

Table 1: Definitions of refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returned refugees, returned IDPs and stateless persons

Refugees	include individuals recognised under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees; its 1967 Protocol; the 1969 OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa; those recognised in accordance with the UNHCR Statute; individuals granted complementary forms of protection; or those enjoying temporary protection. Since 2007, the refugee population also includes people in a refugee-like situation.
Asylum-seekers	are individuals who have sought international protection and whose claims for refugee status have not yet been determined, irrespective of when they may have been lodged
Internally displaced persons (IDPs)	are people or groups of individuals who have been forced to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of, or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalised violence, violations of human rights, or natural or man-made disasters, and who have not crossed an international border.
Returned refugees	are former refugees who have returned to their country of origin spontaneously or in an organised fashion but are yet to be fully integrated. Such a return would normally only take place in conditions of safety and dignity.
Returned IDPs	refer to those IDPs who were beneficiaries of UNHCR's protection and assistance activities and who returned to their areas of origin or habitual residence during the year.
Stateless persons	are defined under international law as persons who are not considered as nationals by any State under the operation of its law. In other words, they do not possess the nationality of any State

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Summary	<p>As for the refugee phenomena, the UNHCR establish six groups of concern: Refugees; Asylum-seekers; Internally displaced persons (IDPs); Returned refugees; Returned IDPs and Stateless persons. The term 'Refugee' refers to those people who have acquired the refugee status or have complementary forms of protection as well as temporary protection. In addition, since 2007, the refugee population also includes people in a refugee-like situation.</p> <p>On the other hand, 'asylum-seeker' refers to people seeking international protection but who do not have refugee status (or not yet). According to the UNHCR, refugees who return to their country of origin but are not fully integrated are regarded as returned refugees. Another category of people considered by the UNHCR is internally displaced persons (IDPs); people who had to leave their habitual residence because of a conflict but are staying in their country. When these internally displaced persons are beneficiaries of UNHCR's protection and assistance activities and return to their original areas, they are considered returned IDPs by the UNHCR. In addition, the UNHCR has established the category of Stateless persons for those people who do not possess the nationality of any State.</p>
Source	UNHCR (2016)
Link	http://popstats.unhcr.org/en/overview#_ga=1.149394742.1854742898.1478102880