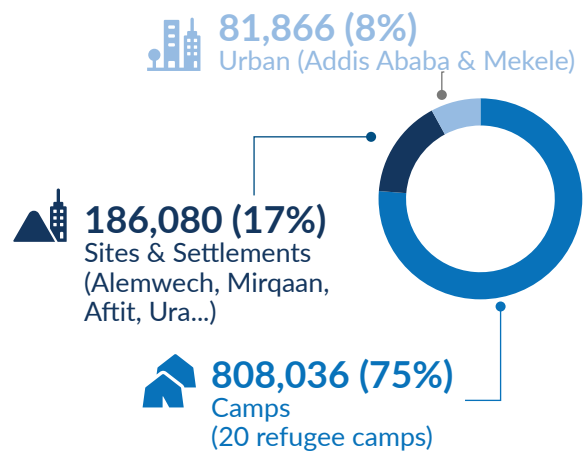


Countries of origin

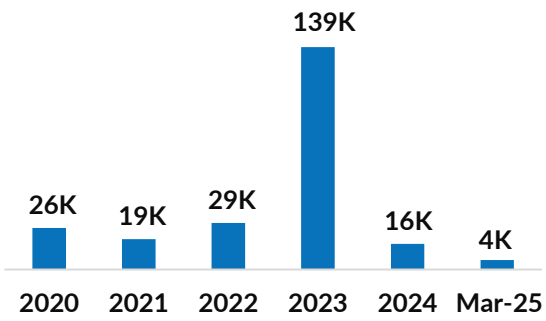
Country of origin	Total Individuals	Percentage
South Sudan	430,342	40%
Somalia	360,837	34%
Eritrea	179,766	17%
Sudan	94,139	9%
Kenya	5,672	1%
Yemen	2,605	<1%
DR Congo	928	<1%
Syrian Arab Republic	749	<1%
Others**	944	<1%
Total	**1,075,982**	

**Others include: Burundi (133 individuals); Djibouti (56)...In total refugees and asylum-seekers registered in Ethiopia come from 34 different countries.

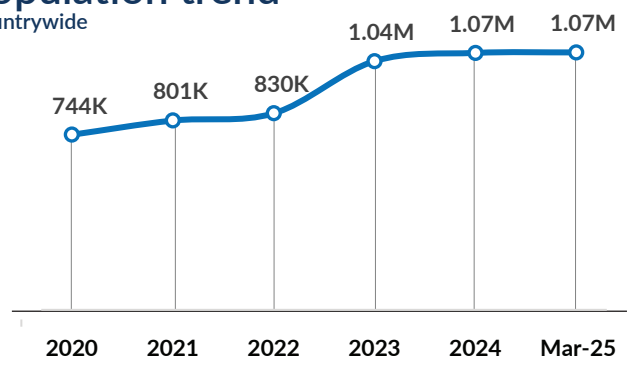
Population distribution



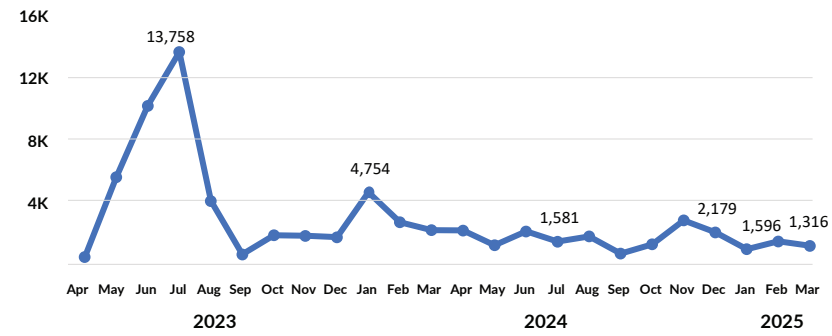
New arrivals per year
Countrywide



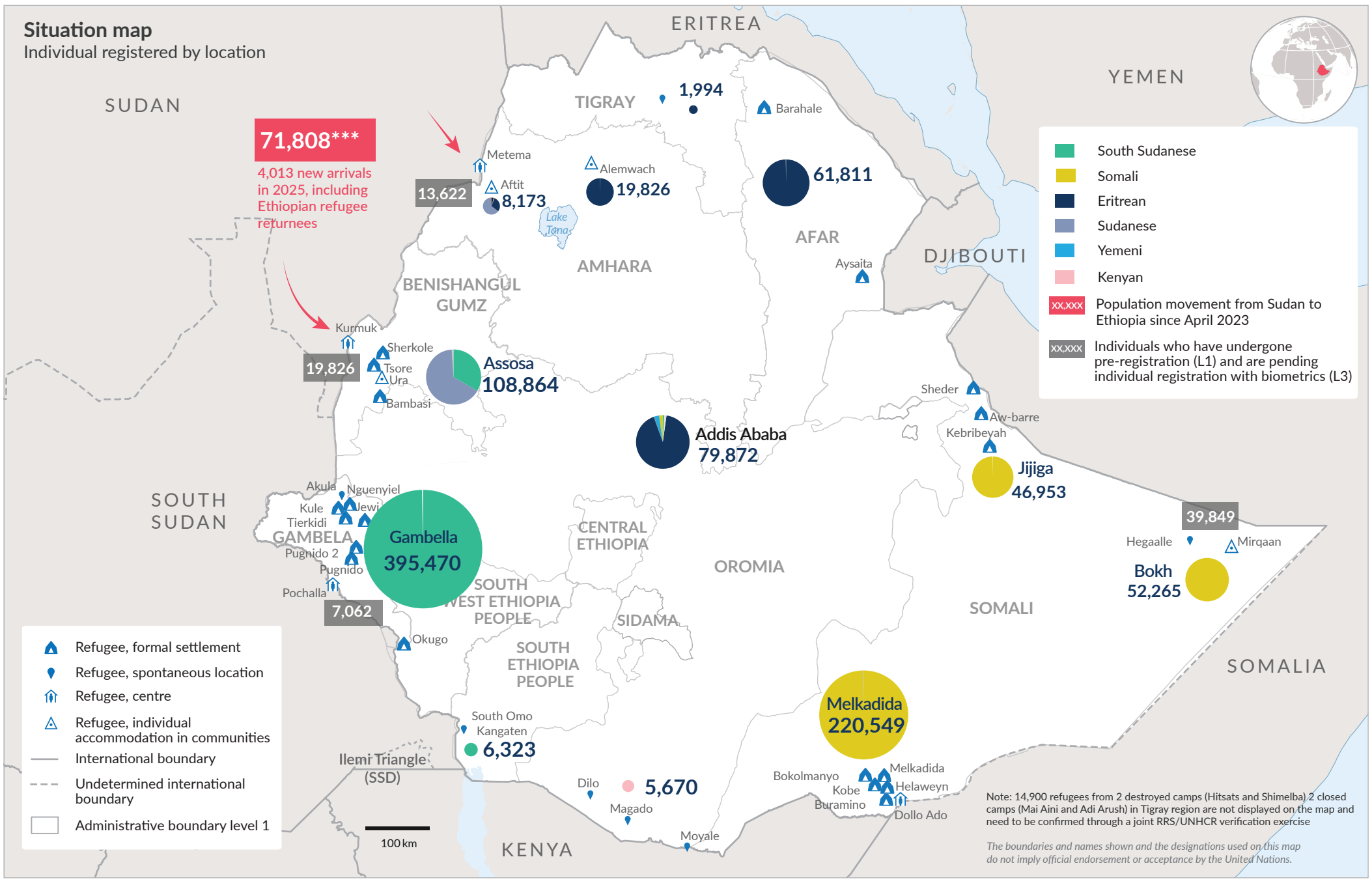
Population trend
Countrywide



Arrival trends Sudan emergency
Individuals in need of international protection



Situation map
Individual registered by location



*Among the total 63,655 asylum seekers, 10,120 are pending individual Refugee Status Determination (RSD) procedures, the remaining 53,535 are household level pre-registered (L1) and categorized as 'asylum seeker'
***Sudan Emergency: arrivals in need of international protection from April 2023 to March 2025, Level 1 (L1) pre-registration figures. A total of 71,808 individuals pre-registered, including 43,108 Sudanese, 10,432 other nationalities, and 18,268 Ethiopian refugee returnees.

Update date: 16 April 2025 **Sources:** UNHCR, RRS, UNCS, CSA Ethiopia **Author:** UNHCR - CO Ethiopia **Feedback:** IM unit Addis Ababa, ethadim@unhcr.org