EASTERN CHAD

19 January 2026

SUDANESE SITUATION – FLASH UPDATES #24

Key numbers

1,502,265
Refugees and asylum seekers in Chad as of December 2025[1]

905,480
New Sudanese refugee arrivals from April 2023 – January 2026[2]

3,661
New Sudanese refugees registered since January 2026

Funding

$701.4 M requested for the Sudanese Emergency Interagency Regional Refugee Response Plan - Jan- Dec 2025 - **35%** of funding received

Update on Refugee Movements

Cross-Border Movements into Chad

Following the late-October attack in El Fasher, a total of 24,186 newly arrived (9,643 families) have been registered along Chad's eastern borders. The influx is distributed across three key entry corridors: Ennedi East (Oure Cassoni – Bahai and Kariari) - 12,752 individuals (53%) from 4,693 families, Wadi Fira (Tiné) - 8,764 individuals (36%) from 3,712 families, Ouaddaï (Adré and Adikong) - 2,670 individuals (11%) from 1,238 families.

Since the El Fasher attack, refugee arrivals reached their highest levels in December 2025 with 8,971 new arrivals, followed closely by November 2025 with 8,825 arrivals. However, taking the full year into account, the largest influxes of 2025 occurred earlier in the year—in May, when 66,687 refugees crossed into Chad, and in February, when 30,059 refugees arrived.

Population Movements and Trends

Between 12 and 18 January 2025, Chad recorded 1,838 new refugee arrivals, representing a 27% increase compared to the previous week (05–11 January: 1,450 arrivals). This figure remains slightly below the December weekly average of 1,988 individuals. Over the past four weeks, the average daily arrival rate stands at 200 people.

Primary locations of origin for the newly arrived population include Abgamra, Ambaru, Berdick, El Fasher, Tawila, Tougaye, and Zamzam. The refugees belong predominantly to the Zaghawa, Fur, Mahdawi, Massalit, and Maba ethnic groups.

Demographic Characteristics: Women and children represent 93.5% of the newly registered population, persons with specific needs: 22%, including pregnant women, unaccompanied and separated children, lactating mothers, older adults, and people living with disabilities.

Many families also arrived carrying Sudanese civil documentation, such as identity cards, birth and marriage certificates, passports, and nationality certificates.

Among the new arrivals crossing the Chadian border, 47 families comprising 103 individuals are former refugees from 2003, 2004, and 2020. They were previously settled across various established sites, including Touloum, Iridimi, Kariari, and Mile.

Response to the Crisis

Ongoing Response: At the border, UNHCR and partners continue to deliver life-saving assistance to newly arriving refugees. Key interventions include:

- **Registration -** conducted jointly by UNHCR and government authorities.
- **Distribution of non-food Items** (ICRC), including jerrycans, soap, blankets, and mats, and Health services (MSF Belgium) – including health screening and medical

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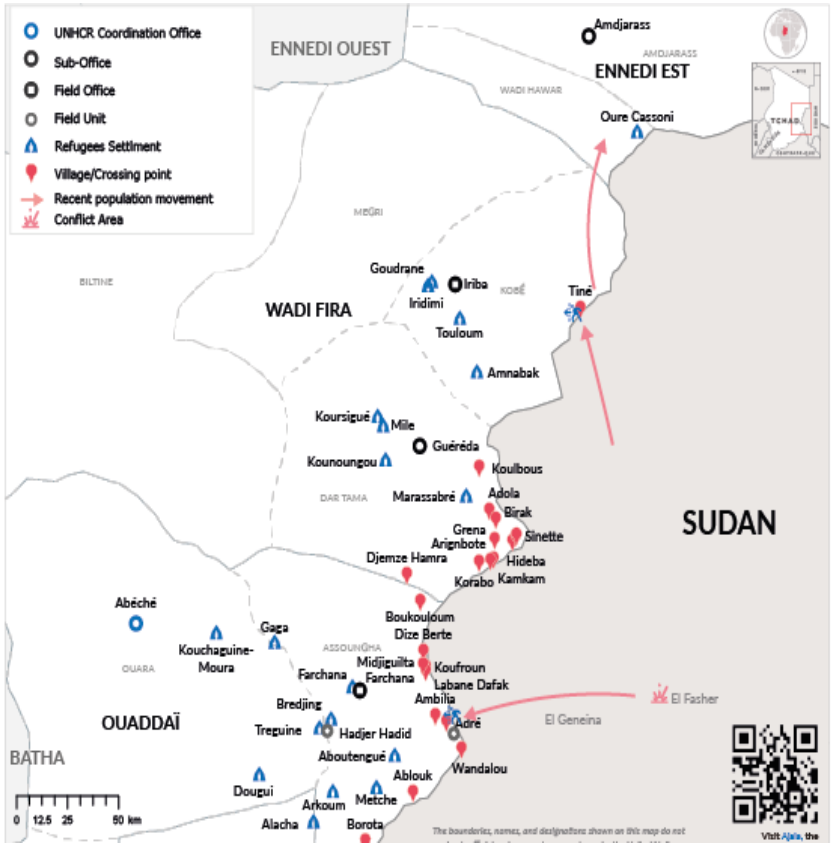
consultations, vaccinations for children aged 0–59 months, screening and vaccination for pregnant women, and treatment of injuries through a mobile clinic operating three times per week.

- **Gender-based violence (GBV) Services-** referral and support provided by Amana Wa Salama for survivors, and
- **Support for Persons with Specific Needs**: Provided by Nirvana, including targeted assistance for vulnerable individuals.

- **Information and Sensitization at the Guichet Unique:** New arrivals receive awareness sessions on the availability and free access to services in the transit center, the importance of basic relief kits, and hygiene and sanitation practices.
- **Relocation:** Since April 2023, more than 600,000 refugees have been relocated from border zones to integrated sites and host villages across Chad, and this operation remains ongoing. During the reporting week:
  - **149 households (337 individuals) refugees** were relocated from Adré to Dougui.
  - The relocation of refugees from Birak and Koulbous to Marassabré (Wadi Fira) has been temporarily suspended due to a shortage of shelters.

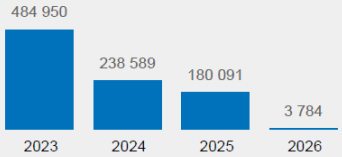
EASTERN CHAD



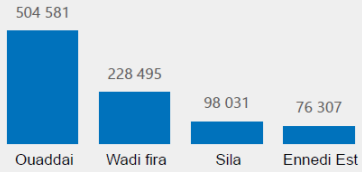
New arrival since april 2023

# Households	# Individuals
260 589	907 414

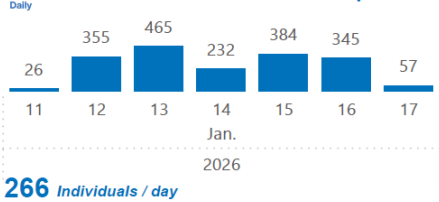
New arrivals by year



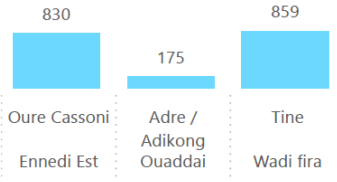
New arrivals by province



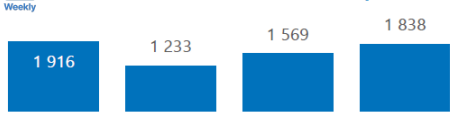
Trends in new arrivals over the part 7 days



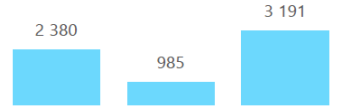
266 *Individuals / day*
7-day daily average of arrivals



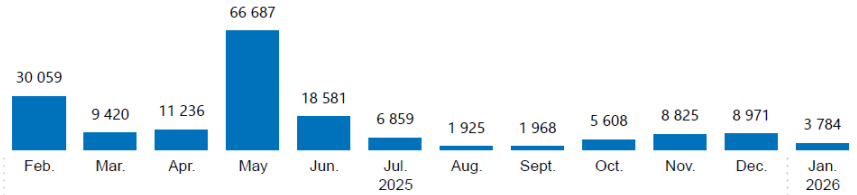
Trends in new arrivals over the past 4 weeks



1 658 *Individuals / week*
4-week weekly average of arrivals



Monthly trend of arrivals over the last 12 months



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