

Tunisia

December 2024

As of 31 December, **15,514 refugees and asylum-seekers** are registered with UNHCR, most from countries affected by armed conflict and widespread violence.

Among them are people with **urgent protection needs**, including victims of torture, gender-based violence survivors, and unaccompanied children.

In response to the changing context, UNHCR has been **adapting its operations** by assuming activities previously implemented by partners.

KEY FIGURES

15,514

forcibly displaced people registered in Tunisia as of 31 December, including 12,214 asylum-seekers and 3,300 refugees.

86%

of registered individuals originate from countries affected by armed conflict and widespread violence.

992

individuals supported with financial assistance in December 2024.

1,214

UNHCR-issued document renewals in December 2024.

25

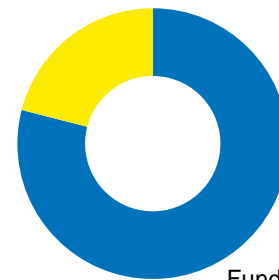
departures on resettlement in December 2024.

FUNDING (AS OF 30 NOVEMBER*)

USD \$15.5 million

requested for Tunisia in 2024.

Unfunded 25%
\$3.8 million

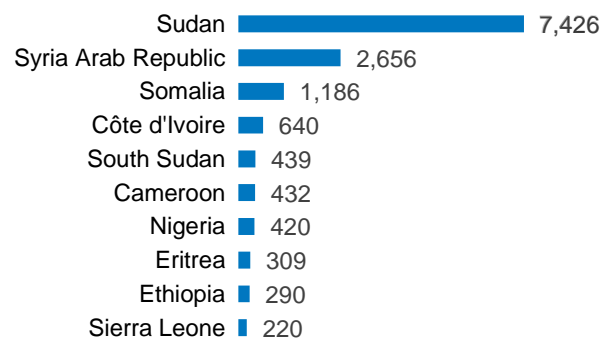


Funded 75%
\$11.7 million

* The funding information presented in this update reflects contributions as of 30 November, as UNHCR is finalizing its end-of-year financial review at the time of writing.

REGISTERED POPULATION

Country of origin



Data on top ten countries as of 31 December 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, undertake perilous journeys to reach Tunisia, often encountering significant risks and rights violations along the route. Among those arriving are particularly vulnerable individuals in need of international protection, including victims of torture, survivors of gender-based violence, as well as unaccompanied children. In response to the evolving context, UNHCR has been constantly adapting its response, thereby ensuring that registered asylum-seekers and refugees at heightened risk continue to receive critical assistance, such as healthcare, legal services, case management, safe shelter, and multi-purpose cash support.

Operational response

PROTECTION

- UNHCR continued its efforts to renew UNHCR-issued cards for registered refugees and asylum-seekers with a total of 1,214 cards successfully renewed in December 2024, compared to 1,324 in November 2024. In addition, 19 newborns were registered, and their details were added to registered parents' file.
- UNHCR conducted protection counselling and vulnerability assessments for 61 refugees and asylum-seekers to identify the most appropriate interventions and referrals to existing services and assistance.
- UNHCR initiated best interest procedures to find solutions, such as resettlement submissions and shelter opportunities, for four unaccompanied children.
- UNHCR and its partner provided legal assistance, advice, and consultations to 55 refugees and asylum-seekers.

HELPLINE

- UNHCR's helpline services recorded a total of 2,230 communications from 1,760 unique registered callers, with Sudanese, Somalis, and Syrians among the top three nationalities. Helpline assistants provided callers with information, counselling, and orientation to specialized services and assistance.

SAFE SHELTER

- In December, UNHCR hosted a total of 441 refugees and asylum-seekers in UNHCR-run five safe shelters, where they benefited from basic services, including case management, counselling, mental health and psychosocial support, and food assistance. The safe shelters continued to operate at full capacity.
- UNHCR offered protection initiatives and empowerment programs to people living in the safe shelters, providing access to a range of regular activities such as language courses, sports, movie screenings, and regular hygiene, health, and mental health awareness sessions.

- UNHCR continued to provide rental and utilities support to the Jdariya temporary safe shelter in the governorate of Medenine, which hosted some 650 refugees and asylum-seekers in December.

HEALTH

- UNHCR provided health-related orientation to 192 individuals, medical accompaniment to 15 individuals, and direct health support to 62 individuals, covering expenses for medical consultations and medication.
- UNHCR delivered psychosocial counseling to 33 individuals.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

- UNHCR launched a long-term initiative to raise awareness about gender-based violence (GBV), establish community-based mechanisms for GBV prevention, and mitigate associated risks. The SafeGuard Initiative will run through 2025 and aims to empower asylum-seeking and refugee communities by training community members – including shelter residents, outreach volunteers, and community leaders – to recognize, prevent, and respond to GBV.

CASH-BASED INTERVENTIONS

- With the endorsement of the Tunisian government, UNHCR continued to implement cash-based interventions, benefiting 992 individuals. In total, 579 individuals received multipurpose cash support, 224 received cash-for-food assistance, and 189 unaccompanied children received food vouchers.

SELF-RELIANCE

- UNHCR, in collaboration with local training centers and institutions in Tunis, offered vocational training to 67 refugees and asylum-seekers. The aim, as part of a pilot initiative, is to provide a small number of individuals with marketable skills that improve their prospects for potential third-country solutions.
- UNHCR and its partner continued their efforts to strengthen the resilience of asylum-seekers and refugees. Job placements for a one individual 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 | Germany | Switzerland | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | Monaco | Italy | Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development | Other private donors

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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

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