ETHIOPIA
Refugees and Asylum-seekers

As of 31 May 2025

1,079,460
Total Refugees and Asylum-seekers
(1,008,356 refugees | 71,104* asylum-seekers)

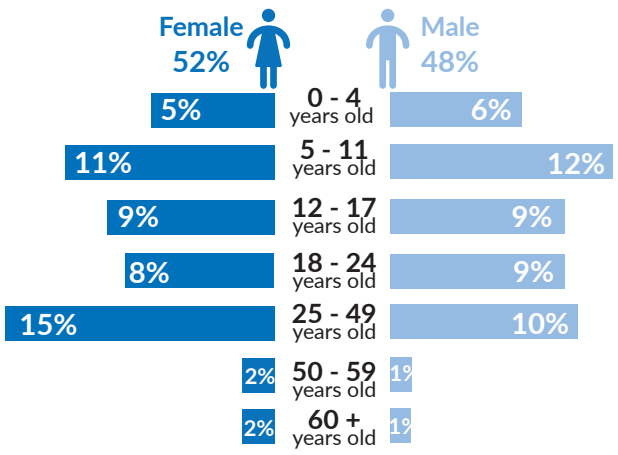
290,982
Households
(average family size: 4)

76% Women & Children
46% Children (0 -17 years)
51% 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

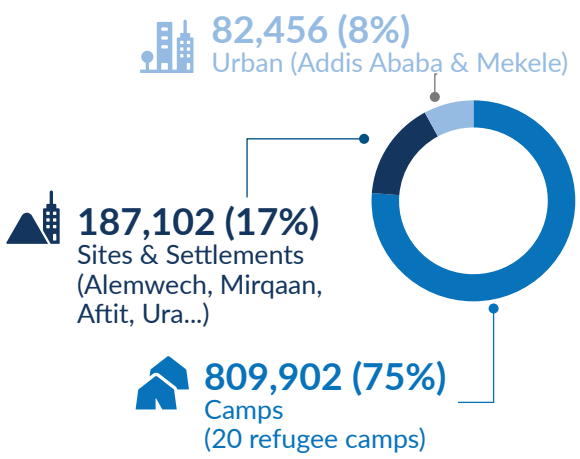


Countries of origin

Country of origin	Total Individuals	Percentage
South Sudan	437,442	41%
Somalia	360,523	33%
Eritrea	180,749	17%
Sudan	89,612	9%
Kenya	5,672	1%
Yemen	2,600	<1%
DR Congo	1,089	<1%
Syrian Arab Republic	750	<1%
Others**	1,023	<1%
Total	**1,079,460**	

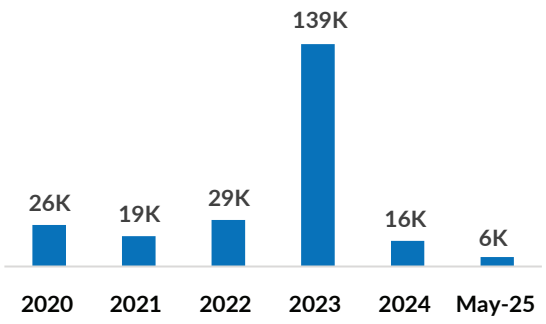
**Others include: Burundi (156 individuals); Djibouti (56)...In total refugees and asylum-seekers registered in Ethiopia come from 34 different countries.

Population distribution



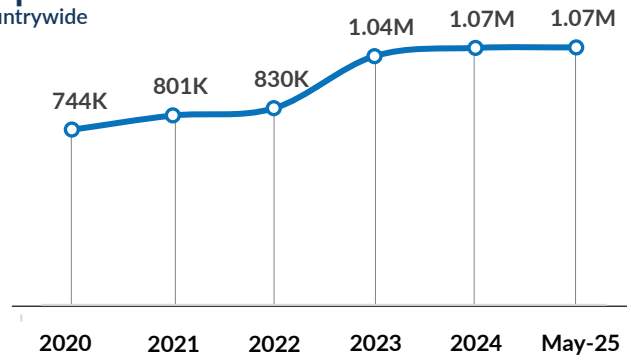
New arrivals per year

Countrywide



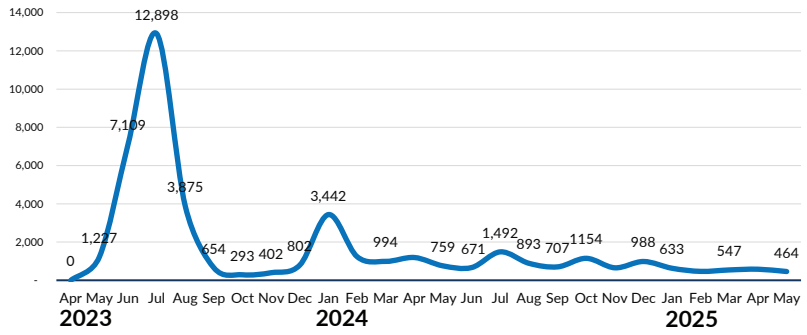
Population trend

Countrywide



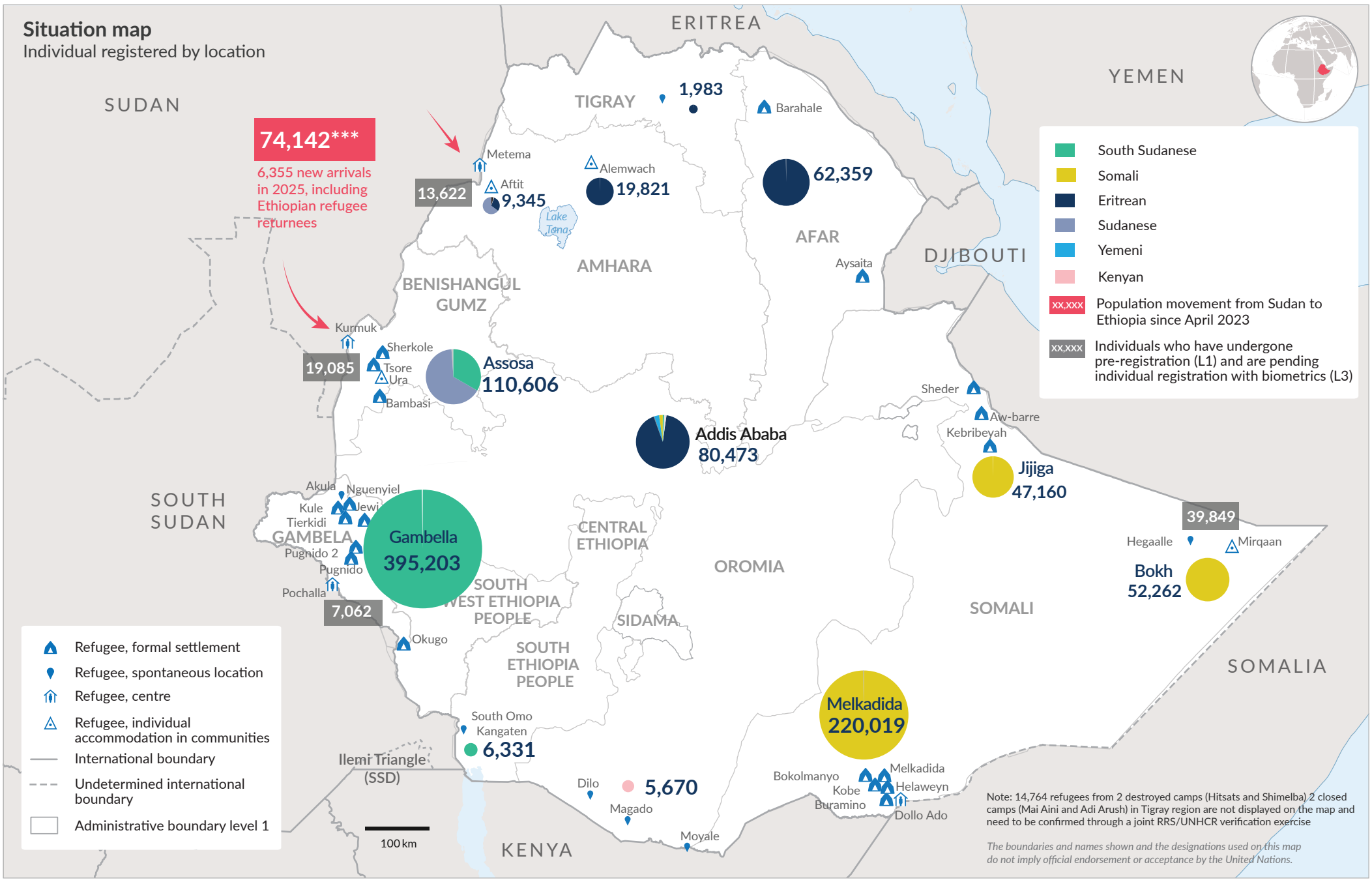
Arrival trends Sudan emergency

Individuals in need of international protection



Situation map

Individual registered by location



Note: 14,764 refugees from 2 destroyed camps (Hitsats and Shimelba) 2 closed camps (Mai Aini and Adi Arush) in Tigray region are not displayed on the map and need to be confirmed through a joint RRS/UNHCR verification exercise

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

*Among the total 71,104 asylum seekers, 10,732 are pending individual Refugee Status Determination (RSD) procedures, the remaining 60,372 are pre-registered (L1) and categorized as 'asylum seeker'

***Sudan Emergency: arrivals in need of international protection from April 2023 to May 2025, Level 1 (L1) pre-registration figures. A total of 74,142 individuals pre-registered, including 44,156 Sudanese, 10,496 other nationalities, and 19,490 Ethiopian refugee returnees.

Update date: 09 June 2025 **Sources:** UNHCR, RRS, UNCS, CSA Ethiopia **Author:** UNHCR - CO Ethiopia **Feedback:** IM unit Addis Ababa, ethadim@unhcr.org