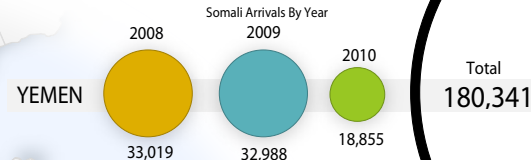
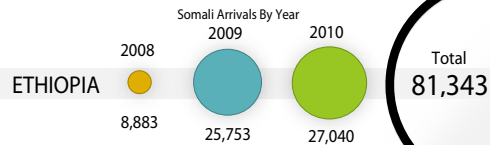
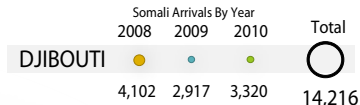
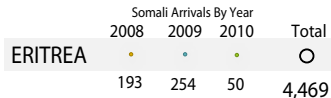


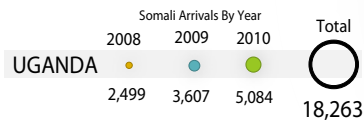
# Somali Refugees in the Region

Somalia is the one of the top three countries generating displaced people in the world, along with Afghanistan and Iraq. Some 660,000 Somalis live as refugees in countries neighboring Somalia, mainly in Kenya, Yemen, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti, Tanzania and Uganda. Almost 1.5 million Somalis are internally displaced within the country, settled mainly in the South-Central region around the capital, Mogadishu.

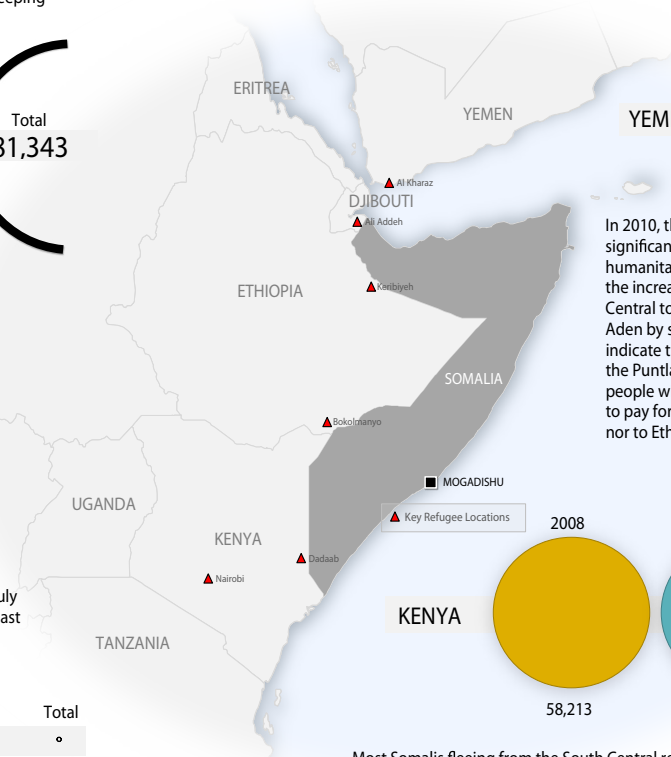
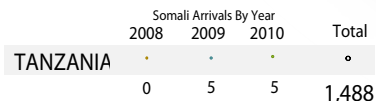
In 2010, over 100,000 Somalis fled the country to seek refuge in neighboring states and over 300,000 were internally displaced, mainly from Mogadishu, where violent fighting is still ongoing between the Transitional Government's troops, supported by the African Union Peace Keeping Mission, and anti-government armed groups



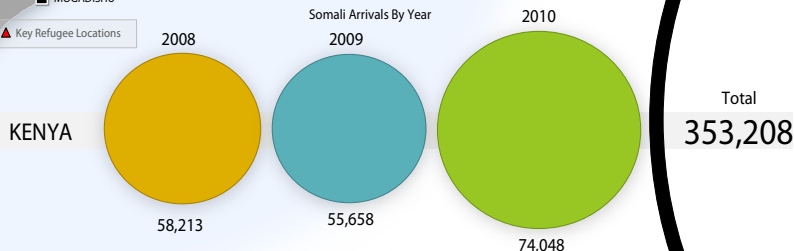
Somalia is theatre to one of the most alarming humanitarian crisis in the world today. One in five Somali children living in the South Central region is malnourished and one in seven children die before the age of five. Because of the fighting and insecurity in many parts of the country, humanitarian agencies have limited access to the areas where the overwhelming majority of the needy population is settled.



An increase in the number of new arrivals from Somalia was registered in Uganda. After Al Shabab's attacks in Kampala in July 2010, Somali refugees living in Uganda and, in general, in the East African Region, face increased problems of discrimination and xenophobia.



In 2010, the number of Somalis fleeing to Yemen decreased significantly. This is not a reflection of an improvement of the humanitarian situation in Somalia, but rather an indicator of the increasing challenges faced by the Somalis from South Central to travel through Puntland and then cross the Gulf of Aden by smugglers' boats. Reports from partners in the field indicate that, in addition to stricter measures implemented by the Puntland Government to crack down on smuggling, the people who remain in Mogadishu may lack the means to pay for the long journeys to Bossaso and then to Yemen, nor to Ethiopia.



Most Somalis fleeing from the South Central region choose the Southern route to Kenya. Arrivals in Kenya have further increased, compared to 2009. The overcrowding in Dadaab refugee camp, which was initially designed to host only 90,000 refugees and currently hosts over 300,000 of them, is still a huge challenge. Fortunately to have managed to cross an international border and seek international protection in Kenya, the Somali refugees in Dadaab still struggle to access basic services.