

Facts and figures about refugees: eye-openers

This teaching sheet contains a set of remarkable facts and figures from UNHCR's Global Trends report for the year 2021.

Use the eye-openers in your in lesson planning and use them as you see fit to do learning activities with your students (suitable for ages 12-18).

For more background and data, visit [UNHCR's Global Trends home page](#).

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, protects people forced to flee their homes because of conflict and persecution. We save lives, protect rights and help build better futures.

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A GLOBAL CRISIS OF FORCED DISPLACEMENT

89.3 MILLION
FORCIBLY DISPLACED
PEOPLE IN 2021

89.3 million people in the world are fleeing war, violence or persecution. That is 1 in 78 people on earth. If forcibly displaced people would form a country, it would have a population greater than those of Germany, Iran or Türkiye.

41% OF PEOPLE
FORCE TO FLEE WERE
CHILDREN IN 2021

More than four out of ten people forced to flee are children. They are particularly vulnerable to missing out of education and to a host of other challenges when they are forced to flee.

53.2 MILLION
INTERNALLY
DISPLACED

53.2 million people in the world are internally displaced. This means that well over half of the people fleeing violence, war or persecution have never left their own country.

1.4 NEW ASYLUM
CLAIMS IN 2021

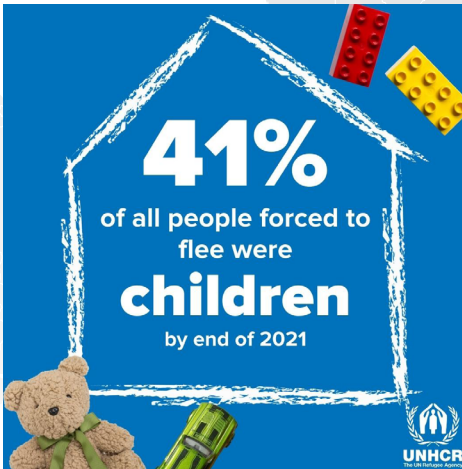
In 2021, 1.4 million asylum-seekers submitted new claims. These people are seeking protection from violence, war or persecution in other countries and will go through a procedure which will determine whether they will be recognized as refugees.

1 in every 78
people on earth
has been **forced to flee**



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41%
of all people forced to
flee were
children
by end of 2021



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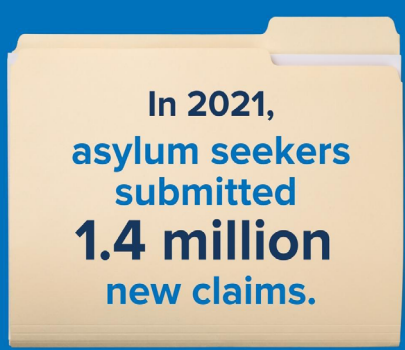
Most **people forced to flee**
don't actually
leave their
country



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In 2021,
asylum seekers
submitted
1.4 million
new claims.

That is 1.4 million **hopes for safety.**



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A DECADE IN NUMBERS

42.7 MILLION
FORCIBLY DISPLACED
PEOPLE IN 2012

A decade ago, in 2012, 42.7 million people in the world were fleeing war, violence or persecution.

89.3 MILLION
FORCIBLY DISPLACED
PEOPLE IN 2021

Nine years later, in 2021, the number of forcibly displaced persons reached a new unprecedented peak, more than doubling since 2012.

100 MILLION
FORCIBLY DISPLACED
PEOPLE IN 2022

The war in Ukraine pushed the number of forcibly displaced persons in the world past the 100 million mark.

