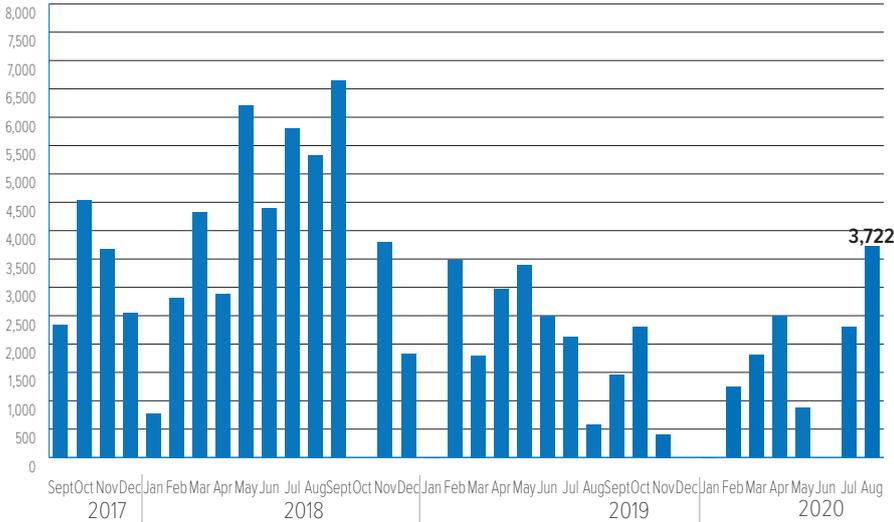


UNHCR and partners began to assist the voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees in September 2017 as a durable solution for those refugees who stated their intention to return home. After the results of the presidential and general elections of Burundi held in Mai 2020, Burundian refugees living in Rwanda and Namibia have expressed their desire to return to Burundi in a dignified and safe manner with support from UNHCR. After tripartite consultations with these countries and the establishment of frameworks to assess voluntariness of return as well as agreements for the voluntary repatriation process, facilitation of return started with Rwanda, DRC and Namibia.

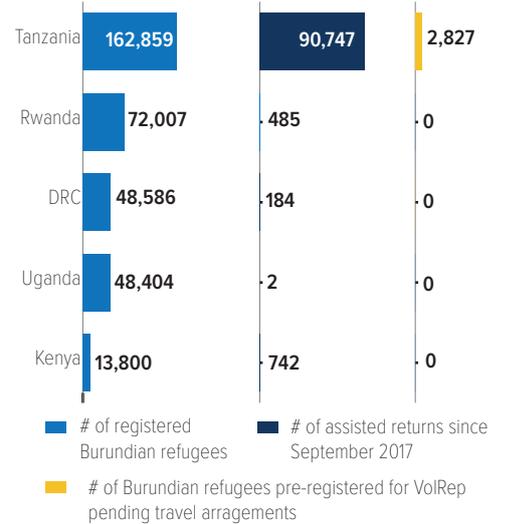
KEY FIGURES – ASSISTED REPATRIATION



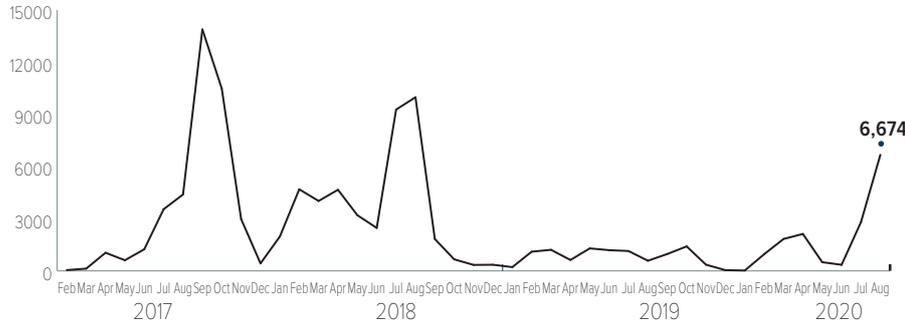
RETURN TRENDS BY MONTH SINCE SEPTEMBER 2017



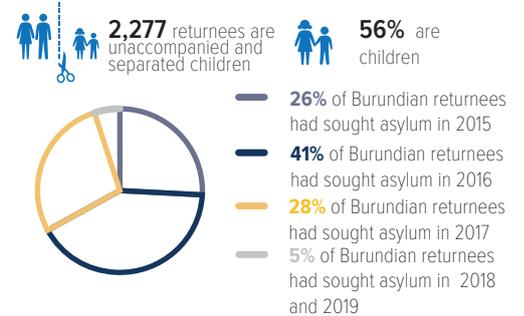
RETURNS BY COUNTRY OF ASYLUM**



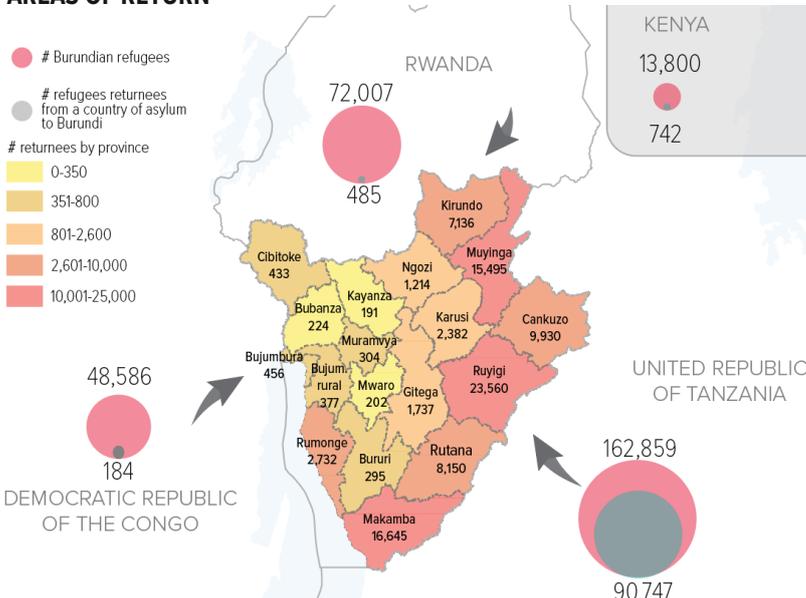
REGISTRATION FOR VOLREP IN TANZANIA 2017-2020



POPULATION PROFILE AT A GLANCE



AREAS OF RETURN***



OVERVIEW

- UNHCR and partners are providing assistance to refugees who have decided to return to Burundi so that they may do so in safety and dignity, as well as to support social cohesion and sustainable return at the community level.
- Additional funding is critically needed to ensure that returns can continue as well as to strengthen returnee monitoring and support sustainable reintegration.
- The voluntary return operations from Tanzania and Rwanda to Burundi are taking place under the framework of the Tripartite Agreements between these governments and UNHCR. All parties have agreed to ensure returns are voluntary.
- While the governments of Burundi and Tanzania have undertaken activities to facilitate refugee return. All actors in the region acknowledge the importance of refugees having the opportunity to make a free and informed choice about repatriation.
- While returnees are generally being welcomed back by the Government of Burundi and their communities of origin without incident, returnee monitoring indicates many do face a number of reintegration challenges.

* Includes assisted returns from Tanzania (90,747), Kenya (742), Rwanda (485), DRC (184), Zambia (5), Uganda (2), Cameroon (2), Gabon (1), Senegal (1) and Burkina Faso (1).

** Excludes number of refugees from Zambia, Senegal, Cameroon and Burkina Faso.

*** Excludes number of refugees from DRC, Cameroon and Burkina Faso.

RETURN MONITORING IN BURUNDI

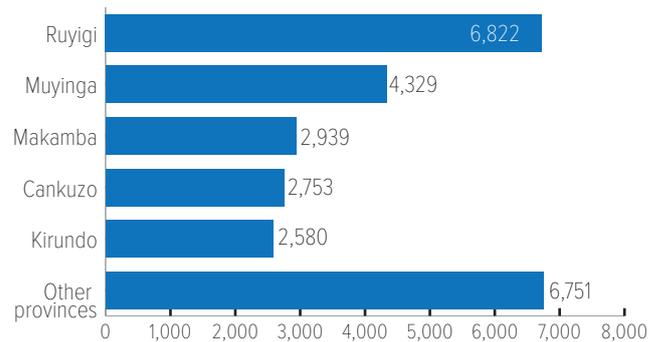
METHODOLOGY

Protection monitoring of returnees to Burundi is an essential protection activity for UNHCR and its commitment under the Tripartite Agreement. It aims to collect, process, analyse and disseminate in a systematic and regular way, the data and information on: 1) The conditions of return of assisted returnees; and 2) The level of reintegration in return areas.

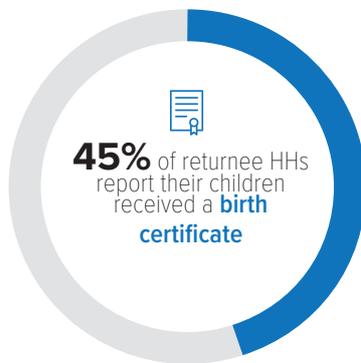
The purpose is to propose an effective protection response by area of intervention and for advocacy purposes (towards sectors of intervention, development actors, donors and government authorities). It was initially established in September 2017 after the repatriation started in Tanzania and was revised in early 2019 to better meet operational needs.

MONITORING PROGRESS

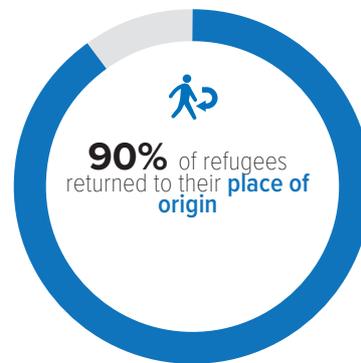
By 31 August 2020, **26,228** interviews with returnee families were conducted (see below the breakdown by province).



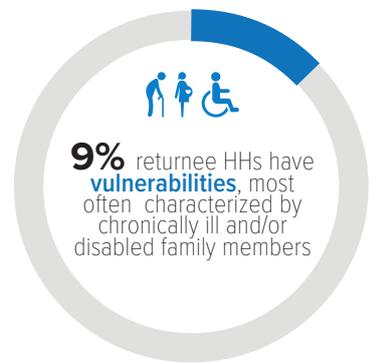
CIVIL DOCUMENTATION



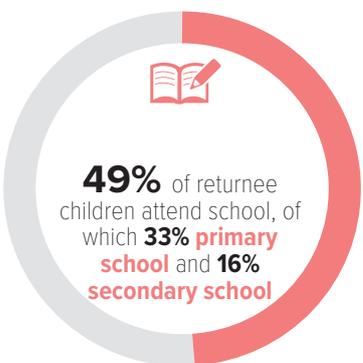
DISPLACEMENT



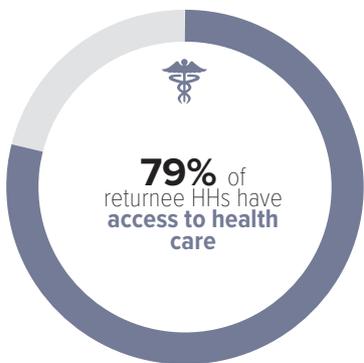
VULNERABILITY



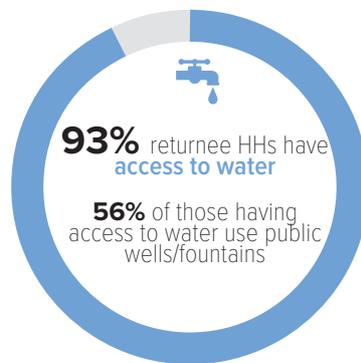
EDUCATION



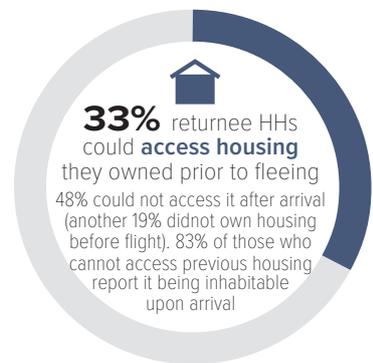
HEALTH CARE



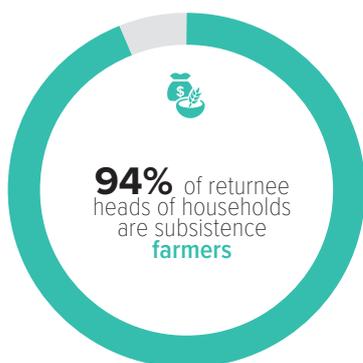
WATER



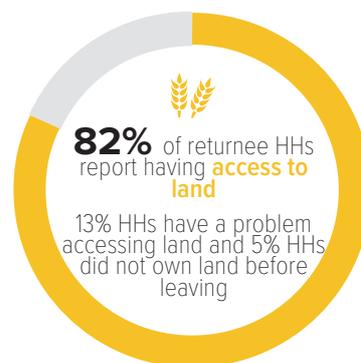
ACCESS TO HOUSING



LIVELIHOODS



ACCESS TO LAND



TOP 3 PRIORITIES IN THE USE OF CASH ASSISTANCE

All refugees who have returned with the assistance of UNHCR receive an initial return package in Burundi consisting of a cash grant, basic household supplies, and food items. Returnees report the cash grant was used for the following top priority expenses:

- 1. Household items (38%)**
- 2. Shelter (20%)**
- 3. Land rental (19%)**

For more information please contact:

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