

Fact sheets on refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced people and stateless persons

These fact sheets contain the latest data available in UNHCR's Global Trends report on the global situation of refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced people and stateless persons for the year 2020.

Once you have a good grasp of basic terminology used to designate the different categories of displaced people and understand the basics of refugee rights in the [Words matter section](#) of UNHCR Teaching About Refugees teaching materials, it will be easy to read and interpret the data in the fact sheets and to use key figures in lesson planning.

All data included in the Teaching About Refugees teaching materials is compiled and verified by UNHCR and is updated regularly to reflect the global situation of forced displacement as accurately as possible.

For more background and data, visit [UNHCR's Global Trends home page](#).

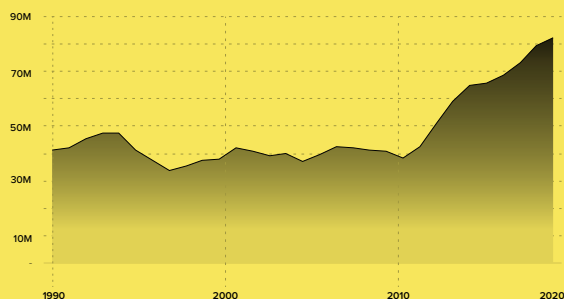
UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, protects people forced to flee their homes because of conflict and persecution. We save lives, protect rights and help build better futures.

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Trends at a Glance

82.4 MILLION

FORCIBLY DISPLACED WORLDWIDE
at the end of 2020 as a result of persecution, conflict, violence, human rights violations or events seriously disturbing public order.



26.4 million refugees

20.7 million refugees
under UNHCR's mandate

5.7 million Palestine refugees
under UNRWA's mandate

48.0 million internally displaced people¹

4.1 million asylum-seekers

3.9 million Venezuelans displaced abroad²

86%

HOSTED IN
DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES

Developing countries hosted 86 per cent of the world's refugees and Venezuelans displaced abroad. The Least Developed Countries provided asylum to 27 per cent of the total.

73%

HOSTED IN
NEIGHBOURING
COUNTRIES

73 per cent of refugees and Venezuelans displaced abroad lived in countries neighbouring their countries of origin.

3.7 MILLION

REFUGEES HOSTED
IN TURKEY

Turkey hosted nearly 3.7 million refugees, the largest population worldwide. Colombia was second with more than 1.7 million, including Venezuelans displaced abroad.

Turkey
3.7 million

Colombia
1.7 million

Pakistan
1.4 million

Uganda
1.4 million

Germany
1.2 million

1 IN 6

ARE DISPLACED

Relative to their national populations, the island of Aruba hosted the largest number of Venezuelans displaced abroad (1 in 6) while Lebanon hosted the largest number of refugees (1 in 8)³, followed by Curaçao (1 in 10), Jordan (1 in 15) and Turkey (1 in 23).⁴

Aruba
1 in 6

Lebanon
1 in 8

Curaçao
1 in 10

Jordan
1 in 15

Turkey
1 in 23

¹ Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre

² This number excludes Venezuelan asylum-seekers and refugees.

³ When the 480,000 Palestinian refugees registered with UNRWA living in Lebanon are included, this proportion increases to one in five.

⁴ In addition, Lebanon hosted 480,000 and Jordan 2.3 million Palestine refugees under UNRWA's mandate.

68%

ORIGINATED FROM JUST FIVE COUNTRIES

More than two thirds (68 per cent) of all refugees and Venezuelans displaced abroad came from just five countries:

Syrian Arab Republic

6.7 million

Venezuela⁵

4.0 million

Afghanistan

2.6 million

South Sudan

2.2 million

Myanmar

1.1 million

1

MILLION CHILDREN WERE BORN AS REFUGEES

UNHCR estimates that between 2018 and 2020, an average of between 290,000 and 340,000 children were born into a refugee life per year.

⁵ This is the number of Venezuelan refugees and Venezuelans displaced abroad.

⁶ See the [Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela R4V](#).

⁷ Sources: Estimation of IDP demographics (IDMC); Palestine refugees under UNRWA's mandate (UNRWA); Refugees, people in a refugee-like situation, asylum-seekers and Venezuelans displaced abroad are based on the available data (UNHCR) and World Population estimates (UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs).

5.4 MILLION

VENEZUELAN REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

This figure includes Venezuelan refugees, migrants and asylum-seekers reported through the Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela.⁶

1.1 MILLION

NEW CLAIMS

Asylum-seekers submitted 1.1 million new claims. The United States of America was the world's largest recipient of new individual applications (250,800), followed by Germany (102,600), Spain (88,800), France (87,700) and Peru (52,600).

SOLUTIONS

3.4 MILLION

DISPLACED PEOPLE RETURNED

3.4 million displaced people returned to their areas or countries of origin in 2020, including 3.2 million internally displaced people and 251,000 refugees.

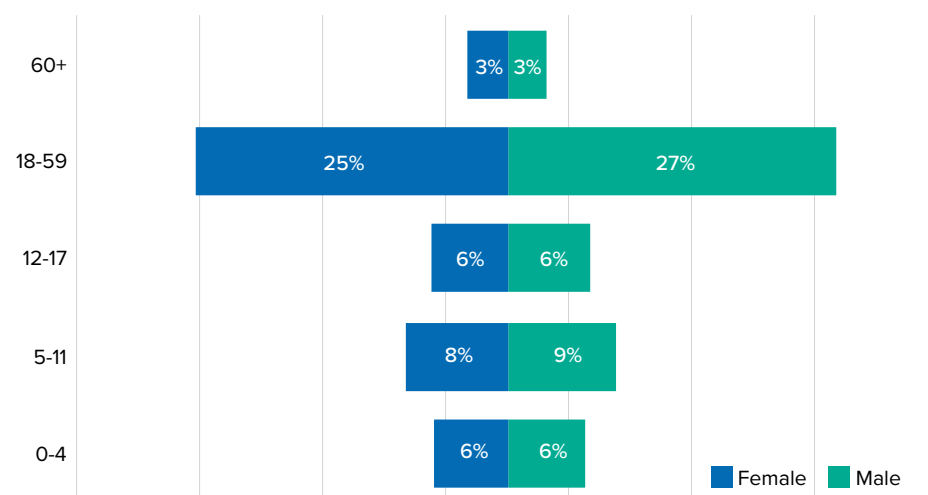
34,400

REFUGEES RESETTLED

34,400 refugees were resettled in 2020, one-third of the previous year (107,800), according to government statistics. UNHCR submitted 39,500 refugees to States for resettlement.

DEMOGRAPHICS OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN FORCIBLY DISPLACED

Children account for 30 per cent of the world's population, but 42 per cent of all forcibly displaced people.⁷



DISCLAIMER: figures do not add up to 100 per cent due to rounding