



UNHCR CAMEROON MONTHLY UPDATES

KEY HIGHLIGHTS December 2025



Source des données des réfugiés: Gouvernement du Cameroun avec le support du HCR ::

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UNHCR Cameroon needs to support refugees, asylum seekers, and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the country. This update provides detailed demographic, socio-economic, and educational data, as well as information on persons with specific needs, underscoring the complex and multifaceted nature of the refugee and IDP crisis in Cameroon. The monthly update highlights the demographic diversity, educational and occupational challenges, and specific needs of the displaced populations. The data emphasizes the importance of targeting interventions and creating support mechanisms to address the varied and pressing needs of these vulnerable groups. The Cameroonian government and international organizations must collaborate to provide necessary aid and ensure the well-being of these populations.

01 10 Population Overview:

Refugees and Asylum Seekers: Cameroon hosts **408,617** refugees and **18,565** asylum seekers.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs): The country has **1,004,257** IDPs, with an additional **790,842** returnees.

Major Countries of Origin: Refugees primarily come from the Central African Republic **317,645** , Nigeria **127,865** , Chad **4,439** , and Niger **9,603** .



Demographic Distribution:

A significant portion of the refugees are women and children. Specifically, **51%** of the refugee population are women and girls, and **50%** are children.

Age Groups: Refugees are categorized into various age groups, with notable populations in the 0-4, 5-11, 12-17, 18-59, and 60+ age ranges.



Education Levels:

The educational attainment of refugees varies, with **43%** having no education, **28%** having primary education, and smaller percentages having informal, secondary, university, or technical/vocational education.



Occupations:

46% of refugees are engaged in various occupations such as homemakers, traders, drivers, pensioners, maneuvers, and breeders. **18%** are students, **15%** are unemployed, and **9%** are farmers.



Ethnicity and Religion:

Ethnicity: The majority of ethnicities are Peulh **37%** , Kanuri **10%** .

Religion: The religious makeup includes **64%** Muslims, **35%** Christians, and **2%** others.



Persons with Specific Needs:

Categories: There are several categories of persons with specific needs including children at risk, women at risk, single parents, older persons, unaccompanied or separated children, and persons with disabilities.

Top Concerns: The highest numbers are children at risk of not attending school **28,104** , individuals with vision disabilities **4,657** , and older persons with children **3,563** .



Legal and Marital Status:

Legal Status: Refugees and asylum seekers are categorized based on their arrival years, with significant influxes noted in 2014 and subsequent years. Marital Status: The majority of the refugee population is single **68%** , followed by married individuals **22%** .



Regional distribution:

The distribution of refugees and IDPs across various regions in Cameroon shows significant numbers in different regions. The East region hosts the largest refugee population with **160,263** individuals. The Far-North has **123,379** refugees, while Adamaoua has **57,070** . The North region accommodates **36,627** refugees, and the Centre has **26,562** . The Littoral region has **21,304** refugees.



Challenges and Needs:

UNHCR MCO in Cameroon grapples with significant challenges in managing and supporting its large refugee and internally displaced populations. Due to increasing global crises, UNHCR Cameroon faces immense strain, with regions like the East and Extreme-Nord hosting **160,263** and **123,379** refugees respectively, the strain on resources is immense. These populations include a high percentage of children and women, requiring specialized services such as education, healthcare, and protection. The diverse educational levels among refugees, ranging from no education to university, indicate a need for comprehensive educational programs. Additionally, significant numbers of refugees are unemployed or engaged in low-income occupations, highlighting the necessity for vocational training and employment opportunities. The presence of vulnerable groups, such as unaccompanied children, single parents, and individuals with disabilities, further underscores the urgent need for targeted humanitarian aid and robust social support systems to address their specific needs and ensure their well-being.



UNHCR CAMEROON IN A GLANCE

December 2025



Population Type Region Zone Owning Office

All All All All

2,222,281
Total of Persons we serve



408,617

Refugee



18,565

Asylum Seeker



1,004,257

Internally Displaced

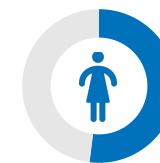
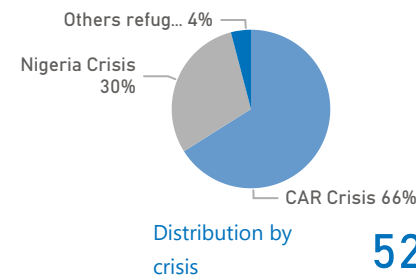
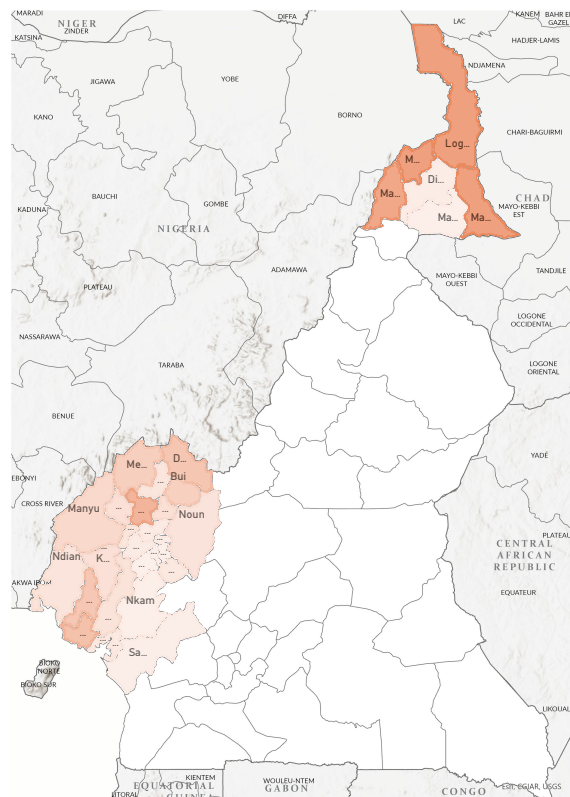
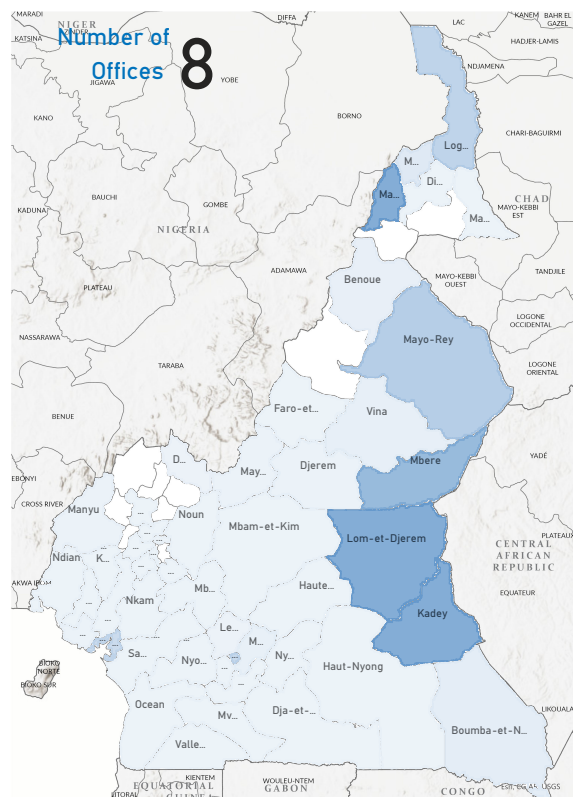


790,842

Returnees IDP

Refugee and Asylum Seeker by Department

IDPs by Department



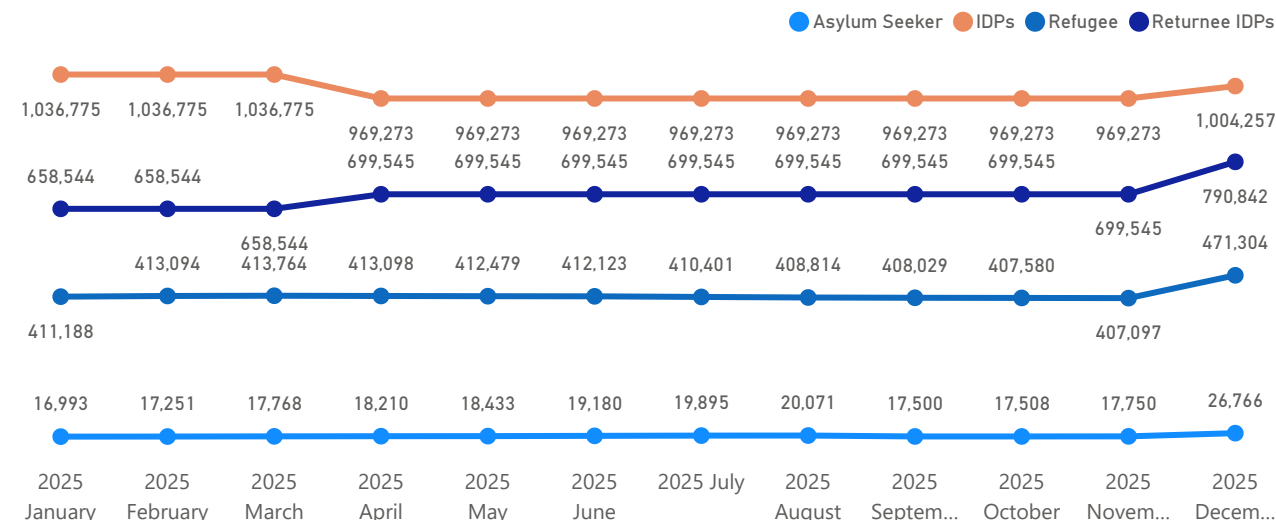
52% Of refugees are women and girls



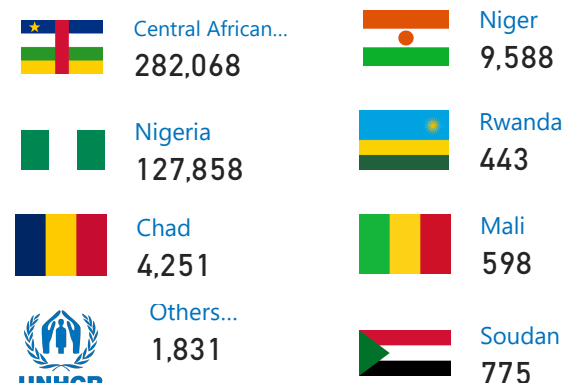
52% Of refugees are children



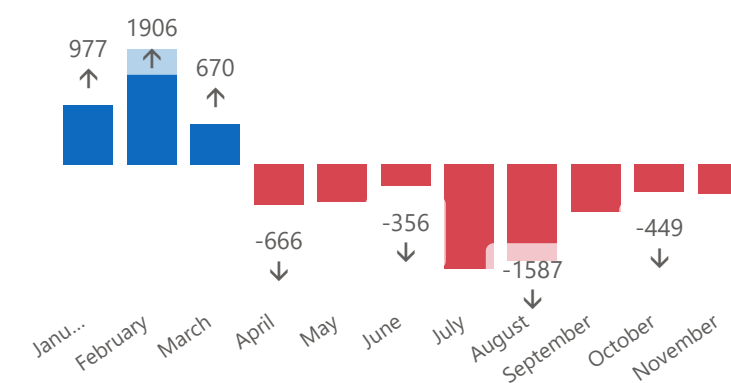
57% Of IDPs are children



Top 5 countries with refugees and asylum seekers



Increase/Decrease Population 2025



Returnees & IDPs Source: IOM, OCHA ; Source des données des réfugiés: Gouvernement du Cameroun avec le support du HCR :: Contact for more info DIMA Unit Cameroon cmr_yaim@unhcr.org

Central African

Nigeria

Other Refugees

Legal Status

Asylum Seeker

Refugee

Site/Camp

In Site/Camp

Out of Site/Camp



199,959

School age children

Region

Department

Zone

Owning Office

All

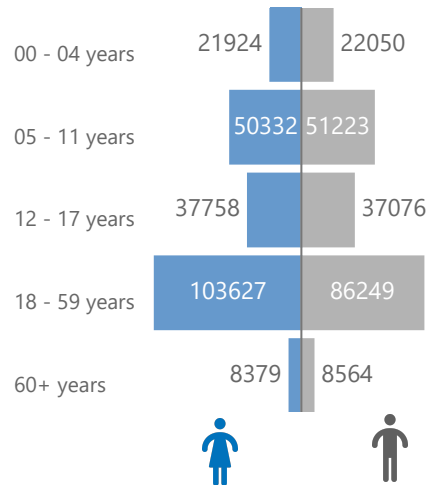
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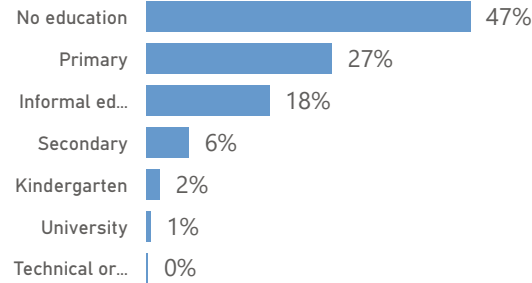
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Refugees by age group

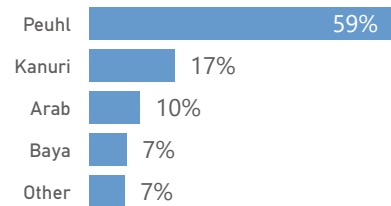
Population distribution (gender and age group)



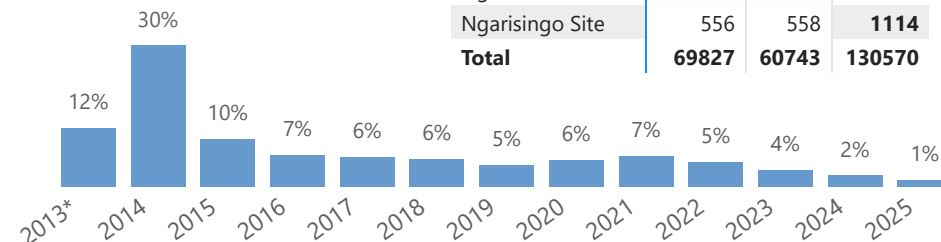
Education Level



Ethnicity



Year of arrival of refugees



Region	00 - 04 years		05 - 11 years		12 - 17 years		18 - 59 years		60+ years		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Est	7578	7585	17820	18592	14299	14151	42239	31351	3230	3418	160263
Extreme-Nord	8190	8157	17087	16935	11830	11374	26612	18091	2590	2513	123379
Adamaoua	2876	2994	6662	6846	5594	5604	14618	9240	1356	1280	57070
Nord	1609	1576	5006	5065	3350	3287	9472	5773	801	688	36627
Centre	1110	1090	2364	2321	1584	1476	6292	9783	212	330	26562
Littoral	548	630	1349	1410	1018	1070	4010	10839	144	285	21303
Sud-Ouest	3	3	31	35	72	89	292	898	33	35	1491
Nord-Ouest			6	12	10	19	64	74	12	5	202
Sud	4	2	2	2		2	19	91		9	131
Ouest		3	2	1			4	76		1	87
Total	21918	22040	50329	51219	37757	37072	103622	86216	8378	8564	427115

Site/Camp	Female	Male	Total
Minawao Camp	44316	37892	82208
Gado Badzere Site	8620	7521	16141
Mbile Site	4909	4492	9401
Lolo Site	4386	4168	8554
Borgop Site	3618	3065	6683
Timangolo Site	1894	1753	3647
Ngam Site	1528	1294	2822
Ngarisingo Site	556	558	1114
Total	69827	60743	130570

Education Age

Region	04-05 Years		06-11 Years		12-18 Years		Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	
Adamaoua	1834	1957	5731	5947	6333	6289	28091
Centre	624	645	2039	1983	1800	1684	8775
Est	5214	5236	15250	16025	16108	16034	73867
Extreme-Nord	5005	4977	14645	14465	13150	12664	64906
Littoral	305	378	1182	1201	1153	1295	5514
Nord	1211	1267	4347	4321	3709	3618	18473
Nord-Ouest			6	12	13	21	52
Ouest	1	1	1				3
Sud	1	2	2	2		3	10
Sud-Ouest	1	2	30	33	85	101	252
Total	14196	14465	43233	43989	42351	41709	199943

Central African

Nigeria

Other Refugees

Owning Office

All

Region

Department

Commu...

Zone

All

All

All

All

Areas of Responsibility

Child Protection

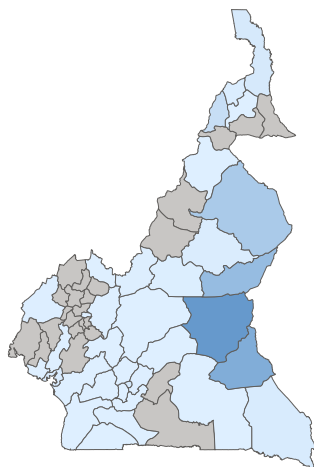
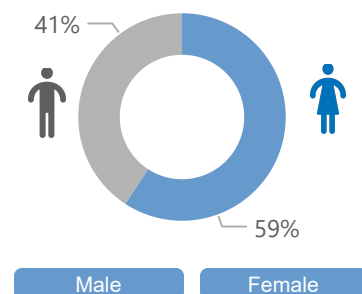
General Protection

SGBV

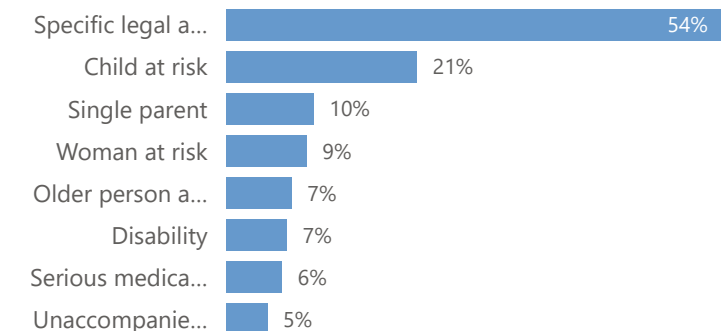
140,060

Person with Specific Needs

Gender



Person with Specific Needs



 29,159 Child at Risk

SPN Sub Category	# Refugee
Child at risk of not attending school	28104
Child with special education needs	480
Child parent	252
Child spouse	252
Teenage pregnancy	67
Child engaged in other forms of child labour	63
Child carer	46
Child engaged in worst forms of child labour	21
No legal documentation	10
Child associated with armed forces or groups	5

 8,542 Serious Medical Condition

SPN Sub Category	# Refugee
Other medical condition	5842
Chronic illness	1175
Malnutrition	576
Difficult pregnancy	519
Critical medical	278
Mental illness	106
Woman at risk	18
Addiction	12
Emotions and behavior	3
Vision	3

 1,227 SGBV

SGBV	Refugee
Victim/Survivor of SGBV in country of asylum	510
Threat of forced marriage	504
Victim/Survivor of SGBV in country of origin	124
Victim/Survivor of SGBV during flight	44
Threat of honour killing/violence	42

 9,301 Disability

SPN Sub Category	# Refugee
Vision	3563
Hearing	1451
Lower Body Mobility	1290
Emotions and behavior	1125
Communication	754
Upper Body Mobility	356
Physical disability - moderate	158
Visual impairment (including blindness)	69
Self-Care	49
Mental disability - moderate	46

 13,369 Single Parent

(Top 10) Single Parent	# Refugee
Single HR - parent	12085
Single HR - caregiver	717
Single HR - grandparent	414
Woman at risk	13
Single woman at risk	9
Child parent	3
No legal documentation	2
Single older person	2
Child at risk of not attending school	1
Older person with children	1

 177 Family Unity

Family Unity Sub-Category	# Refugee
Family reunification required	136
Tracing required	32

 10,030 Older at Risk

Older Person at Risk	# Refugee
Older person with children	4654
Older person unable to care for self	3746
Single older person	1590
No legal documentation	2
Woman at risk	2
Single HR - grandparent	1
Single HR - parent	1
Single woman at risk	1

 6,303 Unaccompanied or separated child

(Top 6) Unaccompanied or separated child	# Refugee
Separated child	5851
Unaccompanied child	401
Child in institutional care	23
Child headed household	20
Child in foster care	17
No legal documentation	5

 12,319 Woman at Risk

(Top 4) Single Parent Sub-Category	# Refugee
Woman at risk	7399
Single woman at risk	2617
Single HR - parent	10
Lactating	2035

Central African

Nigeria

Other Refugees

Region

Zone

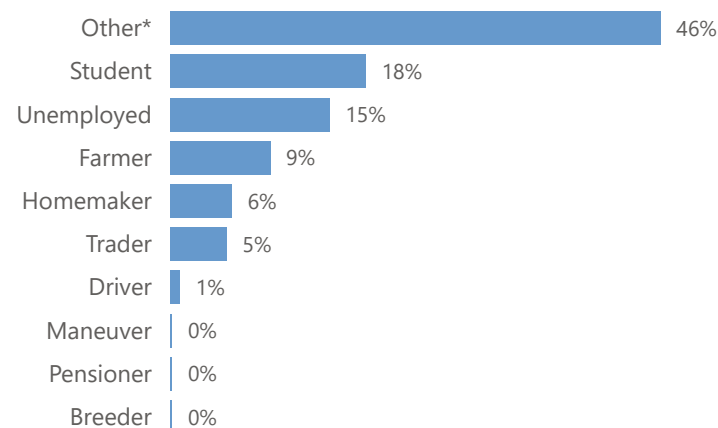
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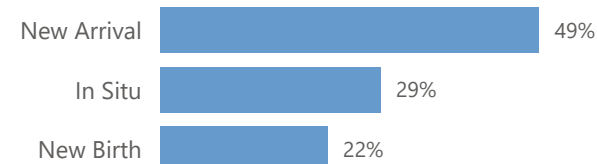
Male

Female

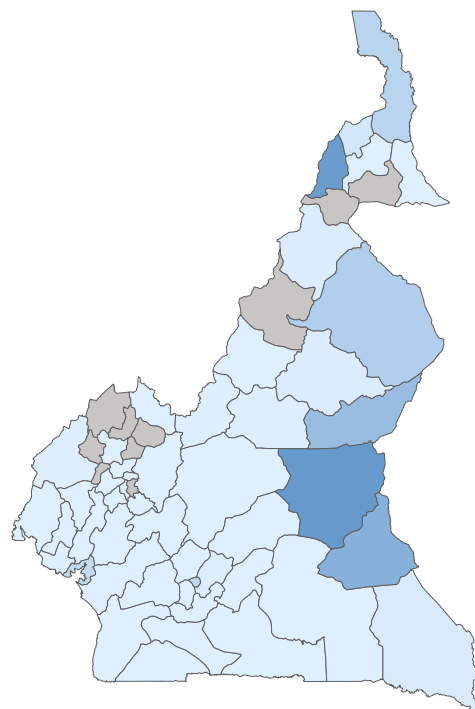
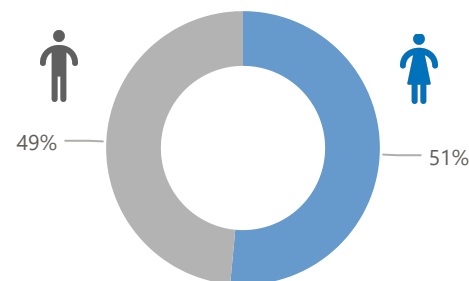
Occupation



Registration Reason



Religion



Central African

Occupations	Adamaoua	Centre	Est	Extreme-Nord	Littoral	Nord	Total
Other*	17557	9433	57263	9	5607	4761	94630
Student	15101	4369	30116		3552	7488	60626
Unemployed	7374	1869	34256		875	11533	55907
Farmer	8716	856	13693	1	335	6823	30424
Homemaker	4110	1246	14709		1020	1740	22825
Trader	2857	1316	7972	1	1092	1384	14622
Driver	428	236	2063	1	429	240	3397
Maneuver	11	17	43		6	2	79
Pensioner	12	3	55		3	2	75
Breeder	25		12			28	65

Nigeria

Occupations	Adamaoua	Centre	Est	Extreme-Nord	Littoral	Nord	Total
Other*	295	253	7	97123	45	1130	98853
Student	188	34		8774	5	448	9449
Farmer	26	5		7729	3	755	8518
Homemaker	51	11	2	4876	2	102	5044
Unemployed	171	73	1	2565	7		2817
Trader	34	92	1	1855	16	10	2008
Driver	6	6		304	2		318
Pensioner	2			26			28
Maneuver				11			11
Breeder				10			10

Other Nationalities

Occupations	Adamaoua	Centre	Est	Extreme-Nord	Littoral	Nord	Total
Other*	56	3389	42	38	4387	45	7957
Trader	4	1051	11	9	1794	5	2874
Unemployed	31	950	13	18	861	85	1958
Student	23	1336	9	25	487	23	1903
Farmer	2	163	11		752	9	937
Homemaker	15	356	5	6	154	15	551
Driver		83	1	4	114	2	204
Maneuver	1	7			35	2	45