

# Package ‘refugees’

June 25, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** UNHCR Refugee Population Statistics Database

**Version** 2025.12.1

**Description** The Refugee Population Statistics Database published by The Office of The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) contains information about forcibly displaced populations spanning more than 70 years of statistical activities. It covers displaced populations such as refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced people, including their demographics. Stateless people are also included, most of who have never been displaced. The database also reflects the different types of solutions for displaced populations such as repatriation or resettlement. More information on the data and methodology can be found on the UNHCR Refugee Data Finder <<https://www.unhcr.org/refugee-statistics/>>.

**URL** <https://populationstatistics.github.io/refugees/>,  
<https://github.com/PopulationStatistics/refugees>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/PopulationStatistics/refugees/issues>

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**LazyData** true

**LazyDataCompression** xz

**Depends** R (>= 3.5)

**Imports** tibble (>= 3.2.0)

**Suggests** testthat (>= 3.1.0)

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.3

**Encoding** UTF-8

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**NeedsCompilation** no

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## Contents

asylum_applications . . . . .	2
asylum_decisions . . . . .	3
countries . . . . .	4
demographics . . . . .	5
flows . . . . .	6
idmc . . . . .	7
population . . . . .	8
solutions . . . . .	9
unrwa . . . . .	10

**Index** **12**

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asylum\_applications    *Asylum Applications*

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## Description

Asylum claims submitted by year and countries of asylum and origin. Claims are submitted by asylum applicants and are applications for international protection.

## Usage

asylum\_applications

## Format

A tibble.

**year** The year (e.g. 2020).

**coo\_name** Country of origin name.

**coo** Country of origin UNHCR code.

**coo\_iso** Country of origin ISO code.

**coa\_name** Country of asylum name.

**coa** Country of asylum UNHCR code.

**coa\_iso** Country of asylum ISO code.

**procedure\_type** The procedure type describes the authority with whom the asylum claim was lodged. It can be one of: G – Government, J - Joint, U – UNHCR.

**app\_type** The application type describes the stage of the procedure. Common values are N (New), R (Repeat) and A (Appeal).

**dec\_level** The decision level provides more detail of the stage of the procedure. Common values are NA (New applications), RA (repeat/reopened applications) and AR (administrative review).

**app\_pc** The data type describes whether the data provided reflects cases or persons. The most common situation is for the data on asylum applications lodged to reflect persons, but in certain situations (e.g USA), the data provided by governments is at the level of cases. A case can contain information on one or more persons.

**applied** The total number of asylum claims for the given dataset.

## Details

See the notes on the data structure in the [methodology pages](#) for more details.

## Source

[UNHCR Refugee Data Finder](#).

## Examples

asylum\_applications

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asylum_decisions	<i>Asylum Decisions</i>
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## Description

Decisions taken on asylum claims by year and countries of asylum and origin. Asylum claims are applications for international protection and decisions on asylum claims can be positive, negative or otherwise closed.

## Usage

asylum\_decisions

## Format

A tibble.

**year** The year (e.g. 2020).

**coo\_name** Country of origin name.

**coo** Country of origin UNHCR code.

**coo\_iso** Country of origin ISO code.

**coa\_name** Country of asylum name.

**coa** Country of asylum UNHCR code.

**coa\_iso** Country of asylum ISO code.

**procedure\_type** The procedure type describes the authority with whom the asylum claim was lodged. It can be one of: G – Government, J - Joint, U – UNHCR.

**dec\_level** The decision level provides more detail of the stage of the procedure. Common values are NA (New applications), RA (repeat/reopened applications) and AR (administrative review).

**dec\_pc** The data type describes whether the data provided reflects cases or persons. The most common situation is for the data on asylum applications lodged to reflect persons, but in certain situations (e.g USA), the data provided by governments is at the level of cases. A case can contain information on one or more persons.

**dec\_recognized** The number of asylum applicants recognised as refugees under UNHCR's mandate.

**dec\_other** The number of asylum applicants recognised as refugees under other forms of complementary protection.

**dec\_rejected** The number of asylum applicants whose asylum claims have been rejected.

**dec\_closed** The number of asylum applicants whose asylum claims have been otherwise closed.

**dec\_total** The total number of asylum applicants for which a decision on their asylum claim has been made in the given reference period.

### Details

See the notes on the data structure in the [methodology pages](#) for more details.

### Source

[UNHCR Refugee Data Finder](#).

### Examples

asylum\_decisions

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countries

*Countries*

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### Description

Country codes, names, UN major areas and UNHCR regional bureaux/operations.

### Usage

countries

### Format

A tibble.

**iso\_code** ISO3 Country code.

**unhcr\_code** UNHCR Country code.

**name** UNSD Name.

**unhcr\_region** UNHCR Region name.

**unsd\_region** UNSD Region name.  
**unsd\_subregion** UNSD Sub-region name.  
**unsd\_imregion** SDG Region name.  
**sdg\_region** SDG Region name.

### Source

[UNHCR Refugee Data Finder](#).

### Examples

countries

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demographics	<i>Demographics</i>
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### Description

Demographic and sub-national data, where such disaggregation is available. UNHCR collects this information for all population types, as well as two durable solutions (returned IDPs and refugees). Demographics are also available for IDMC and UNRWA datasets.

### Usage

demographics

### Format

A tibble.

**year** The year (e.g. 2020).

**coo\_name** Country of origin name.

**coo** Country of origin UNHCR code.

**coo\_iso** Country of origin ISO code.

**coa\_name** Country of asylum name.

**coa** Country of asylum UNHCR code.

**coa\_iso** Country of asylum ISO code.

**pop\_type** The three character code specifying the population type (e.g. REF for refugees, ASY for asylum-seekers etc).

**location** The textual description of the location.

**loc\_type** An indication of whether the location is urban or rural. An urban location is classified as a settlement with more than 5,000 inhabitants. It can be one of the following values: C – Camp. Note that C was discontinued after 2010, at which point the accommodation type became available, U – Urban, R – Rural, V - Various/unknown

**acc\_type** Accommodation Type became available in 2010 but is only populated from 2012. The code represents one of: I - Individual accommodation, S - Self-settled camp, P - Planned/managed camp, C - Collective centre, R - Reception/transit camp, U - Undefined

**f\_0\_4** The number of female children aged 0 to 4 inclusive.

**f\_5\_11** The number of female children aged 5 to 11 inclusive.

**f\_12\_17** The number of female children aged 12 to 17 inclusive.

**f\_18\_59** The number of female adults aged 18 to 59 inclusive.

**f\_60** The number of female adults aged 60 or more.

**f\_other** The number of females for whom age disaggregation is unavailable.

**f\_total** The total number of females (where disaggregation by sex is available).

**m\_0\_4** The number of male children aged 0 to 4 inclusive.

**m\_5\_11** The number of male children aged 5 to 11 inclusive.

**m\_12\_17** The number of male children aged 12 to 17 inclusive.

**m\_18\_59** The number of male adults aged 18 to 59 inclusive.

**m\_60** The number of male adults aged 60 or more.

**m\_other** The number of males for whom age disaggregation is unavailable.

**m\_total** The total number of males (where disaggregation by sex is available).

**total** The total number of persons.

### Details

See the notes on the data structure in the [methodology pages](#) for more details.

### Source

[UNHCR Refugee Data Finder](#).

### Examples

demographics

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flows

*Forced displacement flow dataset*

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### Description

UNHCR has published a new dataset recording the number of people forced to flee during each of the years since 1962. This dataset presents the forced displacement flows.

### Usage

flows

**Format**

A tibble.

**year** The year (e.g. 2020).

**coo\_name** Country of origin name.

**coo** Country of origin UNHCR code.

**coo\_iso** Country of origin ISO code.

**coa\_name** Country of asylum name.

**coa** Country of asylum UNHCR code.

**coa\_iso** Country of asylum ISO code.

**refugees** Refugee Arrivals: includes prima facie (group recognition) refugees and those who have received temporary protection. The first available data for this group is for 1962. People in refugee-like situations are also included from 2007.

**asylum\_seekers** New Asylum Applications: are new asylum applications registered during each year. Repeat and appeal applications have been excluded. The first year that published data for this population group became available is 1970 and only for a limited number of high-income countries, with data from more countries available from 2000.

**returned\_refugees** Refugees who have returned home within the previous year.

**oip** Other people in need of international protection: includes just the new arrivals of this population group, first reported in 2018.

**Details**

See the notes on the curation process in the [Data Insights](#) for more details.

**Source**

[UNHCR Refugee Data Finder](#).

**Examples**

flows

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idmc

*IDMC Data*

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**Description**

Data on Internally displaced persons due to conflict and violence that is produced by the [Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre](#).

**Usage**

idmc

**Format**

A tibble.

**year** The year (e.g. 2020).

**coo\_name** Country of origin name.

**coo** Country of origin UNHCR code.

**coo\_iso** Country of origin ISO code.

**coa\_name** Country of asylum name.

**coa** Country of asylum UNHCR code.

**coa\_iso** Country of asylum ISO code.

**total** The total number of internally displaced persons due to conflict and violence.

**Details**

See the notes on the data structure in the [methodology pages](#) for more details.

**Source**

[UNHCR Refugee Data Finder](#).

**Examples**

idmc

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population

*Population figures*

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**Description**

UNHCR data on displacement at the end of the year.

**Usage**

population

**Format**

A tibble.

**year** The year (e.g. 2020).

**coo\_name** Country of origin name.

**coo** Country of origin UNHCR code.

**coo\_iso** Country of origin ISO code.

**coa\_name** Country of asylum name.

**coa** Country of asylum UNHCR code.  
**coa\_iso** Country of asylum ISO code.  
**refugees** The number of refugees.  
**asylum\_seekers** The number of asylum-seekers.  
**returned\_refugees** The number of returned refugees.  
**idps** The number of internally displaced persons.  
**returned\_idps** The number of returned internally displaced persons.  
**stateless** The number of stateless persons.  
**ooc** The number of others of concern to UNHCR.  
**oip** The number of other people in need of international protection.  
**hst** The number of host community members.

### Details

See the notes on the data structure in the [methodology pages](#) for more details.

### Source

[UNHCR Refugee Data Finder](#).

### Examples

population

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solutions

*Solutions*

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### Description

Data on solutions record those refugees and IDPs that have availed a durable solution.

### Usage

solutions

### Format

A tibble.

**year** The year (e.g. 2020).  
**coo\_name** Country of origin name.  
**coo** Country of origin UNHCR code.  
**coo\_iso** Country of origin ISO code.  
**coa\_name** Country of asylum name.

**coa** Country of asylum UNHCR code.

**coa\_iso** Country of asylum ISO code.

**returned\_refugees** The number of refugee returnees.

**resettlement** The number of resettlement arrivals.

**naturalisation** The number of refugees that have naturalised.

**returned\_idps** The number of IDP returnees.

### Details

See the notes on the data structure in the [methodology pages](#) for more details.

### Source

[UNHCR Refugee Data Finder](#).

### Examples

solutions

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unrwa

*UNRWA data*

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### Description

Data on Palestine refugees registered under **UNRWA**'s mandate.

### Usage

unrwa

### Format

A tibble.

**year** The year (e.g. 2020).

**coo\_name** Country of origin name.

**coo** Country of origin UNHCR code.

**coo\_iso** Country of origin ISO code.

**coa\_name** Country of asylum name.

**coa** Country of asylum UNHCR code.

**coa\_iso** Country of asylum ISO code.

**total** The total number of Palestine refugees registered under UNRWA's mandate.

### Details

See the notes on the data structure in the [methodology pages](#) for more details.

*unrwa*

11

**Source**

[UNHCR Refugee Data Finder.](#)

**Examples**

*unrwa*

# Index

## \* datasets

- asylum\_applications, [2](#)
- asylum\_decisions, [3](#)
- countries, [4](#)
- demographics, [5](#)
- flows, [6](#)
- idmc, [7](#)
- population, [8](#)
- solutions, [9](#)
- unrwa, [10](#)

- asylum\_applications, [2](#)
- asylum\_decisions, [3](#)

- countries, [4](#)

- demographics, [5](#)

- flows, [6](#)

- idmc, [7](#)

- population, [8](#)

- solutions, [9](#)

- unrwa, [10](#)