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 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.
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.

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 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.

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.
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.