UNHCR CAMEROON MONTHLY UPDATES

KEY HIGHLIGHTS November 2025

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 407,097 refugees and 17,750 asylum seekers.
Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): The country has 969,273 IDPs, with an additional 699,545 returnees.
Major Countries of Origin: Refugees primarily come from the Central African Republic 316,276 , Nigeria 127,578 , Chad 4,416 , and Niger 9,079 .

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 43% having no education, 28% having primary education, and smaller percentages having informal, secondary, university, or technical/vocational education.

Occupations:

46% of refugees are engaged in various occupations such as homemakers, traders, drivers, pensioners, maneuvers, and breeders. 18% are students, 15% are unemployed, and 9% are farmers.

Ethnicity and Religion:

Ethnicity: The majority of ethnicities are Peulh 37% , Kanuri 10% .
Religion: The religious makeup includes 63% Muslims, 35% 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 27,344 , individuals with vision disabilities 5,188 , and older persons with children 3,131 .

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 22% .

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 159,103 individuals. The Far-North has 123,051 refugees, while Adamaoua has 56,892 . The North region accommodates 36,809 refugees, and the Centre has 26,316 . The Littoral region has 20,752 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 159,103 and 123,051 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

November 2025

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

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

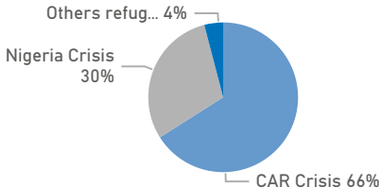
2,093,665 Total of Persons we serve

407,097 Refugee

17,750 Asylum Seeker

969,273 Internally...

699,545 Returnees IDP

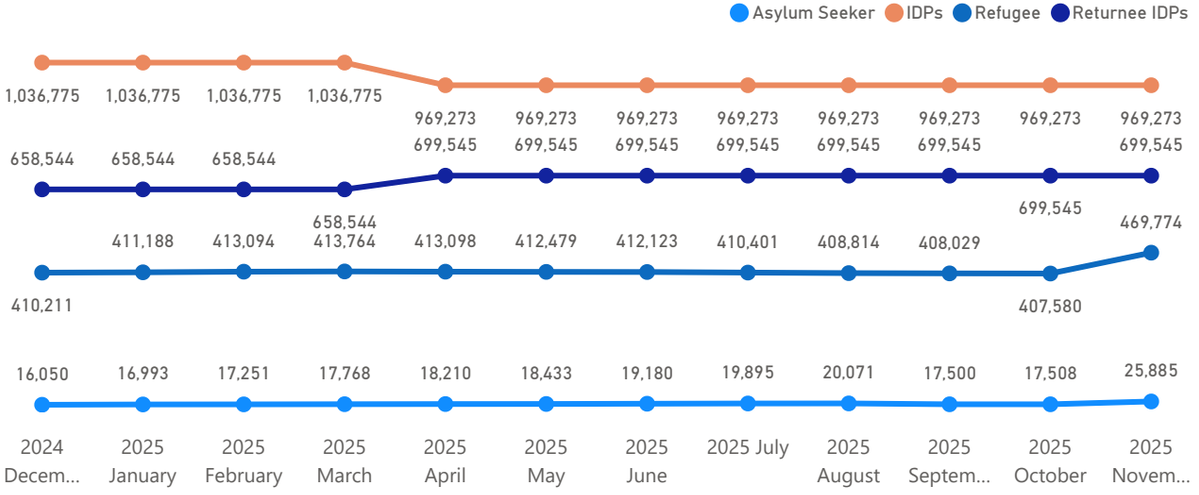


Distribution by crisis

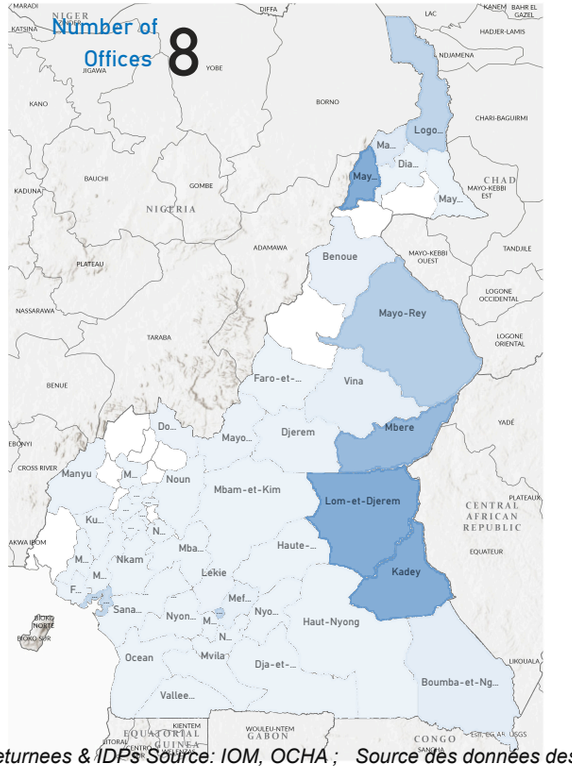
52% Of refugees are women and girls

53% Of refugees are children

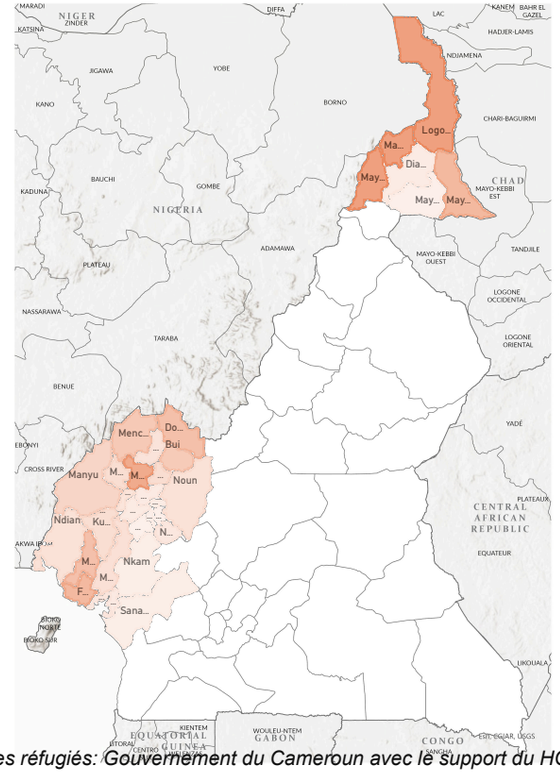
59% Of IDPs are children



Refugee and Asylum Seeker by Department



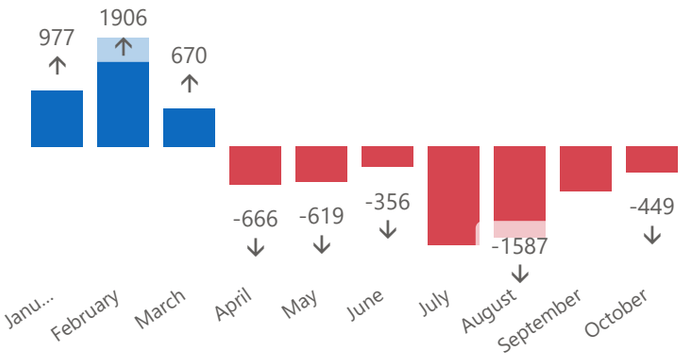
IDPs by Department



Top 5 countries with refugees and asylum seekers

Central Africa...	280,707
Nigeria	127,571
Chad	4,228
Others...	2,315
Niger	9,064
Rwanda	442
Mali	544
Soudan	714

Increase/Decrease Population 2025



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

November 2025

Central African | Nigeria | Other Refugees

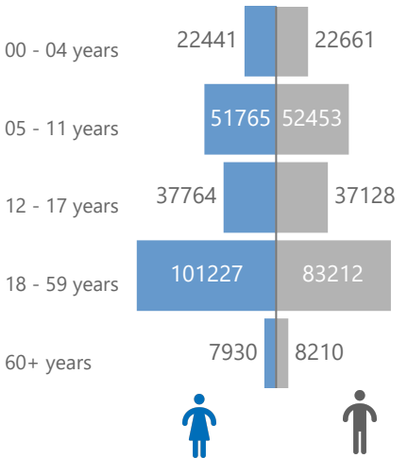
Legal Status: Asylum Seeker | Refugee

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

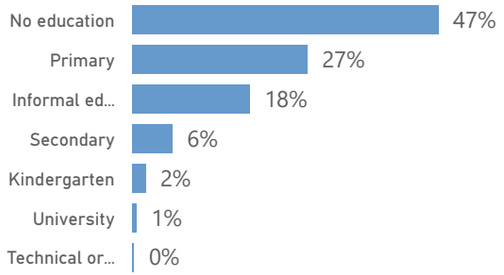
203,832
School age children

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

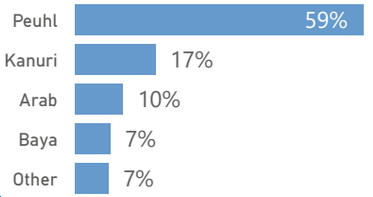
Population distribution (gender and age group)



Education Level

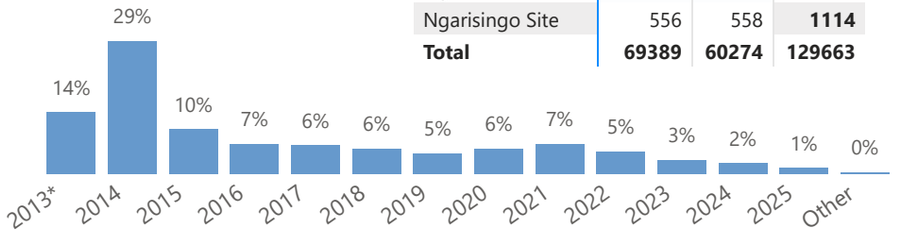


Ethnicity



Marital Status	Percentage
Single	67.49%
Married	24.97%
Widowed	3.61%
Divorced	1.82%
Common Law Married	0.77%
Separated	0.69%
Engaged	0.34%
Unknown	0.30%
Partnership	0.01%

Year of arrival of refugees



Refugees by age group

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+ years Female	60+ years Male	Total
Est	7518	7474	18698	19463	14538	14447	40857	29870	2995	3243	**159103**
Extreme-Nord	8243	8229	16972	16795	11800	11343	26534	18034	2590	2511	**123051**
Adamaoua	3122	3248	7025	7179	5571	5562	14072	8704	1221	1188	**56892**
Nord	1855	1938	5254	5207	3195	3115	9278	5536	760	671	**36809**
Centre	1162	1134	2389	2333	1562	1462	6179	9605	187	303	**26316**
Littoral	534	630	1380	1417	1006	1086	3937	10378	135	248	**20751**
Sud-Ouest	3	3	35	40	81	93	280	846	32	32	**1445**
Nord-Ouest			8	15	10	18	64	72	10	5	**202**
Sud	4	2	2	2		2	19	91		8	**130**
Ouest		3	2	1			4	73		1	**84**
Total	**22441**	**22661**	**51765**	**52452**	**37763**	**37128**	**101224**	**83209**	**7930**	**8210**	**424783**

Site/Camp	Female	Male	Total
Minawao Camp	44174	37756	**81930**
Gado Badzere Site	8495	7370	**15865**
Mbile Site	4909	4490	**9399**
Lolo Site	4251	4018	**8269**
Borgop Site	3598	3040	**6638**
Timangolo Site	1890	1753	**3643**
Ngam Site	1516	1289	**2805**
Ngarisingo Site	556	558	**1114**
Total	**69389**	**60274**	**129663**

Education Age

Region	04-05 Years Female	04-05 Years Male	06-11 Years Female	06-11 Years Male	12-18 Years Female	12-18 Years Male	Total
Adamaoua	2052	2181	6029	6174	6210	6166	**28812**
Centre	638	645	2061	1985	1783	1692	**8804**
Est	5588	5687	15998	16684	16488	16424	**76869**
Extreme-Nord	4976	4938	14537	14356	13118	12630	**64555**
Littoral	323	385	1193	1210	1139	1354	**5604**
Nord	1493	1561	4444	4370	3542	3429	**18839**
Nord-Ouest			8	15	12	22	**57**
Ouest	1	1	1				**3**
Sud	1	2	2	2	1	4	**12**
Sud-Ouest	1	2	34	38	89	112	**276**
Total	**15073**	**15402**	**44307**	**44834**	**42382**	**41833**	**203831**

*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

November 2025

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Central African | Nigeria | Other Refugees

Owning Office: All

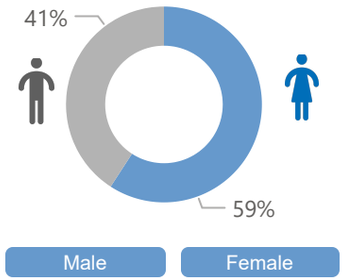
Region: All | Department: All | Commu...: All | Zone: All

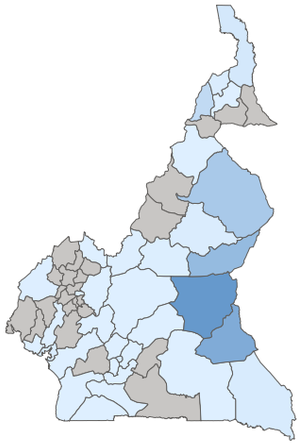
Areas of Responsibility

Child Protection | General Protection | SGBV

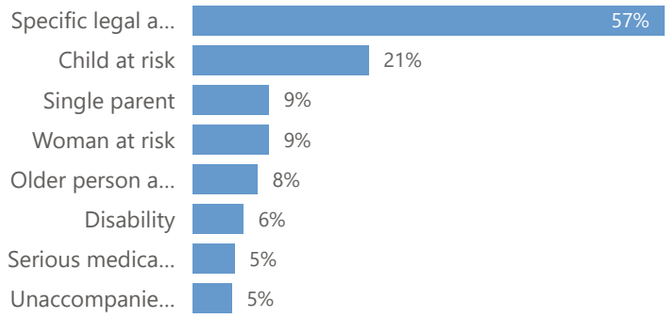
133,706 Person with Specific Needs

Gender





Person with Specific Needs



28,165 Child at Risk

SPN Sub Category	# Refugee
Child at risk of not attending school	27344
Child with special education needs	477
Child spouse	184
Child parent	130
Child engaged in other forms of child labour	47
Child carer	37
Child engaged in worst forms of child labour	20
Teenage pregnancy	16
No legal documentation	10
Child associated with armed forces or groups	5

6,689 Serious Medical Condition

SPN Sub Category	# Refugee
Other medical condition	4301
Chronic illness	1164
Difficult pregnancy	473
Malnutrition	334
Critical medical	276
Mental illness	88
Woman at risk	18
Addiction	12
Emotions and behavior	3
Vision	3

1,221 SGBV

SGBV	Refugee
Threat of forced marriage	501
Victim/Survivor of SGBV in country of asylum	391
Victim/Survivor of SGBV in country of asylum	129
Victim/Survivor of SGBV in country of origin	106
Threat of honour killing/violence	52

8,120 Disability

SPN Sub Category	# Refugee
Vision	3131
Hearing	1369
Lower Body Mobility	1251
Emotions and behavior	1043
Communication	593
Upper Body Mobility	315
Self-Care	43
Remembering and concentrating	38
Physical disability - moderate	21
Mental disability - moderate	9

12,235 Single Parent

(Top 10) Single Parent	# Refugee
Single HR - parent	11118
Single HR - caregiver	602
Single HR - grandparent	439
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

182 Family Unity

Family Unity Sub-Category	# Refugee
Family reunification required	133
Tracing required	40

10,406 Older at Risk

Older Person at Risk	# Refugee
Older person with children	5185
Older person unable to care for self	3923
Single older person	1627
No legal documentation	2
Woman at risk	2
Other medical condition	1
Single HR - grandparent	1
Single HR - parent	1
Single woman at risk	1

6,248 Unaccompanied or separated child

(Top 6) Unaccompanied or separated child	# Refugee
Separated child	5875
Unaccompanied child	333
Child headed household	19
Child in foster care	12
Child in institutional care	10
No legal documentation	5

12,212 Woman at Risk

(Top 4) Single Parent Sub-Category	# Refugee
Woman at risk	7794
Single woman at risk	2587
Single HR - parent	10
Lactating	1562

SOCIO-ECONOMICS DATA OF REFUGEES IN CAMEROON

November 2025

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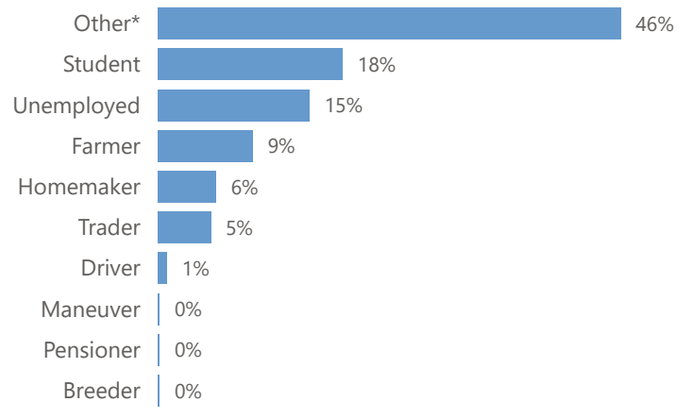
Central African | Nigeria | Other Refugees

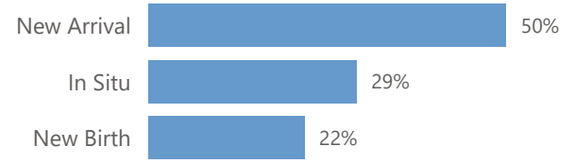
Region: All

Zone: All

Occupation

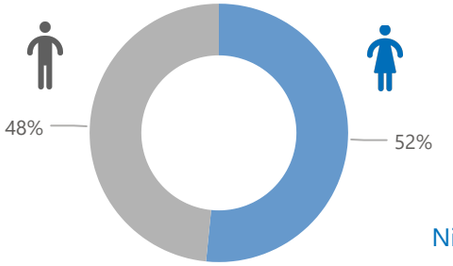


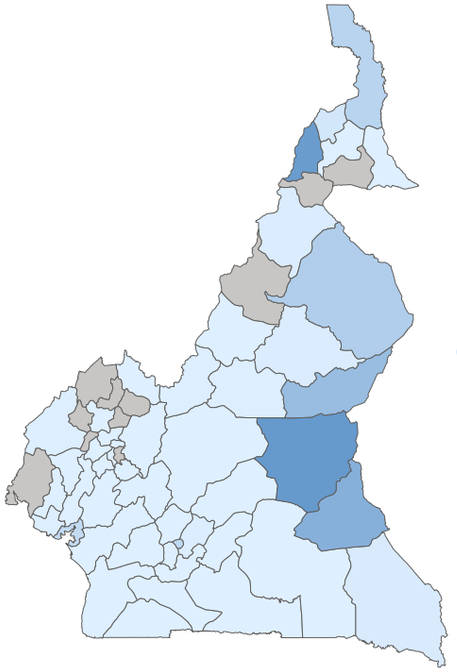
Registration Reason



Religion

Male | Female





Central African

Occupations	Adamaoua	Centre	Est	Extreme-Nord	Littoral	Nord	Total
Other*	17362	9399	56938	8	5529	4626	**93862**
Student	15106	4354	29701		3536	7593	**60290**
Unemployed	7381	1851	34486		867	11641	**56226**
Farmer	8708	852	13592	1	335	6911	**30399**
Homemaker	4120	1240	14380		1016	1749	**22505**
Trader	2860	1307	7781		1088	1390	**14426**
Driver	429	234	2033	1	427	241	**3365**
Maneuver	11	17	42		6	2	**78**
Pensioner	12	3	57		2	2	**76**
Breeder	25		12			28	**65**

Nigeria

Occupations	Adamaoua	Centre	Est	Extreme-Nord	Littoral	Nord	Total
Other*	295	251	7	96920	44	1130	**98647**
Student	188	34		8731	5	448	**9406**
Farmer	26	5		7721	3	755	**8510**
Homemaker	51	11	3	4871	2	103	**5041**
Unemployed	171	73	1	2556	6		**2807**
Trader	34	87	1	1845	16	10	**1993**
Driver	6	6		304	2		**318**
Pensioner	2			26			**28**
Maneuver				11			**11**
Breeder				10			**10**

Other Nationalities

Occupations	Adamaoua	Centre	Est	Extreme-Nord	Littoral	Nord	Total
Other*	90	3295	161	10	4156	57	**7769**
Trader	7	1027	17	6	1653	6	**2716**
Unemployed	40	939	35	16	832	91	**1953**
Student	25	1321	20	12	480	27	**1885**
Farmer	19	159	52		740	26	**996**
Homemaker	34	354	95	2	152	31	**668**
Driver		84	4	2	111	2	**203**
Maneuver	2	6			25	2	**35**
Breeder	2						**2**