Egypt

Monthly Operational Update

July 2026

1,057,958 individuals

were provided with registration appointments since the outbreak of conflict in Sudan in April 2023.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Dr. Barham Salih, meets with a refugee during his visit to UNHCR Egypt's Registration Centre in Cairo. ©UNHCR/Pedro Costa Gomes

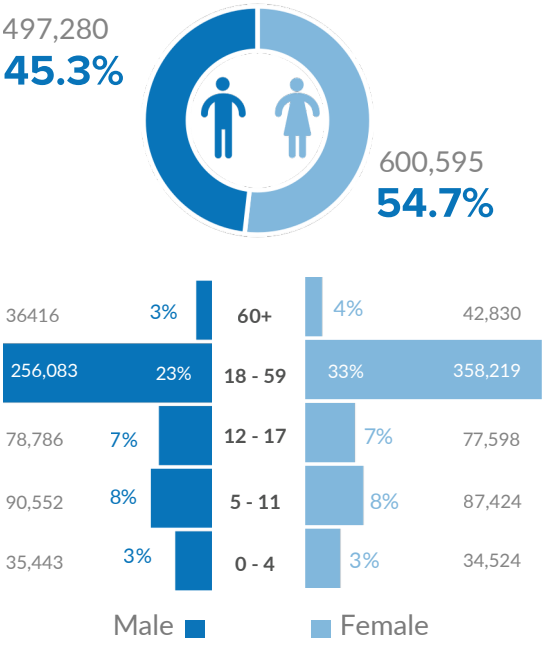
1,097,875
Registered population

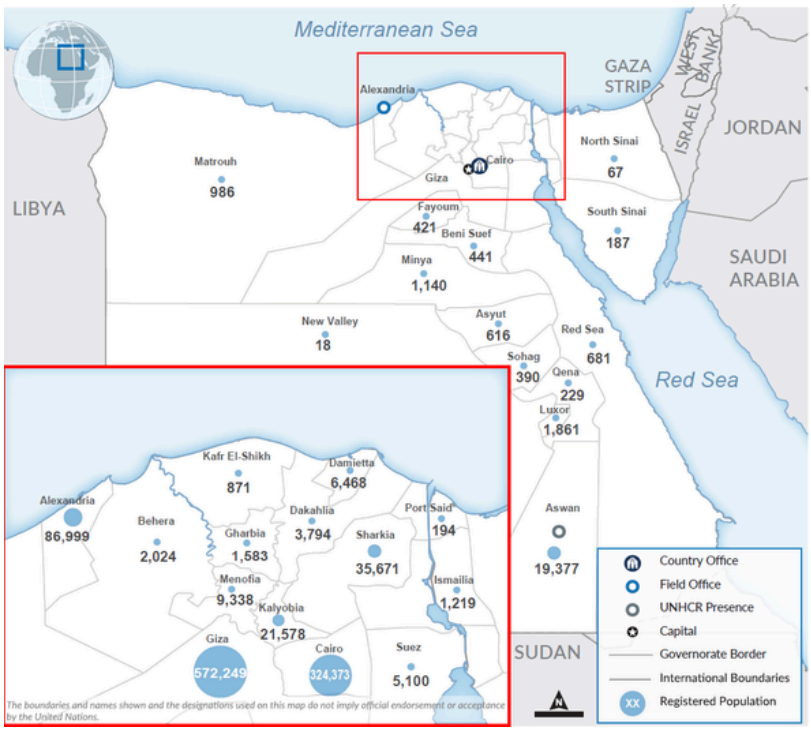
445,561
Registered households

73%
Women and children

20%
Persons with specific needs

Gender and age of registered population





LATEST DEVELOPMENTS – HIGHLIGHTS

- On 15 July, **UNHCR engaged with Egypt's Permanent Committee for Refugee Affairs to advance preparations for the implementation of the country's new asylum system.** Discussions focused on a proposed capacity-development package, including technical training, institutional strengthening, a strategic retreat, a learning management system, and a study visit to support the Committee's operational readiness. UNHCR and the Permanent Committee agreed to co-design the programme ahead of its planned implementation in September 2026, while UNHCR reiterated its appeal for sustained donor support to facilitate the transition towards a fully State-owned asylum system in Egypt.

- On 22 July, UNHCR **briefed a visiting European Parliament Subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI) delegation** on Egypt's evolving displacement context, including the continued arrivals of refugees fleeing the conflict in Sudan, developments related to Egypt's Asylum Law and Executive Regulations, registration and documentation challenges, and the impact of severe funding shortfalls. Discussions also covered refugees' and asylum-seekers' access to asylum, healthcare and education, as well as their livelihoods and self-reliance. The engagement helped raise awareness among European policymakers of the protection needs of refugees and the operational pressures facing Egypt and UNHCR.

Protection

Registration

As of 31 July 2026, the active population of refugees and asylum-seekers registered in Egypt is 1,097,875 individuals from 65 nationalities, including those who arrived in Egypt before the conflict, with the following breakdown: 851,820 Sudanese (78%), 154,133 of other nationalities (14%), and Syrians 91,922 (8%). Women and girls make up 54.7% of the registered population.

A Sudanese refugee renews her documentation at UNHCR Egypt's Registration Centre in Cairo after fleeing the conflict in Sudan with her family in 2023. © UNHCR/Basma Fathy

In July 2026, UNHCR Egypt newly registered 11,883 refugees and asylum-seekers, 80% of whom were Sudanese nationals. Smaller numbers include other nationalities (19%) and Syrians (1%).

Since the outbreak of conflict in Sudan in April 2023, UNHCR Egypt has provided registration appointments to more than 1,070,800 individuals who fled the country. Of these, approximately 868,000 people (80%) have been fully registered to receive protection and assistance. Since the fall of the former Government of Syria, Syrians have approached UNHCR to request the closure of their asylum cases which is a prerequisite before leaving Egypt to return to Syria. Between 8 December 2024 and 31 July 2026, 19,370 closure requests involving around 48,074 individuals were submitted, including on-the-spot closures.

Community-Based Protection

In July, over **10,570** refugees and asylum-seekers, including new arrivals from Sudan, received information on services, assistance, and procedures for reporting fraud and complaints from outreach community workers at UNHCR's Reception Centre in 6th of October City, Greater Cairo. In addition, over the same period, UNHCR's partner Terre des hommes (Tdh) provided on-the-spot psychosocial support to

2,852 individuals, out of whom 99 cases were referred for in-depth psycho-social assessment and another 95 fast-tracked for further urgent assistance. Additionally, UNHCR provided in-depth in-person counselling to 738 refugees and asylum seekers through the UNHCR reception.

UNHCR and its partners also strengthened community engagement, social cohesion and self-reliance through protection outreach, psychosocial activities and community-led initiatives. Activities included a joint reception at the Tdh multipurpose community centre in 6th of October City, material support to three refugee-led organizations, and a three-day protection mission to Nasr El Nuba and Daraw featuring information sessions and focus group discussions on registration and protection services.

Legal and Legal and Physical Protection (LPP)

Some **949** individuals received legal aid assistance through UNHCR and partners, concerning early and late birth registration, filing legal reports, divorce, custody, and legal representation. Additionally, **2,264** individuals received counselling on their legal needs and referred to services as appropriate. Moreover, UNHCR provided LPP case management for **545** refugees.

Child Protection

On 18 July, the Child Protection and Community-based Protection units jointly delivered a training session for members of the Arab Scouts. The training covered the role of UNHCR, the refugee context in Egypt, child protection risks, available services, and referral pathways for both children and youth. This training forms part of ongoing capacity-building efforts with national actors in Egypt to strengthen the identification and referral of children at risk. It also contributes to promoting the inclusion of refugee children in existing community-based activities and services.

Clowns Without Borders Spain brings moments of joy and laughter to refugee children during activities organized with UNHCR in Cairo. ©UNHCR/Adeeba Amiry

Infoline

In July, UNHCR Egypt's Infoline responded to 14,122 calls and 17,363 inquiries. Additionally, approximately 7,407 individuals fleeing the conflict in Sudan secured registration appointments through the Infoline.

Since the crisis began, **636,000** people have successfully been given appointments using this system. It enables refugees to access service information, receive counselling, and book registration appointments in seven languages.

Education

UNHCR and its partners continued to strengthen refugee access to education and inclusion through community outreach and mentoring activities.

In July, through the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI) supporting talented refugees to have access to tertiary education, **three** Sudanese DAFI scholars were placed in internship opportunities following their university studies to build employability skills and support their self-reliance. In the education sector, **40** Sudanese DAFI scholars participated in mentorship sessions during July. In addition, two online community engagement sessions about education services reached **65** Sudanese parents and secondary-school students, providing guidance on Egyptian university application procedures

and the DAFI scholarship programme. In parallel, three Sudanese DAFI scholars and alumni participated in a virtual information session on the Erasmus Mundus Scholarship programme.

Funding information

UNHCR is grateful for the crucial and generous contributions from its donors, who provide both earmarked and unearmarked funding to support its operations in Egypt in 2025, including for the Sudan and Syria responses.

& Private contributions from Australia, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Spain & Sweden

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