

2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

Returned internally displaced persons

### REGIONAL BUREAU FOR WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA **OVERVIEW - FORCIBLY DISPLACED AND STATELESS PERSONS**

**MARCH 2024** 

# 13.8 MILLION **FORCIBLY DISPLACED &** STATELESS PERSONS

UNHCR protects and assists forcibly displaced and stateless persons across the West and Central African region, including refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugee and IDP returnees, stateless and of undetermined nationality persons. Protection and assistance are extended to additional groups, based on humanitarian and other special grounds.

**REFUGEES & ASYLUM-SEEKERS** 

**MILLION REFUGEES RETURNEES** 

**INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS** 

RETURNED INTERNALLY DISPLACED

MILLION STATELESS & OF **UNDETERMINED NATIONALITY** 

**MILLION** OTHERS OF CONCERN

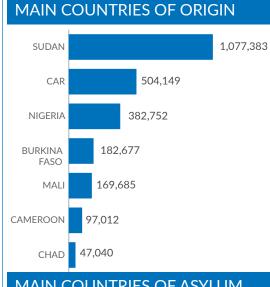
The current number of 2.6 million refugees and asylum seekers represents a significant increase of 56% increase from the number reported at the same period in 2023, mainly as a result of the ongoing crisis in Sudan and the deteriorating security situation in the Sahel, which has led thousands of persons to leave their country in search for safety and protection.

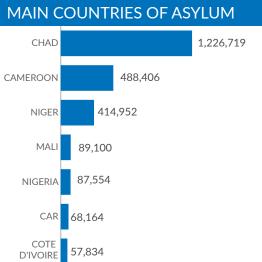
The largest hosting refugee country in the region is Chad with 48% of the total population, followed by Cameroon with 19%. Sudan, the Central African Republic (CAR), and Nigeria are the main countries of origin, together accounting for 77% of the region's refugee population.

As the registration process is ongoing, there are currently 61,928 asylum seekers pending registration.

Internally displaced persons represent the vast majority of the forcibly displaced population in the West and Central Africa region. Nigeria, Burkina Faso and Cameroon respectively host 42%, 26% and 13% of the total IDP population.

West Africa hosts over 931,156 persons who are stateless or of undetermined nationality, reported mainly in Côte d'Ivoire and Cabo Verde. Millions of people are reported to be at risk of statelessness across the region.







## POPULATION TRENDS (last 6 months) **+** 338,638 From October 2023 to March 2024 13,787,366 13,544,766 13,448,728

13,436,678

NOV DEC JAN

2023 2023 2023 2024 2024 2024

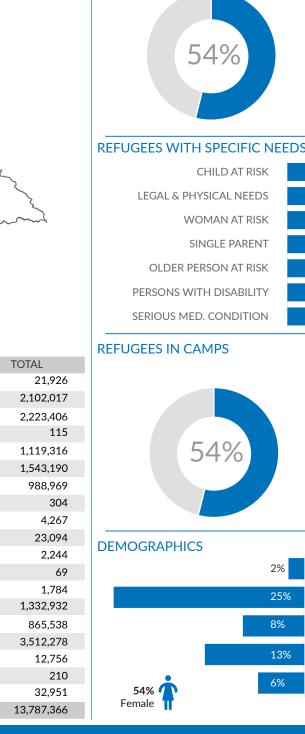
13,485,748

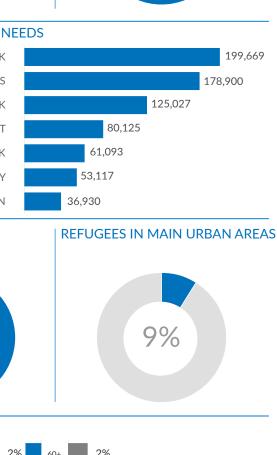
13,508,416

FEB MAR

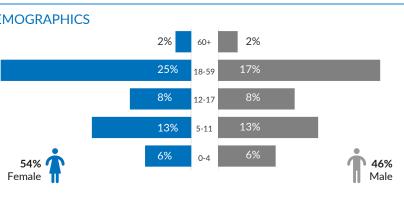
### CAPE VERDE (115) REFUGEES 12.235 **RFNIN** 38,336 **BURKINA FASO CAMEROON** 477,715 CAPE VERDE 35,639 1,216,992 CHAD 2,364 COTE D'IVOIRE 210 GABON 3.846 **GAMBIA** 7,093 GHANA 2,187 GUINEA 32 **GUINEA BISSAU** LIBERIA 1,167 88,829 MALI NIGER 370,144 70,795 NIGERIA 11,881 **SENEGAL** SIERRA LEONE 28.271 TOGO GRAND TOTAL 2,367,736 MAJOR AREAS OF DISPLACEMENT **CAR SITUATION**

#### FORCIBLY DISPLACED AND STATELESS PERSONS BY COUNTRY REFUGEE & ASYLUM-SEEKERS POPULATION PROFILE **CHILDREN** NIGER (866K) CHAD (1.5M) NIGERIA 3.5M AFRICAN (1.1M) SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE GABON The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on this map ASYLUM SEEKERS REF. IDPs RETURNED IDP STATELESS TOTAL 906 21,926 1,147 2,062,534 2,102,017 1,076,000 2,223,406 10,691 659,000 115 115 32,525 31,662 520,060 499,430 1,119,316 9,727 100,543 1,543,190 215.928 55,470 931,041 94 988,969 94 304 421 4.267 16,001 23,094 2,244 57 37 69 617 1,784 271 85,683 354,739 1,332,932 44,808 403,974 46,612 865,538 16,759 3,397,531 3,512,278 27,193 12,756 875 210 210 4.680 32,951 146,546 195,086 144,538 8,039,551 1,961,840 931,156





**WOMEN & CHILDREN** 



The figures reported reflect the number of refugees from the Central

African Republic in neighbouring countries (Cameroon, Chad, Congo,

the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, and South Sudan) and of



the IDPs within the Central African Republic

751,298 520,060 **DISPLACED PERSONS** 

595,101 ASYLUM-SEEKERS ,158 REFUGEE RETURNEES

The figures reported reflect the number of Sudanese refugees and asylum-seekers that arrived in the CAR and in Chad since the beginning of the current crisis in Sudan, in April 2023.

**CAR & CHAD (SUDAN SITUATION)** 

#### LAKE CHAD BASIN



303,265 **DISPLACED PERSONS** 

The figures reported reflect the total number of IDPs and refugees in the Lake Chad Basin area, across Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria.



The figures reported reflect the number of IDPs in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and Niger, as well as refugees dispersed throughout the Sahel region. They also include the number of refugees from the Central Sahel (Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger) and in the neighbouring coastal countries of Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Togo.