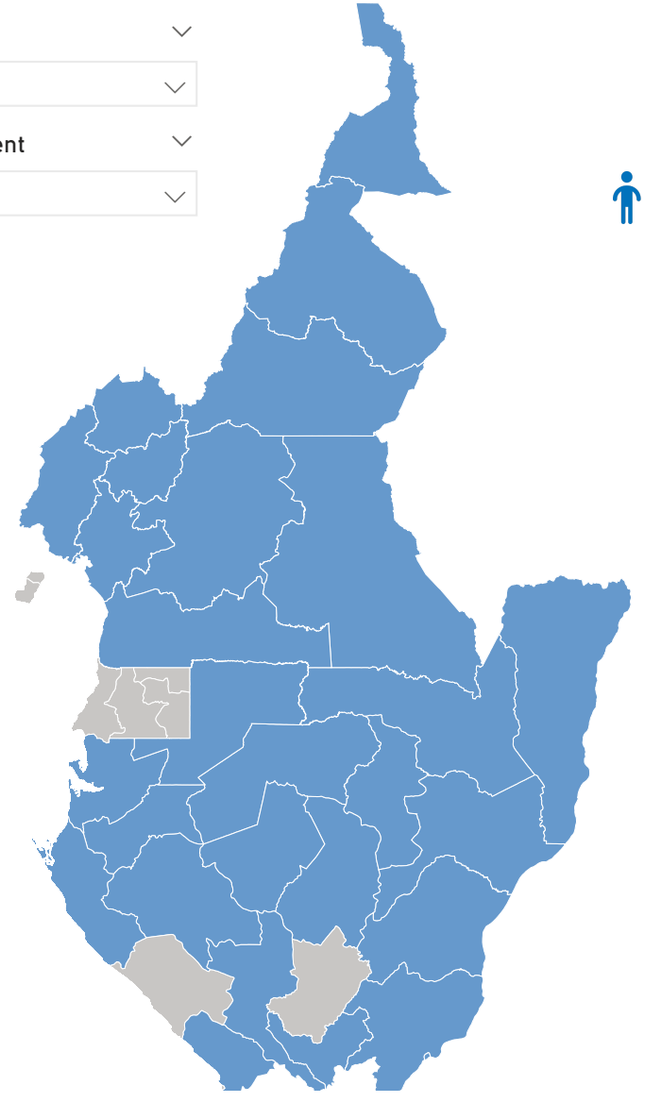
MCO CAMEROUN: STATISTIQUES DE REFUGIES ET DEMANDEURS D'ASILE (January 2026)

Cameroon | Congo, Republ... | Equatorial Gui... | Gabon | Sao Tome and ...

Region: All

Departement: All



Legal Status
- [ ] Asylum Seeker
- [ ] Refugee

470,654 Réfugiés

27,280 Demandeurs d'Asile

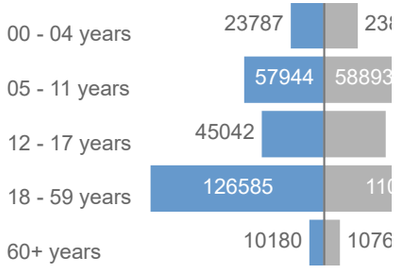
253873 Children | **237524** Adults | **20948** Elders

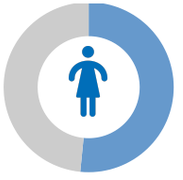
Region	04-05 Years	06-11 Years	12-18 Years	Total
Adamaoua	3896	11717	12672	**28285**
Est	10617	31455	32313	**74385**
Estuaire	1	11	18	**30**
Haut-Ogooue	1	2	6	**9**
Littoral	747	2563	2495	**5805**
Mai-Ndombe		3	2	**5**
Ngounie			1	**1**
Nord-Ouest		18	34	**52**
Ogooue-Maritime			2	**2**
Ouest	2	1		**3**
Sud	5	5	3	**13**
Sud-Ouest	3	62	187	**252**
Total	**15272**	**45837**	**47733**	**108842**

Region	00 - 04 years Female	00 - 04 years Male	05 - 11 years Female	05 - 11 years Male	12 - 17 years Female	12 - 17 years Male	18 - 59 years Female	18 - 59 years Male	60 Fema
Ogooue-Lolo								1	
Ogooue-Maritime						2	3	3	
Ouest		3	2	1			4	76	
Plateaux	505	465	1352	1292	1055	1090	2617	2492	2
Pointe-Noire	50	60	144	166	143	146	454	1059	
Pool	286	256	678	650	531	571	1966	2377	1
Sangha	33	33	129	142	167	135	632	775	
Sud	4	2	4	3		1	20	95	
Sud-Ouest	3	3	31	34	72	89	293	936	
Woleu-Ntem								1	
Total	**881**	**822**	**2340**	**2288**	**1968**	**2034**	**5989**	**7815**	**5**

Sites / Camp	Female	Male
Gado Badzere Site	8593	7512
Mbile Site	4566	4160
Lolo Site	4391	4157
Site du 15 Avril	3914	3575
Borgop Site	3580	3032
Site de Bouemba	3141	2900
Timangolo Site	1851	1729
Ngam Site	1526	1280
Ngarisingo Site	545	547

Repartition par Tranche d'age et par Sex

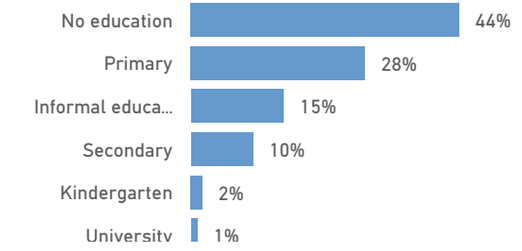




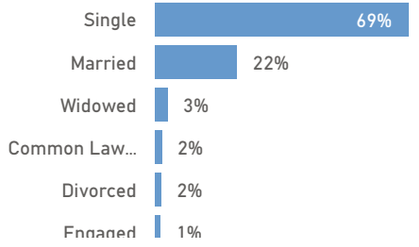
50% Of refugees are women and girls

51% Of refugees are children

Niveau d'étudesID by Education



Niveau d'étudesID by Education



Personnes à Besoin Spécifiques	Female	M
Child at risk	452	15794
Single parent	4552	10345
Woman at risk	2905	12085
Older person at risk	4181	4241
Disability	2096	4438
Serious medical condition	654	5873
Unaccompanied or separated child	1965	2808

UNHCR CAMEROON MONTHLY UPDATES

KEY HIGHLIGHTS January 2026

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 407,968 refugees and 19,082 asylum seekers.
Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): The country has 1,004,257 IDPs, with an additional 790,842 returnees.
Major Countries of Origin: Refugees primarily come from the Central African Republic 282,171 , Nigeria 127,132 , Chad 4,263 , and Niger 10,010.

Demographic Distribution:

A significant portion of the refugees are women and children. Specifically, 52% of the refugee population are women and girls, and 51% 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:

47% of refugees are engaged in various occupations such as homemakers, traders, drivers, pensioners, maneuvers, and breeders. 17% are students, 14% are unemployed, and 9% are farmers.

Ethnicity and Religion:

Ethnicity: The majority of ethnicities are Peulh 44% , 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 25,952 , individuals with vision disabilities 5,191 , and older persons with children 3,144 .

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 68% , 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 160,281 individuals. The Far-North has 122,645 refugees, while Adamaoua has 57,080 . The North region accommodates 36,624 refugees, and the Centre has 26,758. The Littoral region has 21,703 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 160,281 and 122,645 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

January 2026

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

Population Type: All | Region: All | Zone: All | Owning Office: All

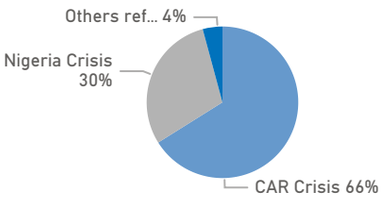
2,222,149
Total of Persons we serve

407,968
Refugee

19,082
Asylum Seeker

1,004,257
Internally Displaced

790,842
Returnees IDP



Distribution by crisis

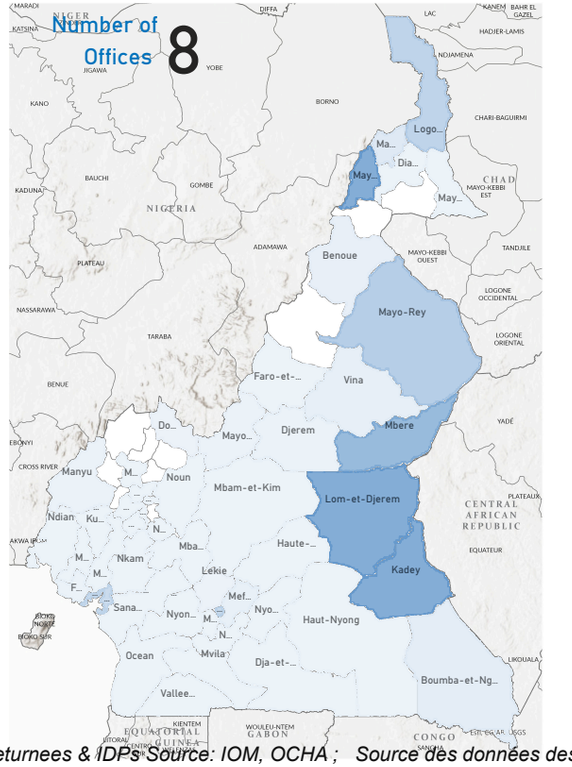
52% Of refugees are women and girls

51% Of refugees are children

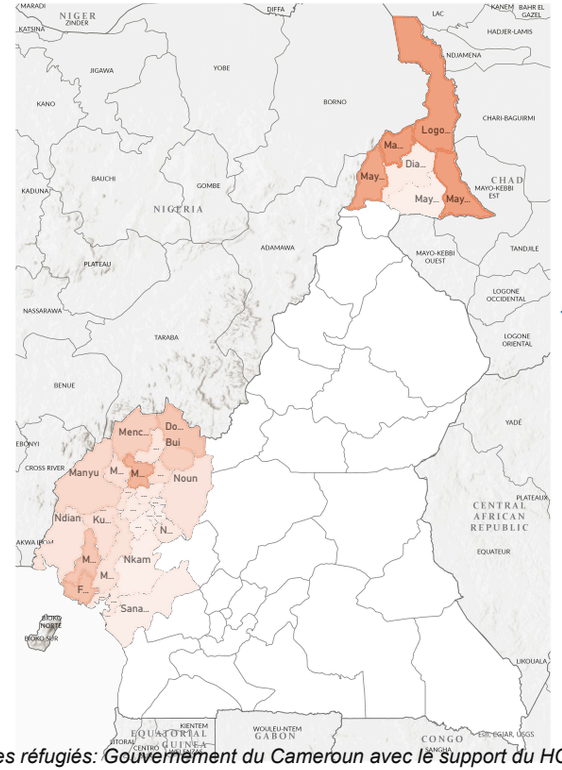
57% Of IDPs are children

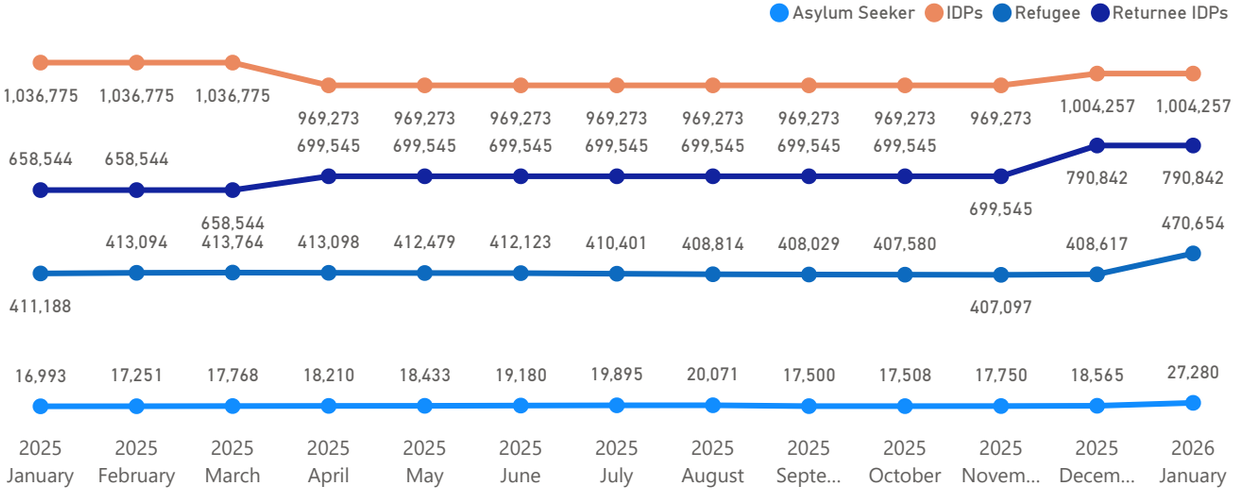
Refugee and Asylum Seeker by Department

Number of Offices 8



IDPs by Department





Top 5 countries with refugees and asylum seekers

Central African... 282,171

Nigeria 127,132

Chad 4,263

Others... 1,839

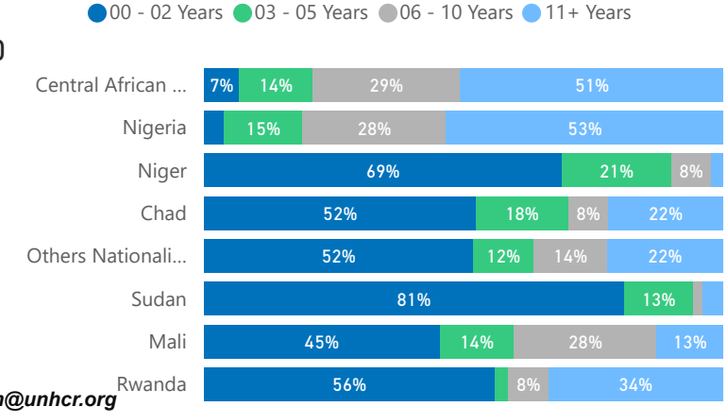
Niger 10,010

Rwanda 443

Mali 636

Soudan 787

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

January 2026

Central African | Nigeria | Other Refugees

Legal Status: Asylum Seeker | Refugee

Site/Camp: In Site/Camp | Out of Site/Camp

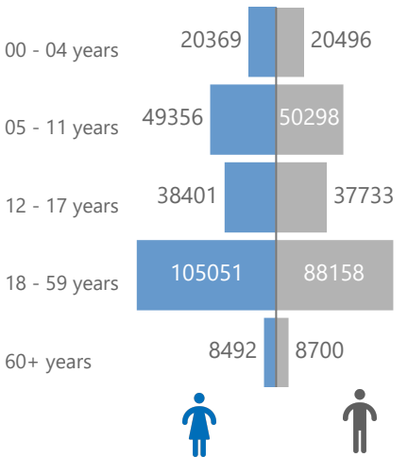
199,417
School age children

Region: All | Department: All | Zone: All | Owning Office: All

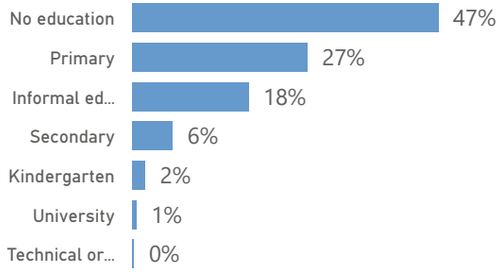
Refugees by age group

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	7359	7368	17940	18707	14377	14232	42259	31378	3238	3423	**160281**
Extreme-Nord	7004	7011	15947	15830	12327	11874	27925	19426	2686	2615	**122645**
Adamaoua	2807	2885	6700	6916	5617	5624	14633	9259	1357	1282	**57080**
Nord	1556	1515	5000	5060	3381	3322	9494	5794	806	696	**36624**
Centre	1099	1094	2378	2321	1595	1490	6335	9891	215	340	**26758**
Littoral	537	615	1349	1414	1021	1082	4022	11228	145	290	**21703**
Sud-Ouest	3	3	31	34	72	89	293	936	33	39	**1533**
Nord-Ouest			6	12	10	19	64	75	12	5	**203**
Sud	4	2	3	3		1	19	95		9	**136**
Ouest		3	2	1			4	76		1	**87**
Total	**20369**	**20496**	**49356**	**50298**	**38400**	**37733**	**105048**	**88158**	**8492**	**8700**	**427050**

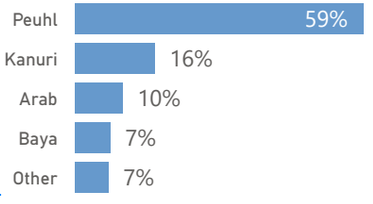
Population distribution (gender and age group)



Education Level

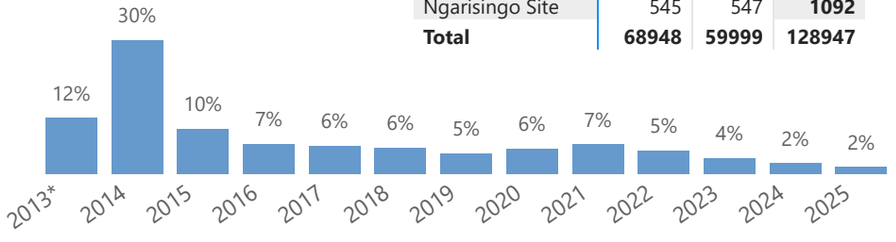


Ethnicity



Marital Status	Percentage
Single	67.51%
Married	24.92%
Widowed	3.60%
Divorced	1.81%
Common Law Married	0.77%
Separated	0.68%
Unknown	0.35%
Engaged	0.35%
Partnership	0.01%

Year of arrival of refugees



Site/Camp	Female	Male	Total
Minawao Camp	43899	37582	**81481**
Gado Badzere Site	8592	7512	**16104**
Mbile Site	4566	4160	**8726**
Lolo Site	4390	4157	**8547**
Borgop Site	3580	3032	**6612**
Timangolo Site	1850	1729	**3579**
Ngam Site	1526	1280	**2806**
Ngarisingo Site	545	547	**1092**
Total	**68948**	**59999**	**128947**

Education Age

Region	04-05 Years		06-11 Years		12-18 Years		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Adamaoua	1893	2001	5750	5960	6357	6312	**28273**
Centre	636	644	2042	1993	1819	1708	**8842**
Est	5294	5320	15341	16109	16193	16120	**74377**
Extreme-Nord	4317	4255	13821	13713	13927	13439	**63472**
Littoral	293	371	1190	1213	1159	1330	**5556**
Nord	1180	1255	4383	4349	3750	3661	**18578**
Nord-Ouest			6	12	13	21	**52**
Ouest	1	1	1				**3**
Sud	2	2	2	3		3	**12**
Sud-Ouest	1	2	30	32	85	102	**252**
Total	**13617**	**13851**	**42566**	**43384**	**43303**	**42696**	**199417**

*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

January 2026

Source des données des réfugiés: Gouvernement du Cameroun avec le support du HCR ::
Contact for more info DIMA Unit Cameroon ***cmr_yaim@unhcr.org***

Central African | Nigeria | Other Refugees

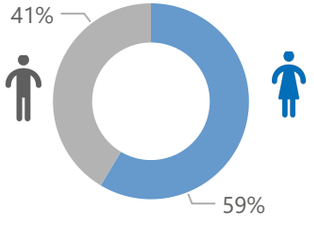
Owning Office: All

Region: All | Department: All | Commu...: All | Zone: All

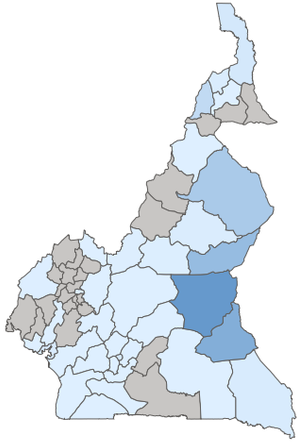
Areas of Responsibility: Child Protection | General Protection | SGBV

143,962 Person with Specific Needs

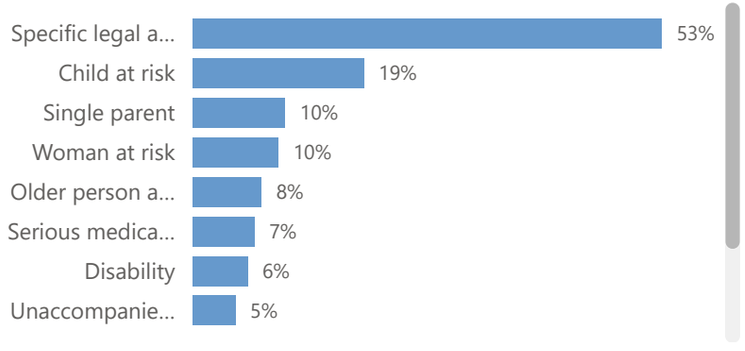
Gender



Male | Female



Person with Specific Needs



27,810 Child at Risk

SPN Sub Category	# Refugee
Child at risk of not attending school	26782
Child with special education needs	549
Child parent	255
Child spouse	181
Teenage pregnancy	86
Child engaged in other forms of child labour	60
Child carer	54
Child engaged in worst forms of child labour	29
No legal documentation	10
Child associated with armed forces or groups	8

10,048 Serious Medical Condition

SPN Sub Category	# Refugee
Other medical condition	6248
Chronic illness	2249
Malnutrition	647
Difficult pregnancy	534
Critical medical	416
Mental illness	197
Addiction	23
Woman at risk	18
Emotions and behavior	3
Vision	3

2,106 SGBV

SGBV	Refugee
Victim/Survivor of SGBV in country of asylum	545
Threat of forced marriage	525
Victim/Survivor of SGBV in country of asylum	429
Survival sex	223
Victim/Survivor of SGBV in country of origin	172

8,918 Disability

SPN Sub Category	# Refugee
Vision	3906
Hearing	1552
Lower Body Mobility	1352
Emotions and behavior	1283
Communication	796
Upper Body Mobility	361
Physical disability - moderate	159
Visual impairment (including blindness)	71
Self-Care	49
Mental disability - moderate	47

15,017 Single Parent

(Top 10) Single Parent	# Refugee
Single HR - parent	13635
Single HR - caregiver	921
Single HR - grandparent	576
Woman at risk	14
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

276 Family Unity

Family Unity Sub-Category	# Refugee
Family reunification required	231
Tracing required	45

11,165 Older at Risk

Older Person at Risk	# Refugee
Older person with children	5370
Older person unable to care for self	4483
Single older person	1863
No legal documentation	2
Woman at risk	2
Single HR - grandparent	1
Single HR - parent	1
Single woman at risk	1

6,935 Unaccompanied or separated child

(Top 6) Unaccompanied or separated child	# Refugee
Separated child	6375
Unaccompanied child	538
Child headed household	37
Child in institutional care	26
Child in foster care	16
No legal documentation	5

13,918 Woman at Risk

(Top 4) Single Parent Sub-Category	# Refugee
Woman at risk	8571
Single woman at risk	3002
Single HR - parent	10
Lactating	2555

SOCIO-ECONOMICS DATA OF REFUGEES IN CAMEROON

January 2026

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

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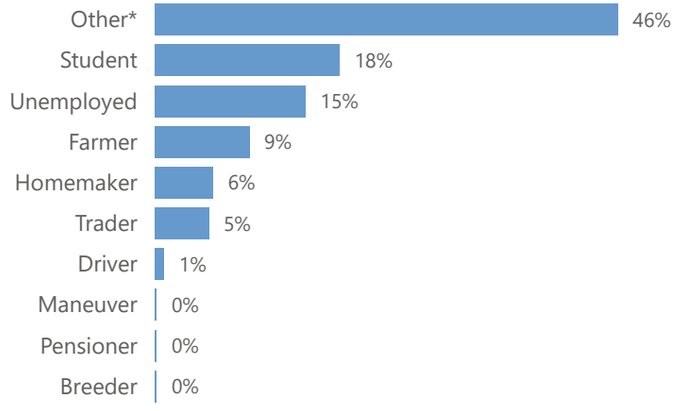
Central African | Nigeria | Other Refugees

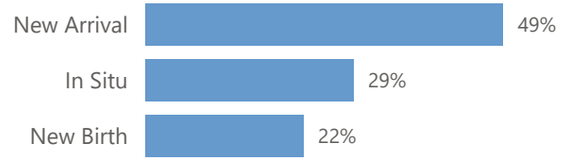
Region: All

Zone: All

Occupation

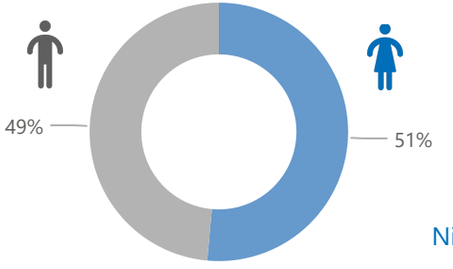


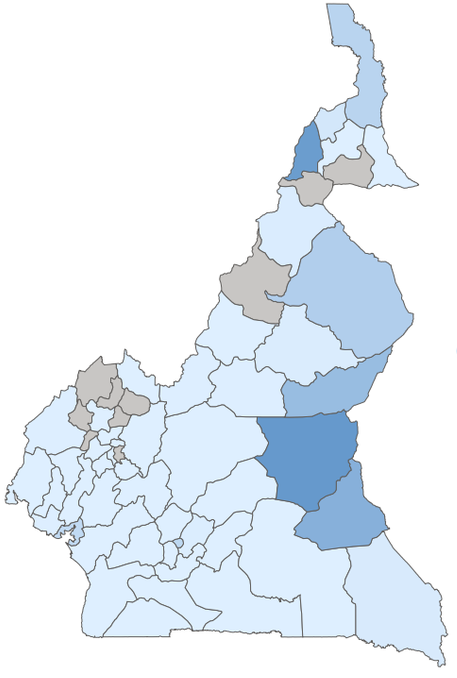
Registration Reason



Religion

Male | Female





Central African

Occupations	Adamaoua	Centre	Est	Extreme-Nord	Littoral	Nord	Total
Other*	17567	9481	57271	10	5615	4762	**94706**
Student	15100	4376	30118		3551	7488	**60633**
Unemployed	7375	1891	34260	1	878	11529	**55934**
Farmer	8717	857	13694	1	337	6823	**30429**
Homemaker	4110	1246	14709		1020	1740	**22825**
Trader	2856	1324	7973	1	1095	1384	**14633**
Driver	428	238	2064	1	429	240	**3400**
Maneuver	11	18	43		6	2	**80**
Pensioner	12	3	55		3	2	**75**
Breeder	25		12			28	**65**

Nigeria

Occupations	Adamaoua	Centre	Est	Extreme-Nord	Littoral	Nord	Total
Other*	295	263	7	96578	45	1130	**98318**
Student	188	38		8698	5	448	**9377**
Farmer	26	5		7690	3	755	**8479**
Homemaker	51	11	2	4834	2	102	**5002**
Unemployed	171	79	1	2537	7		**2795**
Trader	34	96	1	1849	17	10	**2007**
Driver	6	6		299	3		**314**
Pensioner	2			26			**28**
Maneuver				11			**11**
Breeder				10			**10**

Other Nationalities

Occupations	Adamaoua	Centre	Est	Extreme-Nord	Littoral	Nord	Total
Other*	56	3430	42	39	4544	45	**8156**
Trader	4	1073	11	9	1977	5	**3079**
Unemployed	31	972	14	19	892	85	**2013**
Student	23	1339	9	28	487	23	**1909**
Farmer	2	164	11		763	13	**953**
Homemaker	15	358	5	6	155	15	**554**
Driver		84	1	4	115	2	**206**
Maneuver	1	8			41	2	**52**