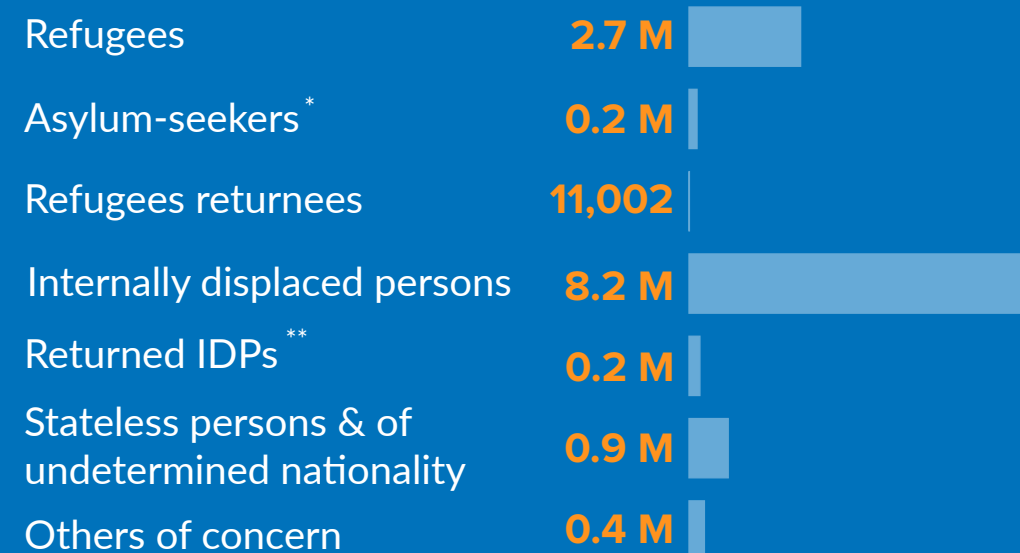


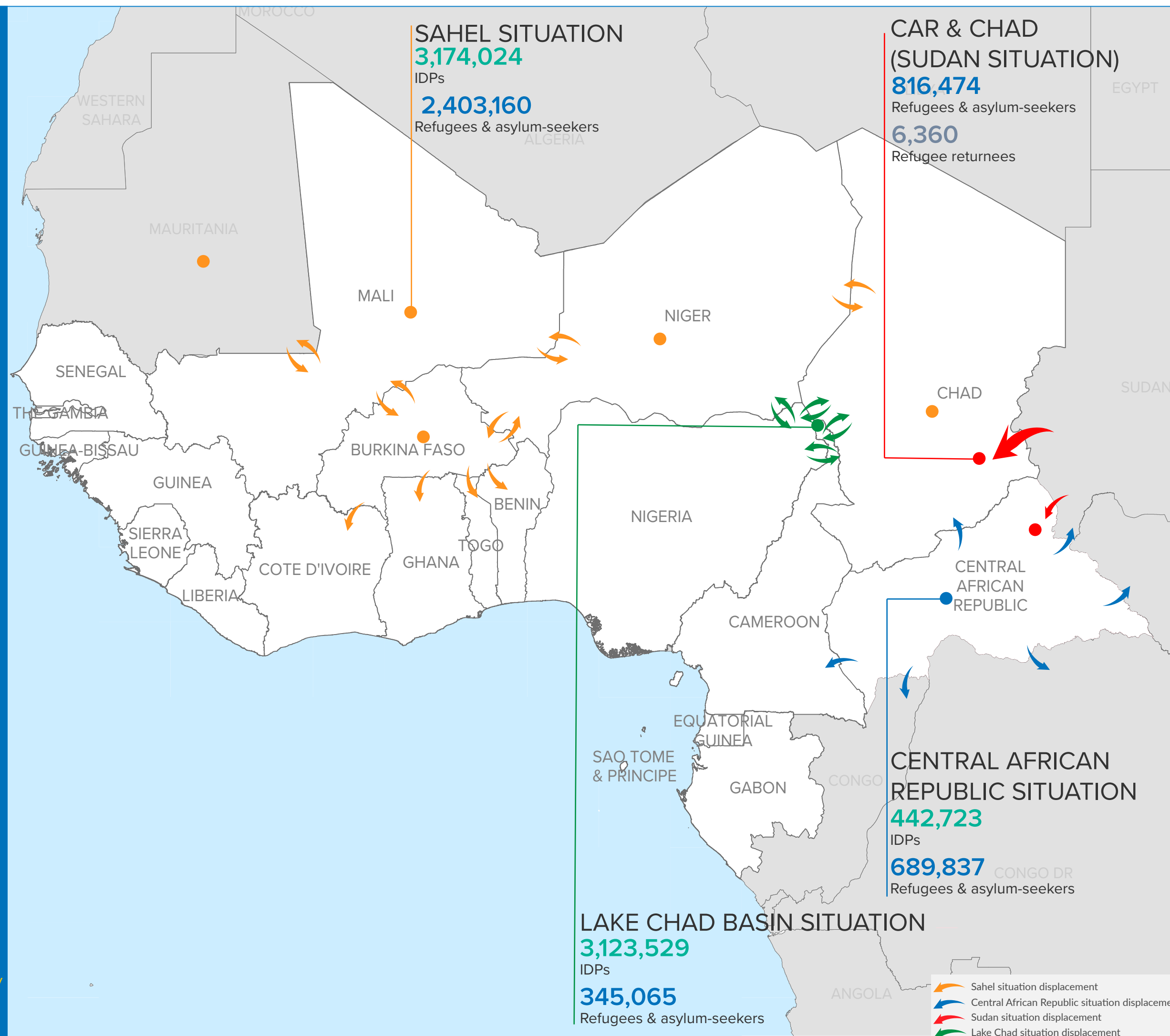
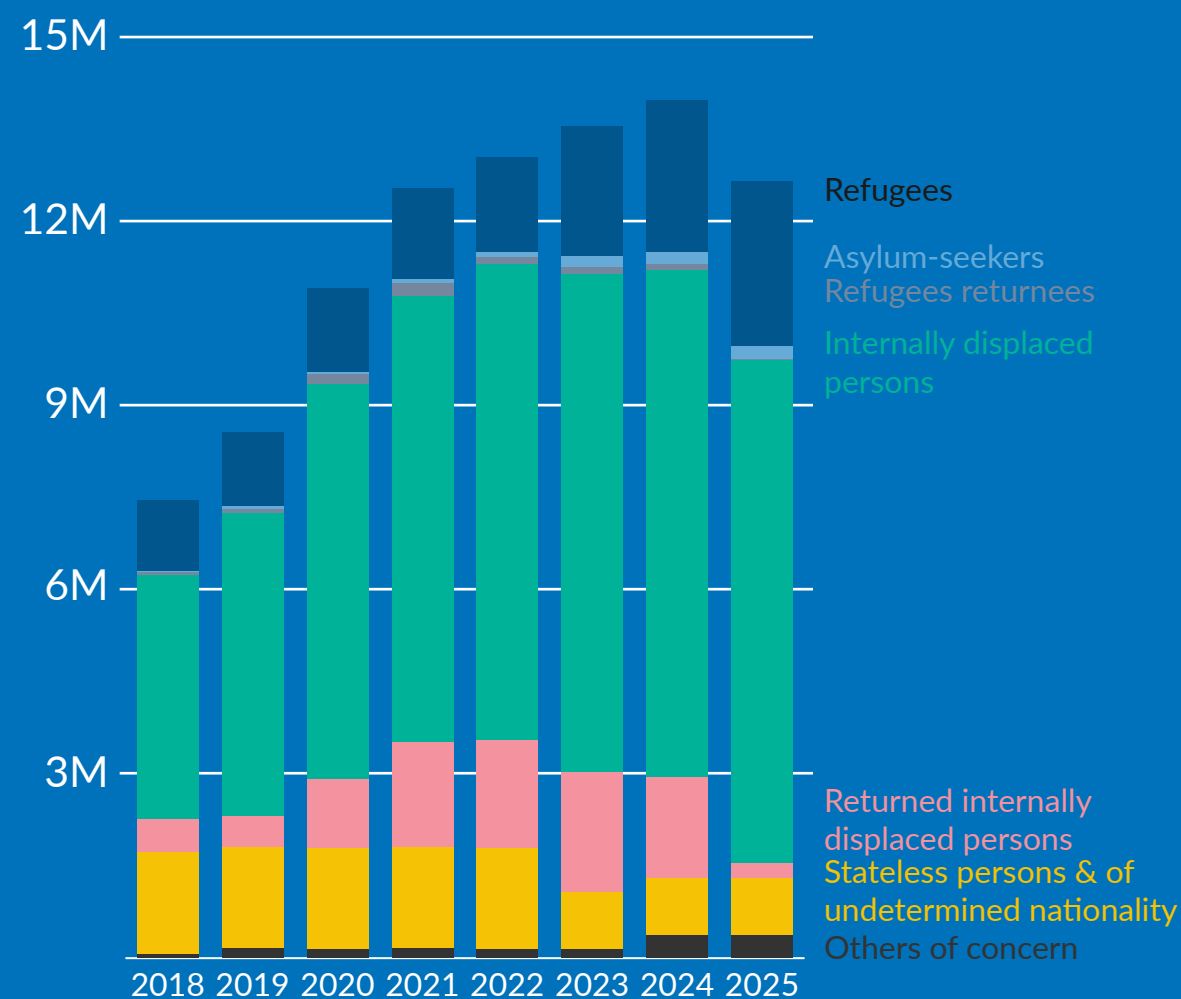
12.7 MILLION

FORCIBLY DISPLACED AND STATELESS PERSONS

The decrease is due to an update of data collected in 2025 on IDP returnees.



Populations trends 2018 - 2025



12.7 MILLION
FORCIBLY DISPLACED &
STATELESS PERSONS

UNHCR protects and assists forcibly displaced and stateless persons across the West and Central African region, including refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugee and IDP returnees, stateless and of undetermined nationality persons. Protection and assistance are extended to additional groups, based on humanitarian and other special grounds.

2.9 MILLION
REFUGEES & ASYLUM-SEEKERS

11K REFUGEES RETURNED
in 2025

8.2 MILLION
INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

0.2 MILLION
RETURNED INTERNALLY DISPLACED

0.9 MILLION STATELESS & OF
UNDETERMINED NATIONALITY

0.4 MILLION
OTHERS OF CONCERN

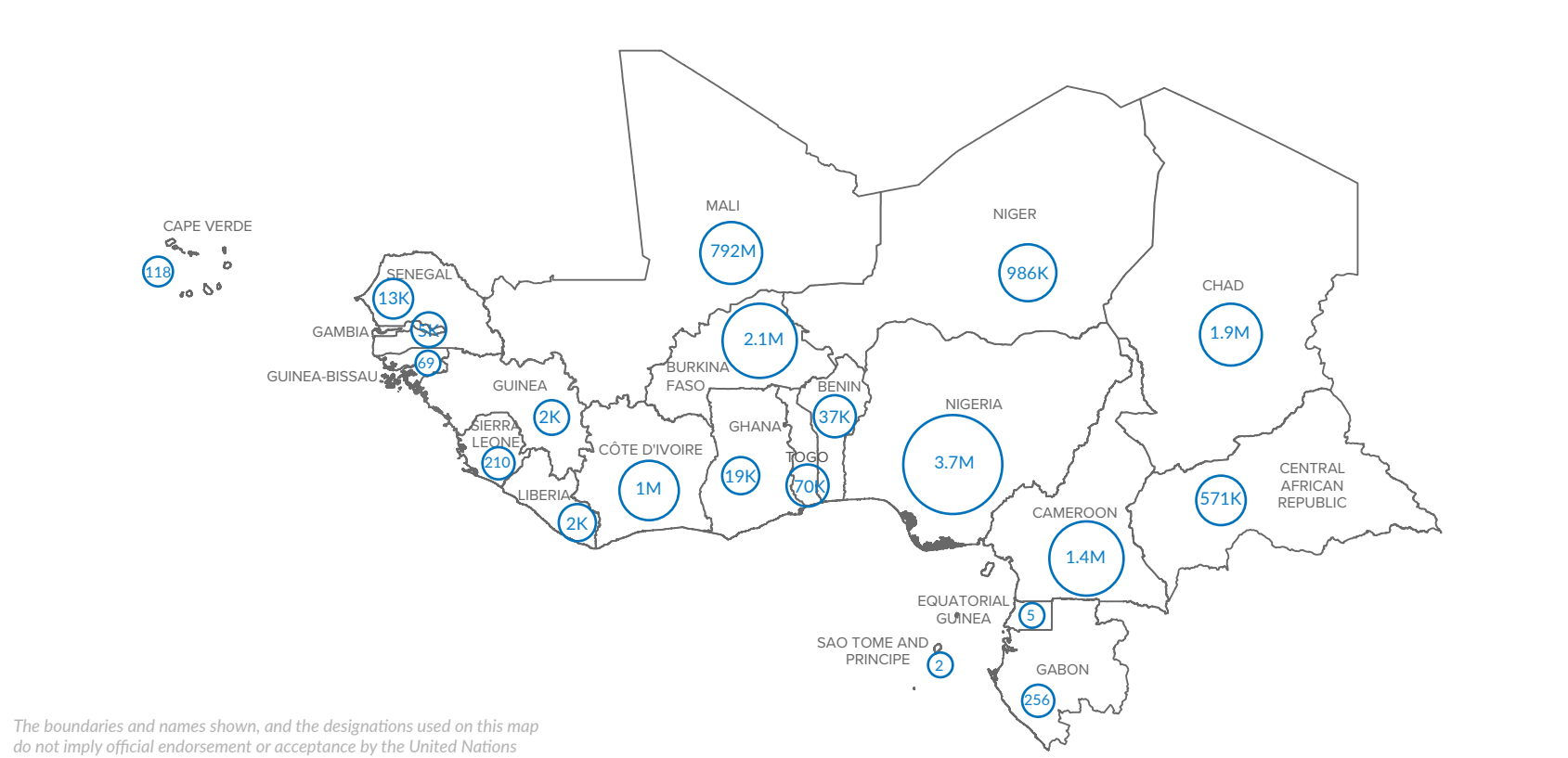
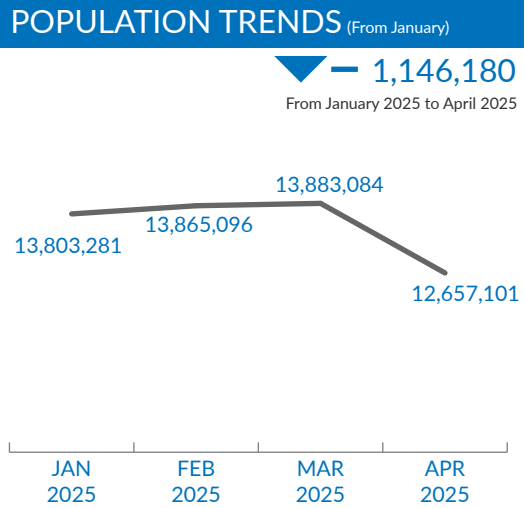
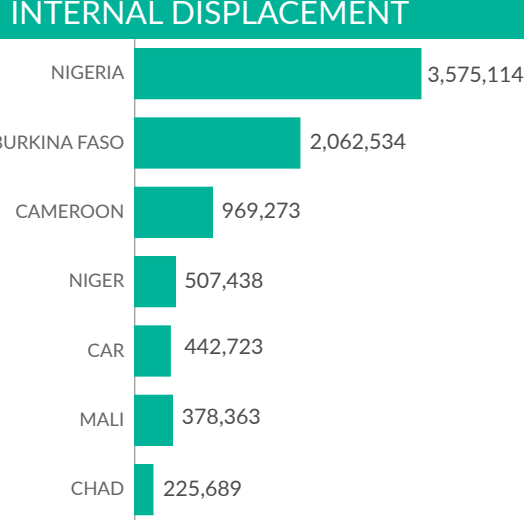
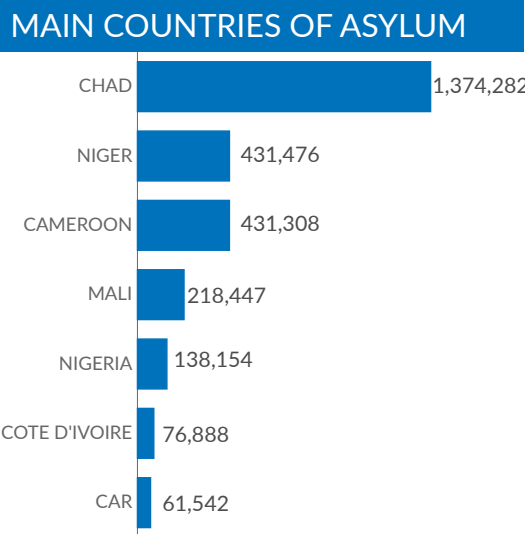
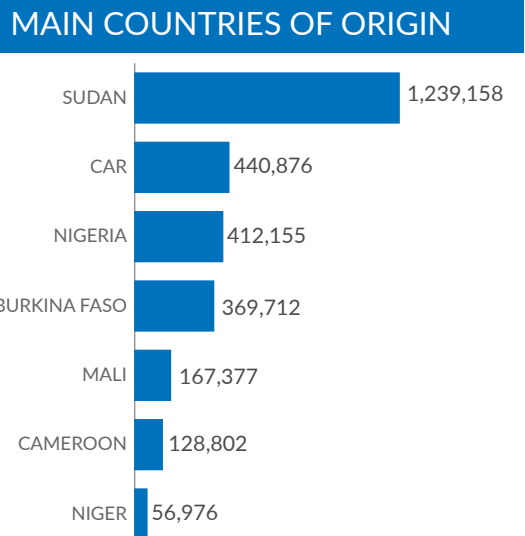
The current number of **2.9** million refugees and asylum seekers represents a significant increase of **13%** from the number reported at the same period in 2024, mainly as a result of the ongoing crisis in Sudan and the deteriorating security situation in the Sahel, which has led thousands of persons to leave their country in search for safety and protection.

The largest hosting refugee country in the region is Chad with **47%** of the total population, followed by Cameroon with **15%**. Sudan, the Central African Republic (CAR), and Nigeria are the main countries of origin, together accounting for **72%** of the region's refugee population.

The unregistered population is around **631,321** refugees and asylum-seekers in the region.

Internally displaced persons represent the vast majority of the forcibly displaced population in the West and Central Africa region. Nigeria, Burkina Faso and Cameroon respectively host **44%**, **25%** and **12%** of the total IDP population.

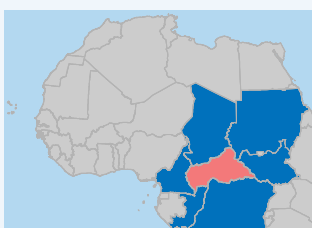
West Africa hosts over **931,073** persons who are stateless or of undetermined nationality, reported mainly in Côte d'Ivoire and Cabo Verde. Millions of people are reported to be at risk of statelessness across the region.



	REFUGEES	ASYLUM SEEKERS	REF. RETURNEEs	IDPs	RETURNED IDP	STATELESS	OTHERS	TOTAL
BENIN	16,232	11,622		8,785				36,639
BURKINA FASO	40,178	1,460		2,062,534				2,104,172
CAMEROON	413,098	18,210		969,273			846	1,401,427
CAPE VERDE		3				115		118
CAR	53,235	8,307	2,123	442,723	64,766			571,154
CHAD	1,366,355	7,927		225,689			317,510***	1,917,481
COTE D'IVOIRE	2,376	74,512				930,958	94	1,007,940
GABON	170	77					9	256
GAMBIA	4,053	482						4,535
GHANA	18,146	7,597						25,743
GUINEA	2,174	176						2,350
GUINEA BISSAU	32	37						69
GUINEA EQUATORIAL	4	1						5
LIBERIA	1,172	691						1,863
MALI	218,147	300	518	378,363	194,236			791,564
NIGER	389,982	41,494		507,438			47,264	986,312
NIGERIA	96,660	41,494	8,361	3,575,114				3,721,629
SAO TOME & PRINCIPE		2						2
SENEGAL	11,880	1,475						13,355
SIERRA LEONE							210	210
TOGO	51,287	8,819		10,171				70,277
GRAND TOTAL	2,685,181	224,820	11,002	8,180,090	259,002**	931,073	365,933	12,657,101

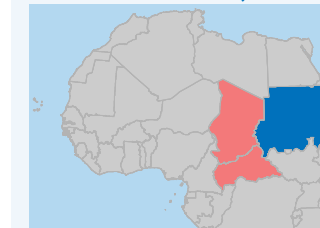
MAJOR AREAS OF DISPLACEMENT

CAR SITUATION



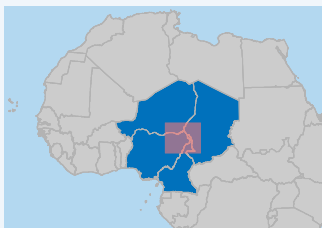
689,837 REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS
442,723 INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

CAR & CHAD (SUDAN SITUATION)



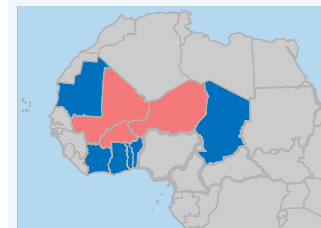
816,474 REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS
6,360 REFUGEE RETURNEEs

LAKE CHAD BASIN



345,065 REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS
3,123,529 INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

SAHEL SITUATION



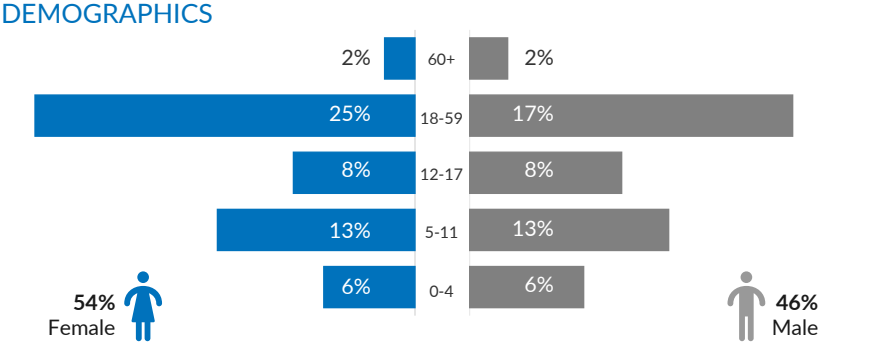
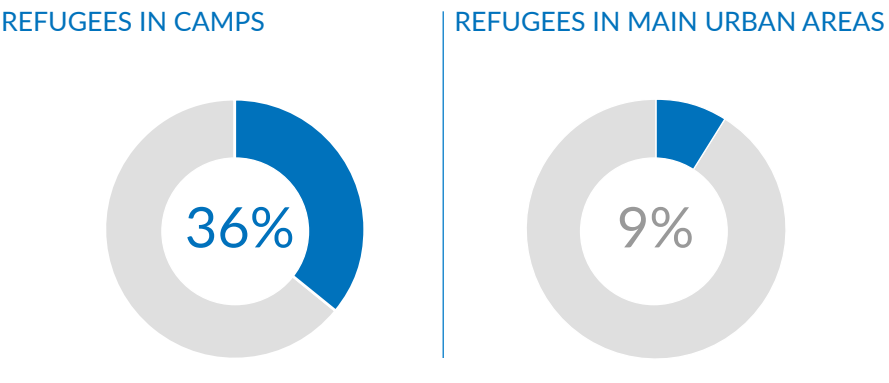
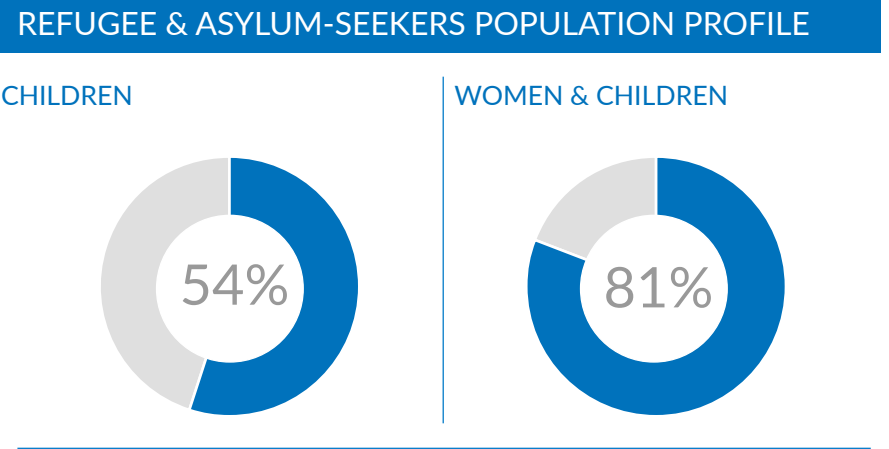
2,403,160 REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS
3,174,024 INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

The figures reported reflect the number of refugees from the Central African Republic in neighbouring countries (Cameroon, Chad, Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, and South Sudan) and of the IDPs within the Central African Republic.

The figures reported reflect the number of Sudanese refugees and asylum-seekers that arrived in the CAR and in Chad since the beginning of the current crisis in Sudan, in April 2023.

The figures reported reflect the total number of IDPs and refugees in the Lake Chad Basin area, across Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria.

The figures reported reflect the number of IDPs in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and Niger, as well as refugees dispersed throughout the Sahel region. They also include the number of refugees from the Central Sahel (Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger) and in the neighbouring coastal countries of Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Togo.



* The number of refugees returnees is cumulative from January 2025 to current month
** The number of returned IDPs is cumulative from January 2025 to date for the Central African Republic (CAR), and covers the past three years for Mali. Figures for returned IDPs in Cameroon are excluded this month due to data unavailability.
*** The number of Others of concern in CHAD is the returned from abroad (Niger, CAR and Sudan), at risk of statelessness

Creation date: 15.05.2025, Sources: Geographic data: UNCS. Population statistics: UNHCR Monthly Statistical Reports or latest available, IDP statistics from OCHA, IOM. Statistics should be considered provisional and subject to change. For more information, please contact UNHCR RBWCA DIMA <rbwcadima@unhcr.org>