The total population of concern (PoC) 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.

**13.1 MILLION PERSONS OF CONCERN**

1.6 MILLION REFUGEES & ASYLUM-SEEKERS

7.8 MILLION INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

1.6 MILLION STATELESS & AT RISK OF STATELESSNESS

1.7 MILLION RETURNED INTERNALLY DISPLACED

0.1 MILLION REFUGEES RETURNED

0.1 MILLION OTHERS OF CONCERN

**POPULATION TRENDS**

The total of 1.6 million refugees represent a 7% increase from August 2021. Chad hosts the largest number of refugees from Sudan, Cameroon hosts the second largest number of refugees mainly from CAR (72%).

The number of internally displaced rose to an estimated 7.8 million. Nigeria hosts 41% of IDP population in the region. With an increase of over 52% in one year, Burkina Faso has the second largest number of IDPs (24%).

The Lake Chad Basin hosts 36% 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 (63%).

**MAIN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN**

- CAR: 487,255
- Sudan: 393,990
- Nigeria: 359,472
- Cameroon: 119,842
- Mali: 92,117
- Burkina Faso: 47,710
- Mauritania: 26,498

**MAIN COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM**

- Chad: 573,762
- Cameroon: 494,705
- Niger: 294,467
- Nigeria: 89,293
- Mali: 57,128
- Burkina Faso: 27,616
- Senegal: 12,117

**INTERNAL DISPLACEMENTS**

- Nigeria: 3,167,581
- Burkina Faso: 1,902,150
- Cameroon: 975,786
- CAR: 647,883
- Mali: 396,904
- Chad: 381,289
- Niger: 347,648

**PERSONS OF CONCERN BY COUNTRY**

- Refugees: 740,251
- Asylum Seekers: 647,883
- Internally Displaced Persons: 36,276
- IDPs: 573,762
- Stateless: 1,902,150
- Returning IDPs: 975,786
- Others: 381,289
- Total: 13,186,016

**REFUGEE POPULATION PROFILE**

- Children: 54%
- Women: 80%

**REFUGEES WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS**

- Child at risk: 125,647
- Legal & Physical Needs: 132,997
- Woman at risk: 69,232
- Single parent: 55,218
- Older person at risk: 44,311
- Persons with disability: 90,653
- Serious Med. Condition: 18,578

**REFUGEES IN CAMPS**

47%

**REFUGEES IN URBAN AREA**

9%

**SAHEL SITUATION**

1,054,221 REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS

3,027,991 INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

**SITUATIONS**

- **CAR SITUATION**: 740,251 Refugees and Asylum-Seekers, 647,883 Internally Displaced Persons
- **FAR NORTH CAMEROON**: 35,137 Refugees and Asylum-Seekers, 36,276 Internally Displaced Persons
- **SAHEL SITUATION**: 1,054,221 Refugees and Asylum-Seekers, 3,027,991 Internally Displaced Persons

**REGIONAL BUREAU FOR WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA (WAC/RCA)**

**PERSONS OF CONCERN**

- 13,186,016 as of 31 August 2022

**WEB PAGE DATE**: 15/09/2022

**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 WAC/RCA DNA. <dna@unhcr.org>