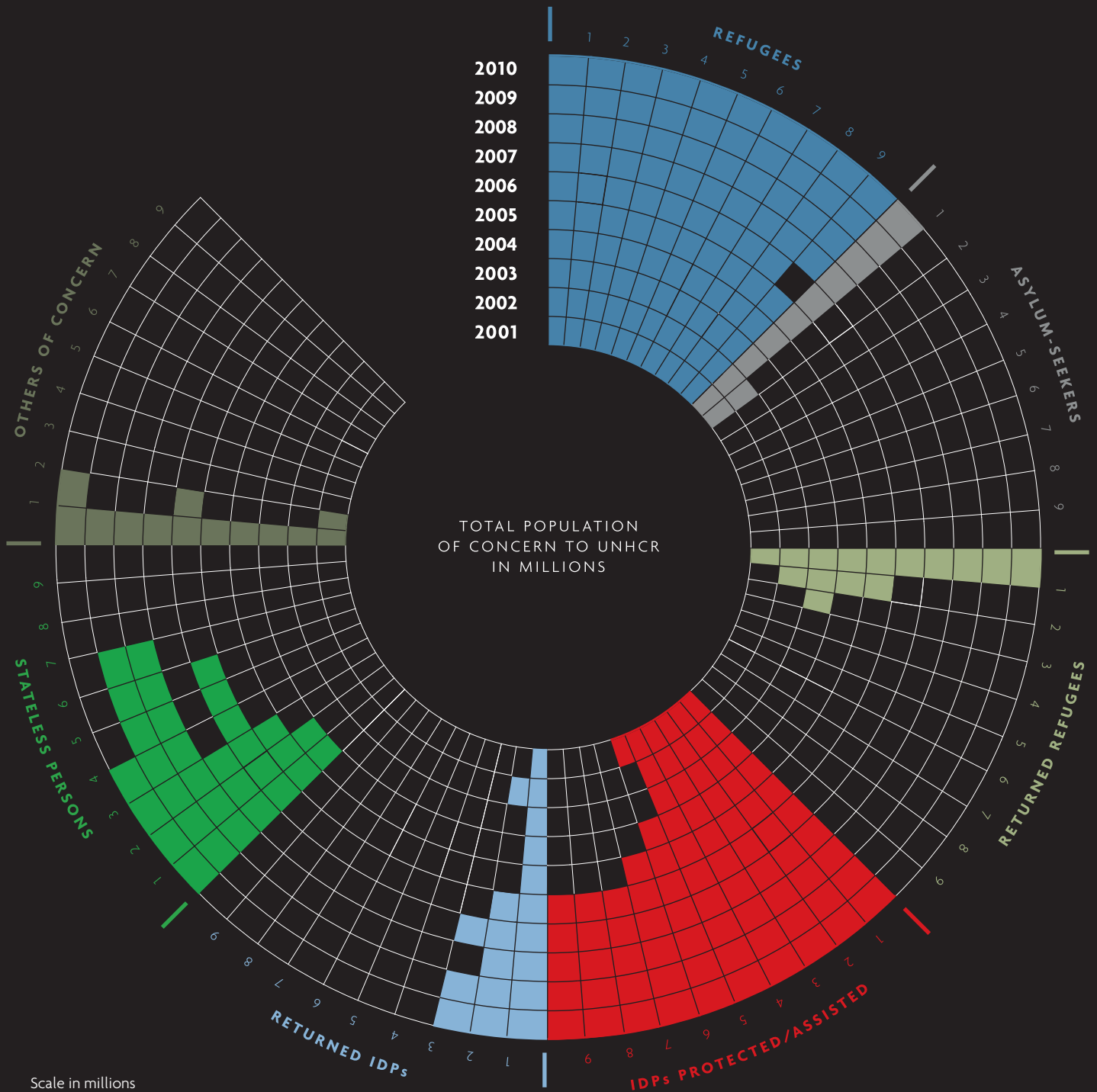
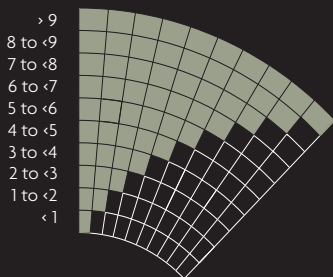


# TEN YEARS OF STATISTICS



Scale in millions



Note: See Table 23 for numbers.



# Table of Content

Main findings	6
Introduction	10

## GLOBAL ANALYSIS

### Chapter I

#### Sources, Methods and Data Considerations

Definitions and scope	15
Sources of refugee data	16
Data collection methods	17
Other data quality issues	19

### Chapter II

#### Population Levels and Trends

Overview of global trends	21
Refugees	24
Regions and countries of asylum	24
Capacities and contributions of host countries	26
Origins	26
Asylum-seekers	28
Internally displaced persons	28
Stateless persons	29
Returnees (refugees and IDPs)	30
Other groups or people of concern	30
<i>In focus: Identifying stateless persons: case studies Serbia and Myanmar</i>	30

### Chapter III

#### Durable Solutions and New Displacements

Durable solutions	37
Voluntary repatriation	37
Resettlement	38
Local integration	39
New displacements	39

## Chapter IV

### Asylum and Refugee Status Determination

Responsibility for refugee status determination	41
Global trends	42
Applications	42
Decisions	44
<i>In focus: Staffing UNHCR's RSD operations</i>	44

## Chapter V

### Demographic Characteristics and Types of Location

Sex and age	47
Types of location	49
<i>In focus: refugee girl's education in the East and Horn of Africa</i>	49

## Chapter VI

### Data Collection to Inform Protection: Case Studies

A. Public health trends	53
Background	53
Nutrition: levels and trends	54
Global acute malnutrition	54
Anaemia	55
HIV/AIDS	55
Malaria	56
B. Needs assessment survey of IDPs in Serbia	57
Background	57
Methodology	57
Challenges	58
Key findings	58
Policy implications	59
C. Challenges facing a young refugee population in the East and Horn of Africa	59
Background	59
Implications of the child and youth bulge	59
Education	59
Vocational skills and other targeted programmes	60
Official documentation	60
Conclusions	60



## Boxes

1. Improving data management in UNHCR 18
2. Most refugees flee to neighbouring countries 24
3. Protracted refugee situations 25
4. Who is an asylum-seeker? 41
5. Unaccompanied and separated children seeking asylum 45

## Maps

1. Total population of concern to UNHCR by category, end-2010 22
2. Major source countries of refugees, end-2010 27
3. IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR, end-2010 28
4. Country of origin of new asylum-seekers in 2010 43
5. Percentage of refugee women, end-2010 48

## ANNEX

1. Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons, returnees, stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by country/territory of asylum/residence, end-2010 62
2. Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons, returnees, stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR by origin, end-2010 66
3. Refugee population and people in refugee-like situations, excluding asylum-seekers, and changes by country/territory of asylum, 2010 71
4. Refugee population and people in refugee-like situations, excluding asylum-seekers, and changes by origin, 2010 74
5. Refugee population and people in refugee-like situations, excluding asylum-seekers, and changes by major origin and country/territory of asylum, 2010 78
6. Internally displaced persons protected/assisted by UNHCR, 2010 82
7. Stateless persons, 2010 83
8. Other groups or people of concern to UNHCR, 2010 85
9. Asylum applications and refugee status determination by country/territory of asylum, 2010 86
10. Asylum applications and refugee status determination by country of asylum and level in the procedure, 2010 89



11. Asylum applications and refugee status determination by origin, 2010	94
12. Asylum applications and refugee status determination by origin and country/territory of asylum, 2010	98
13. Demographic composition of populations of concern to UNHCR, end-2010	113
14. Demographic composition of refugees and people in refugee-like situations, end-2010	116
15. Major locations and demographic composition of populations of concern to UNHCR, end-2010	120
16. Population of concern to UNHCR by type of accommodation, end-2010	140
17. Refugees, including people in a refugee-like situation, by type of accommodation, end-2010	144
18. Major mass inflows, 2010	148
19. Major voluntary repatriation/returnee movements, 2010	149
20. Resettlement departures of refugees from first asylum countries, 2010	150
21. Resettlement arrivals of refugees, 2010	152
22. Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons, returnees, stateless persons, others of concern to UNHCR by region, 2009-2010	153
23. Refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons, returnees, stateless persons, and others of concern to UNHCR, 2001-2010	154
24. Sources and methods of data collection, 2010	155
25. Indicators of host country capacity and contributions, 2010	159

## Regional classifications and country/territory codes

26. United Nations major areas	161
27. UNHCR Regional Bureaux/Operations	162
28. UNHCR country/territory codes	163

# Main Findings

This section provides an overview of the major statistical developments in 2010 and a summary of key findings. More detailed analyses, including the definitions used and limitations of the data, are to be found in Chapters I to VI.

## TOTAL POPULATION OF CONCERN

7

The 2010 Statistical Yearbook identifies seven population categories:

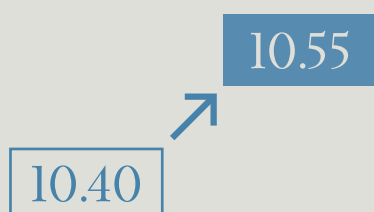
1. REFUGEES;
2. ASYLUM-SEEKERS;
3. INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPs) PROTECTED/ASSISTED BY UNHCR;
4. STATELESS PERSONS;
5. RETURNED REFUGEES;
6. RETURNED IDPs;
7. OTHERS OF CONCERN

These categories are collectively referred to as “total population of concern” or “persons of concern”.<sup>1</sup>

33.9 MILLION

By the end of 2010, **the total population of concern to UNHCR** was estimated at 33.9 million people, broken down as follows: 10.55 million refugees;<sup>2</sup> 837,500 asylum-seekers; 197,600 refugees who had repatriated during 2010; 14.7 million IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR; 2.9 million IDPs who had returned to their place of origin in 2010; 3.5 million stateless persons; and 1.3 million others of concern.

## REFUGEES



The number of refugees at end 2010 was **10.55 million**, including 597,300 people considered by UNHCR to be in a refugee-like situation. The previous year, the figure was 10.4 million.

1.9 MILLION

**Pakistan**, with 1.9 million refugees, **hosted the highest number of refugees** at the end of 2010. Other major countries of asylum included the Islamic Republic of Iran (1.1 million), the Syrian Arab Republic (1 million; Government estimate), Germany (594,000), Jordan (451,000; Government estimate), and Kenya (403,000).

By the end of 2010, developing countries hosted **8.5 million refugees**, or 80 per cent of the global refugee population. Asia hosted over half of the global refugee population (54%), followed by Africa (23%), Europe (15%), North America (4%), Latin America and the Caribbean (4%), and Oceania (0.3%).<sup>3</sup>

54%

29%

By the end of 2010, according to UNHCR's global estimates, there were **3.05 million Afghan refugees**, accounting for 29 per cent of the global refugee population under UNHCR's responsibility. Iraq was the second largest country of origin of refugees (1.7 million)<sup>4</sup>, followed by Somalia (770,000), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (477,000), and Myanmar (416,000).

<sup>1</sup> For definitions of the various population categories, see Chapter I.

<sup>2</sup> The 4.8 million Palestinian refugees who fall under the mandate of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) are not included in UNHCR's statistics.

<sup>3</sup> The geographical regions used are those of the United Nations Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, New York (<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49.htm>).

<sup>4</sup> This includes governmental estimates for Iraqi refugees in Jordan (450,000) and in the Syrian Arab Republic (1 million).

<sup>5</sup> UNHCR's work with IDPs is based on the cluster approach, adopted in 2005 (see footnote 24).

<sup>6</sup> Close to 73,300 refugees were resettled to the United States of America during US Fiscal Year 2010.



14.7  
MILLION

## INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

↗ 24 COUNTRIES

The number of internally displaced persons, including those in IDP-like situations, benefiting from UNHCR's protection and assistance activities was **14.7 million** at the end of 2010. This was down by 930,000 from 2009, but nonetheless the second highest figure in UNHCR's history, and more than double the figure of 2005 (6.6 million).<sup>5</sup>

UNHCR's statistics included IDP populations in 24 countries. Its offices reported at least **1.3 million IDPs** who were newly displaced in 2010, while at least **2.9 million IDPs** were able to return home during the same period.

## STATELESS PERSONS

↗ 65 COUNTRIES

By the end of 2010, UNHCR identified some **3.5 million** stateless persons in 65 countries. However, the actual number of stateless persons worldwide was estimated at up to **12 million**.

## DURABLE SOLUTIONS

↘ 21%

In 2010, **197,600 refugees repatriated voluntarily** to their home country, 21 per cent less than in 2009 (251,500). **Afghans constituted more than half** (118,000) of all returnees during 2010. Other major countries of return in 2010 were the Democratic Republic of the Congo (16,600), Rwanda (10,900), Sudan (7,100), and Sri Lanka (5,100). Overall, nine countries of origin each reported the return of more than 1,000 refugees.

↗ 98,800

According to government statistics provided to UNHCR, **22 industrialized countries** reported the admission of 98,800 resettled refugees during 2010. This was some 13,600 people less than in 2009 (112,400). The countries resettling most refugees during 2010 were the United States of America (71,400),<sup>6</sup> Canada (12,100), Australia (8,500), Sweden (1,800), and Norway (1,100).

+9%

In 2010, UNHCR submitted more than **108,000 individual cases** for resettlement consideration by States. Nine per cent of all resettlement submissions were for women and girls at risk, the highest percentage over the last five years. During the year, 73,000 refugees departed for resettlement countries with UNHCR's assistance. The highest numbers of refugees were resettled from Nepal (14,800), Thailand (11,400), Malaysia (8,000), the Syrian Arab Republic (7,200), and Turkey (5,300).

↗ 19,400

By nationality, the **main beneficiaries** of resettlement programmes facilitated by UNHCR were refugees from Myanmar (19,400), Iraq (16,000), Bhutan (14,800), Somalia (5,400), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (4,500), and Eritrea (3,300).



## REFUGEE STATUS DETERMINATION

# 223,000

Some **223,000 asylum-seekers** were either recognized as refugees (175,200) or granted a complementary form of protection (47,800) during 2010. This number includes an estimated 22,700 individuals who initially received negative decisions subsequently overturned at the appeal or review stage.

# 728,000

An estimated 728,000 were initial applications lodged in **first instance procedures**, while **122,200 claims** were submitted on appeal, including to courts.<sup>7</sup>

# ↘10%

During 2010, at least **850,200 individual applications** for asylum or refugee status were submitted to governments and UNHCR offices in **167 countries** or territories. This was a 10 per cent decrease compared to the previous year (948,400 claims) and the first drop after three consecutive annual increases. UNHCR offices registered some **96,800 applications**, equivalent to 11 per cent of all applications.

# 373,700

With **373,700 asylum claims** registered during the year, **Europe** remained the primary destination for people applying for asylum on an individual basis, followed by Africa (270,000). The Americas and Asia recorded 117,400 and 77,600 claims respectively, while Oceania received 11,500.

By the end of the year, some **837,500 individuals** were reported to be awaiting a decision on their **asylum claims**.



**South Africa** was an important destination for asylum-seekers with **180,600 new asylum claims** registered in 2010, one fifth of individual applications globally. The United States of America was the second most sought-after destination for new asylum-seekers in 2010, with an estimated 54,300 asylum applications, followed by France (48,100), Germany (41,300), Sweden (31,800), Ecuador (31,400), and Malaysia (25,600).

**1951 Convention refugee status** was granted in 30 per cent of decisions in 2010. This was significantly lower than the year before (38%). With the addition of complementary forms of protection, 39 per cent of all substantive asylum decisions taken in 2010 were positive.

# 30%

# 149,400

**Zimbabwe** was the **largest single country of origin** of asylum-seekers in 2010, with **149,400 new applications** submitted by Zimbabwean nationals during the year. Somalia was the second largest country of origin of asylum-seekers (37,500) in 2010, followed by the Democratic Republic of the Congo (35,600), Afghanistan (33,500), Colombia (32,300), Serbia (and Kosovo: Security Council resolution 1244 (1999))<sup>8</sup>, (30,500), and Myanmar (27,900).

<sup>7</sup> Statistical information on outcomes of asylum appeals and court proceedings is under-reported in UNHCR statistics, as this type of data is often either not collected by States or not published separately.

<sup>8</sup> Henceforth referred to in this document as "Serbia (and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999))".



## SEX AND AGE

21.0 MILLION

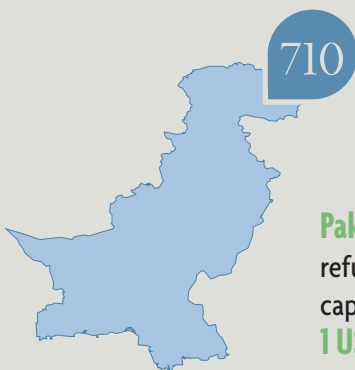
Of the 33.9 million people of concern to UNHCR in 2010, data on **sex** and **age** are available respectively for **21 million people** (60%), and for **14.1 million** (42%). The available disaggregated information by sex revealed that 49 per cent were female: 47 per cent of refugees, 50 per cent of IDPs and returned refugees, and 53 per cent of stateless persons<sup>9</sup>.

47%

The disaggregated information on age showed children under the age of 18 to represent an average of some **47 per cent**, of whom **11 per cent were under the age of five**. Close to half of the population were between the ages of 18 and 59 years, whereas 5 per cent were 60 years or older.

↗ 292,000

The largest refugee camp in the world was **Hagadera camp in Dadaab, Kenya**, with 101,500 inhabitants at the end of 2010. This camp, along with the Dagahaley and Ifo camps, are part of the Dadaab complex with a total population of more than 292,000 refugees by the end of 2010.



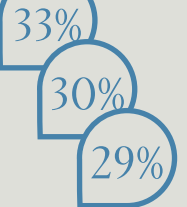
**Pakistan** had the largest number of refugees in relation to its economic capacity, **hosting 710 refugees per 1 USD Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (PPP)**<sup>11</sup> per capita.

## LOCATIONS

11.8 MILLION

In 2010, the **type of location** was reported for some 11.8 million persons of concern, residing mainly in non-industrialized countries.<sup>10</sup> The available data revealed that IDPs (including returned IDPs) predominantly resided in rural areas, refugees and asylum-seekers were more often established in urban areas, and returned refugees were evenly divided between the two.

For the **10.55 million refugees**, the type of accommodation was known for 8.2 million (78%). Approximately one-third were scattered (33%), or residing in camps (30%) or in individual accommodation (29%).



44%

Among refugees and people in refugee-like situations, children constituted **44 per cent of the population**. The proportion was significantly higher among refugees who returned home in 2010 (55%).

## HOST COUNTRY CAPACITIES

475

**The Democratic Republic of the Congo** was the country with the second largest number of **refugees per 1 USD GDP (PPP)** per capita (475 refugees), followed by Kenya (247 refugees), and Chad (225 refugees). The largest refugee-hosting developed country was Germany in 25<sup>th</sup> place, with 17 refugees per 1 USD GDP (PPP) per capita.

<sup>9</sup> Data coverage for this category was limited to 26 per cent. Returned IDPs were excluded due to lack of data.

<sup>10</sup> Although UNHCR offices reported information on the location for a total of 28.4 million persons of concern, the location type for 16.6 million persons (mostly IDPs) was either unclear or a mixture of types.

<sup>11</sup> Purchasing Power Parity. Source for Gross Domestic Product (PPP): International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook Database, April 2011 (accessed 25 April 2011). Source for national populations: United Nations, Population Division, *World Population Prospects: The 2010 Revision*, New York, 2011.



**Some of the newly arrived** Somali refugees in Dadaab, Kenya stay in temporary shelters until being moved to a camp. More than 73,000 Somali refugees arrived in Kenya in 2010.





UNHCR / S. HOIBAK



## Introduction

**F**OR MORE THAN SIXTY YEARS, countries have been providing information to UNHCR concerning the number and conditions of refugees in their territories. Statistics are key to enabling the international community to assess the true dimension of

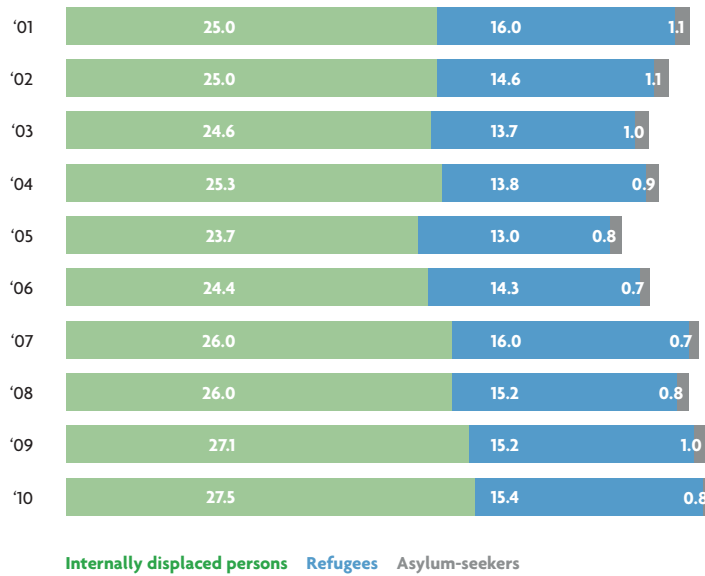
global forced displacement. They also illustrate the many challenges that face countries and UNHCR in protecting refugees and other displaced persons, and in finding solutions to their plight. With the aim of providing a clearer picture of the number and categories of persons in need of

protection, UNHCR has gradually stepped up its statistical activities in recent years.

At a time when UNHCR commemorates the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1961 Convention on the Reduc-



Fig. 1 Global forced displacement | 2001-2010 (end-year, in millions)



tion of Statelessness, the findings of the tenth edition of the Statistical Yearbook demonstrate the continued relevance of forced displacement and statelessness issues to the international agenda. More importantly, UNHCR's statistics have become invaluable in monitoring the scope and nature of its protection activities, in measuring progress towards achieving durable solutions, designing programmes on the basis of demographic profiles, and in analysing trends in asylum and refugee admission. Users include governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the media, academia and the public at large.

The scope of the 2010 Yearbook remains unchanged from previous years. Since the introduction in 2006 of special features on specific topics within regions, the Yearbook has aimed to provide more analytical information designed to facilitate decision-making. In addition to reviewing global statistical trends and shifts in the populations of concern to UNHCR between January and December 2010, the Yearbook provides a number of case studies that examine issues such as health or IDP profiling.

At the end of 2010, an estimated 43.3 million people worldwide were

forcibly displaced due to conflict and persecution, the highest number in more than 15 years. This included 15.4 million refugees,<sup>12</sup> 27.5 million IDPs<sup>13</sup> and close to one million individuals whose asylum applications had not yet been adjudicated.

The number of returning refugees has decreased continuously since 2004, with 2010 being the lowest level (197,600) in more than two decades. In contrast, the number of returned IDPs

(2.9 million) was the highest in more than a decade. In addition, UNHCR estimated that up to 12 million people were stateless, with reliable statistics for 3.5 million of them.

Information on the demographic composition and location of the popu-

lations falling under UNHCR's responsibility is crucial for planning and monitoring activities. In 2010, more than 15,500 unaccompanied or separated children, mainly from Afghanistan and Somalia, filed asylum applications. According to UNHCR data, more than 72,000 unaccompanied or separated children have lodged asylum claims over the past five years.<sup>14</sup> The many protection risks facing Afghan unaccompanied children have been highlighted in a recent UNHCR evaluation report.<sup>15</sup>

In addition to conflict-generated displacement, UNHCR has responded to several humanitarian needs arising from natural disasters. An estimated two million people benefited from UNHCR's interventions in natural disasters in 2010, including those in Benin, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Uganda. However, natural disaster-related statistics are beyond the scope of this Yearbook. Likewise, although global migration has important implications for the institution of asylum, the Yearbook does not address mixed migration flows, mainly due to the lack of reliable and precise statistical data on this phenomenon.

For the most part, statistics reflected in this Yearbook are those reported by UNHCR country offices drawn ei-

## AN ESTIMATED 43.3 MILLION PEOPLE WORLDWIDE WERE FORCIBLY DISPLACED DUE TO CONFLICT AND PERSECUTION

ther from their own data or those of the government. The use of estimates is clearly indicated.

The 2010 Statistical Yearbook comprises a **Global Analysis** and a series of tables in the **Annex**. The Global Analysis includes six chapters, five the-

<sup>12</sup> This figure includes 4.82 million Palestinian refugees who fall under the responsibility of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA).

<sup>13</sup> Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC).

<sup>14</sup> In 2006, UNHCR began a systematic collection of data on unaccompanied and separated children seeking asylum.

<sup>15</sup> *Trees only move in the wind: A study of unaccompanied children in Europe*, available at <http://www.unhcr.org/4c1229669.html>





An internally displaced person is leaving Kalma camp in south Darfur to return to his village in west Darfur, Sudan. UNHCR and OCHA distributed non-food items including blankets, jerry cans and sleeping mats to each household ahead of their journey.

matic or regional boxes and five maps, providing a detailed insight into global trends, levels and patterns in populations under UNHCR's mandate. **Chapter I** describes data sources and methodology. Its purpose is to present the meta-data needed to understand and interpret UNHCR's published data, focusing on basic concepts and definitions, data collection and estimation methods, and issues of data quality. **Chapter II** presents a global overview of the size, main origins and destinations of the populations of concern to UNHCR in 2010. **Chapter III** focuses on the main population movements during 2010, with particular emphasis on durable solutions and new refugee outflows. **Chapter IV** provides an overview of asylum applications and components of the refugee status deter-

mination process. Demographic characteristics (sex and age) are discussed in **Chapter V**, which also provides information on the types of locations of populations. **Chapter VI** illustrates the potential use of available data for evidence-based decision-making, providing case studies on selected public health trends of refugees, the needs assessment survey of IDPs in Serbia, and the specific situation of people displaced in the East and Horn of Africa.

The five boxes provide a brief overview of a variety of topics that include capacity-building activities for UNHCR staff, the Operational Data Management Learning Programme (ODMLP), and the demographic profile of unaccompanied and separated children who have sought asylum in 2010. In addition, some of the latest

statistics are presented in the form of five world maps.

The tables appearing in the Annex provide additional detailed data for 2010. Statistical data on historical trends that allow an easy global comparison of trends by region and by country for all major themes can be found on UNHCR's statistical website ([www.unhcr.org/statistics](http://www.unhcr.org/statistics)) and downloaded from UNHCR's Statistical Online Population Database at [www.unhcr.org/statistics/populationdatabase](http://www.unhcr.org/statistics/populationdatabase).

Some data contained in this publication may differ from those published earlier due to retroactive adjustments or the inclusion of previously unavailable data. It is expected that the data contained in the 2010 Yearbook will likewise be subject to minor future adjustments. ■