

Cote d'Ivoire Situation

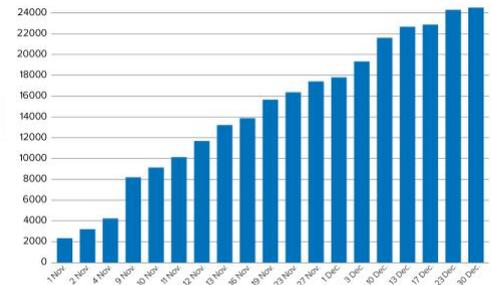
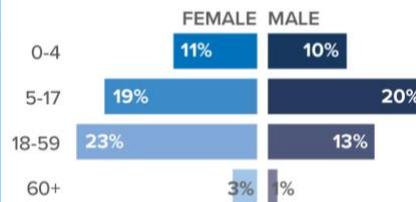
4 January 2021

As of 30 December, **24,277 Ivorians who fled Cote d'Ivoire** have been pre-registered in Liberia, Ghana, Guinea and Togo. Liberia currently hosts 95 per cent of the new arrivals.

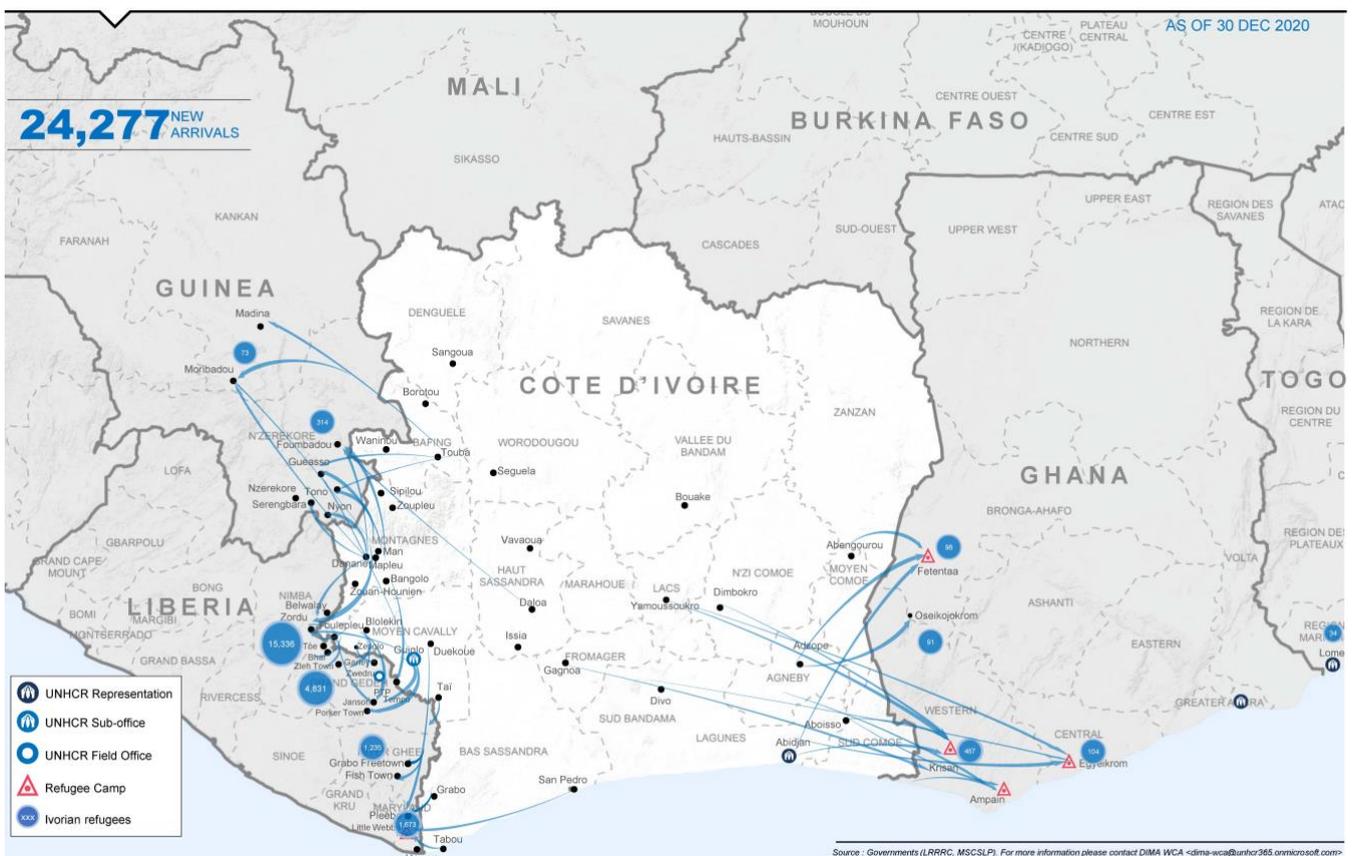
UNHCR continues to **repair and install hand pumps, latrines and boreholes** to support the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) needs of new arrivals and to mitigate health risks.

POPULATION OF CONCERN*

Host Countries	New arrivals
Liberia	23,075
Ghana	779
Guinea	387
Togo	36
Total	24,277



*Data as of 30 December as reported by UNHCR Operations.



KEY UNHCR ASSISTANCE TO DATE:



UNHCR Emergency Response

Liberia



PROTECTION

- Liberia is hosting 23,075 new Ivorian arrivals as of 28 December, and 43 per cent of the population (9,338) have been formally registered. In areas that are difficult to reach, UNHCR continues to work with Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC) and African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD) to pre-register new arrivals pending joint registration with UNHCR.
- Of the new arrivals, more than 60 per cent are children and 25 per cent are women. Nimba County continues to receive most of the new arrivals, and now hosts more than 66 per cent of the population.
- Assessments conducted in local communities have raised protection concerns related to new arrivals sleeping in private homes, including risk of exploitation and lack of privacy. There is also a need for increased healthcare and WASH capacity in local communities.
- UNHCR is coordinating with Maryland County government officials to include refugee children in the 2021 education plans. UNHCR is also coordinating with UNICEF to arrange interventions to mitigate risks for refugee children who are currently out of school.



HEALTH

- The Liberian Ministry of Health and Social Welfare Health (MOHSW) reported that the 72 COVID-19 tests conducted on new arrivals were negative. Preventative measures are carried out at all border facilities, and health staff screen and refer new arrivals in need of medical attention or testing.
- MOHSW reported that two refugee mothers received elective c-sections. Another refugee woman was referred and admitted to the hospital for pregnancy complications, but later suffered a miscarriage. She has been discharged but her condition is being monitored.
- During a 13 to 15 December mission to Nimba County, UNFPA provided elective family planning services to 747 individuals, distributed 1,000 dignity kits, supplied local health facilities with reproductive health kits, and conducted awareness-raising activities for GBV prevention.
- UNHCR is coordinating with the MOHSW to include refugees in upcoming health interventions and vaccination campaigns. WHO is currently providing routine immunization for children at four border points.



SHELTER AND WASH

- Between 15 and 23 December, UNHCR repaired 28 handpumps in Nimba County and five boreholes in Grand Gedeh. Rapid WASH assessments conducted in Saclepea, Little Wlebo and Bahn, as well as in the areas of Behwalay and Buutuo, indicated the need to repair and install hand pumps.
- Construction on the Saclepea, Little Wlebo and Toe's Town reception centres is complete. An expansion of the Toe's Town facility is underway to accommodate the possible relocation of more than 300 people from the B'hai border community, including the construction of a communal kitchen, four latrine structures and four bathroom structures.
- Shelter assessments in the host community of PTP and the Little Wlebo settlement identified 13 buildings sheltering new arrivals that need renovation.
- To address shelter needs and overcrowding, UNHCR will distribute shelter toolkits and supplementary cash-based interventions to cover construction material costs for new arrivals hosted in local communities. UNHCR also continues to coordinate with LRRRC to secure land for shelter construction.

**FOOD AND CRIS**

- In Nimba County more than 4,000 individuals have received food assistance since the beginning of the response. Almost 40 per cent of the recipients received rations for two months, with the remaining receiving one-month rations. UNHCR is also distributing COVID-19 prevention supplies, such as hand sanitizers and masks, with the support of AIRD.
- From 23 to 24 December, CRI distribution in Grand Gedeh County included: 2,250 blankets and sleeping mats; more than 2,000 face masks; 2,600 pieces of soap; sanitary napkins for 1,343 refugees; 1,291 buckets; and 641 solar lamps.
- In Maryland County a total of 370 new arrivals received one-month food rations during the reporting period. Food distribution continues to prioritize persons with specific needs (PWSN), including pregnant and lactating mothers, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.

Ghana

**PROTECTION**

- As of 29 December, Ghana is hosting 779 new Ivorian arrivals (335 families). Through a joint exercise, the Ghana Refugee Board and UNHCR have registered 73 per cent of the population. In total, 63 per cent of the new arrivals are hosted in Ampain camp, while Egyekrom, Fetentaa and Oseikojokrom each host around 12 per cent.

**HEALTH**

- In Sowodadzim, two elderly women with serious medical conditions were referred to a health clinic, two SGBV survivors were supported by the medical unit, and three children diagnosed with malaria were treated by the Ghana Health Service.

**SHELTER AND CRIS**

- Temporary relocation of newly-arrived Ivorians to the Sowodadzim reception and quarantine centre for mandatory quarantine is ongoing. The relocation arrangement is intended to quarantine Ivorians who enter Ghana through unofficial border crossings and first present themselves at Ampain or Egyekrom camps. Any Ivorians who enter through official border crossings would be taken directly to Sowodadzim for quarantine. Once their quarantine period is complete, the new arrivals are transported back to Ampain or Egyekrom. Since Sowodadzim opened on 9 December, almost 70 Ivorians have been temporarily relocated there for quarantine and given CRIs.
- In the Ampain camp extension, land clearing is complete, and 148 tents have been pitched to house new arrivals who have finished their quarantine period. Installation of latrines and bathing facilities is also underway. Land clearing and compacting is also finished at the Fetentaa extension, and 60 tents are being pitched, including 20 quarantine tents and 40 family tents for new arrivals.
- UNHCR partner ADRA continues to distribute hot meals to all new arrivals as well as CRI kits that include COVID-19 prevention supplies such as face masks and hand sanitizer.

Guinea

- As of 30 December, the number of Ivorian new arrivals in Guinea remains at 387 individuals (126 households). Registration is ongoing, as is the screening and referral of cases in need of medical treatment. A joint mission between UNHCR and CNISR (Commission National pour l'Intégration et le Suivi des Réfugiés) is also underway to assess protection needs.

- The Government of Guinea has granted humanitarian access to carry out registration activities and provide assistance to recently arrived Ivorian asylum-seekers. A team is preparing a mission to the Nzérékoré Region – a border area between Guinea and Cote d'Ivoire.

Togo

- As of 30 December, there are 36 Ivorian refugees in Togo. They have been registered by the National Commission for Assistance to Refugees (CNAR) and are being hosted in local communities.

Burkina Faso

- As of 30 December, no new arrivals from Cote d'Ivoire have been recorded, but protection monitoring in border areas is ongoing.

Cote d'Ivoire

- According to government statistics, more than 50 per cent of IDPs have returned home. The Protection Sector, which is led by UNHCR and co-led by IRC, will support the government by conducting systematic monitoring of IDP returns. The Protection Sector is also coordinating Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) activities.
- The Government continues its efforts to support peaceful conditions, including the creation of a Ministry for Reconciliation, and a pledge to compensate those impacted by the crisis.
- UNHCR is contributing 300 shelter kits to support the most vulnerable IDP households, and continues to lead the Shelter/NFI Sector. UNHCR also provides blankets, clothing, soap and other necessities through its partner CARITAS.