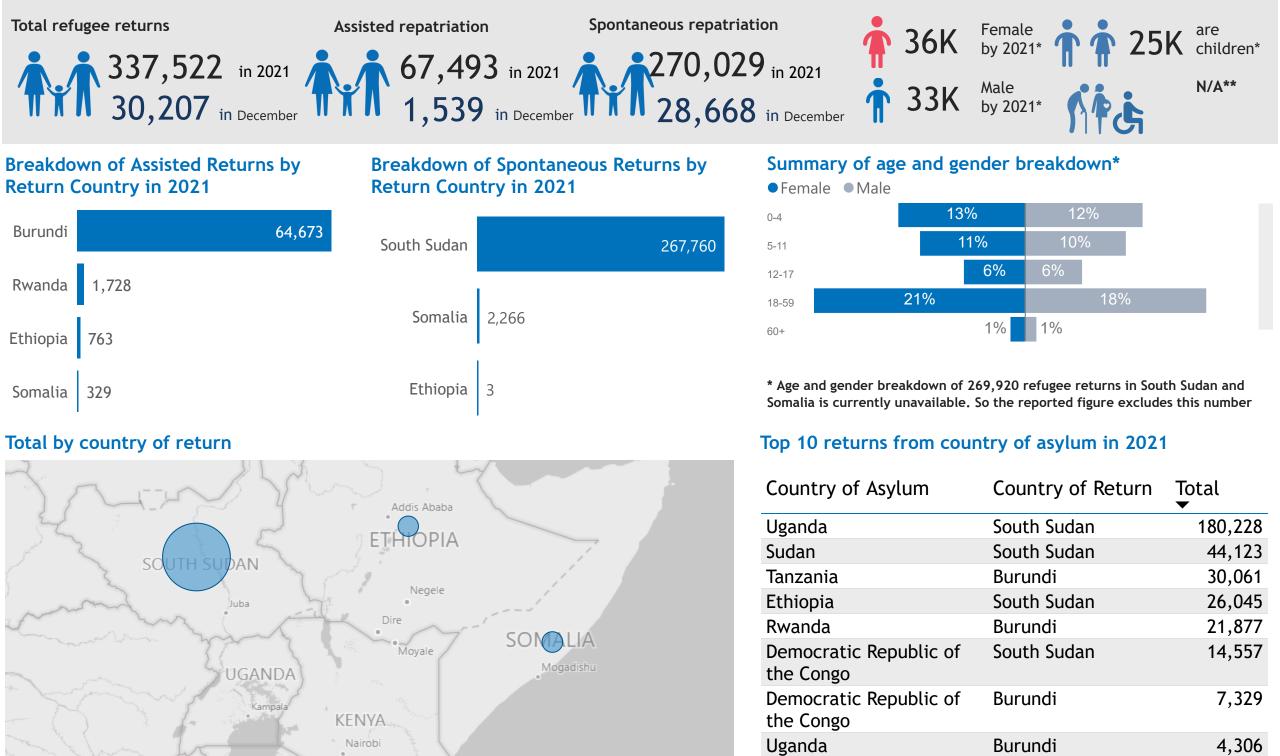
| | UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency | Month | | Quarter EAST AND HO | | ORN OF A | RN OF AFRICA AND GREAT LAKES REGION | | |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------|---------------------|--------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| | | All | \sim | All | \checkmark | Assisted and Spontaneous Returns in the EHAGL region | | | |
| | | Country of Return | | Country of Asylum | | ReturnType | - | | |
| | | All | \sim | All | \checkmark | All | \sim | Update as of 31 December 2021 | |

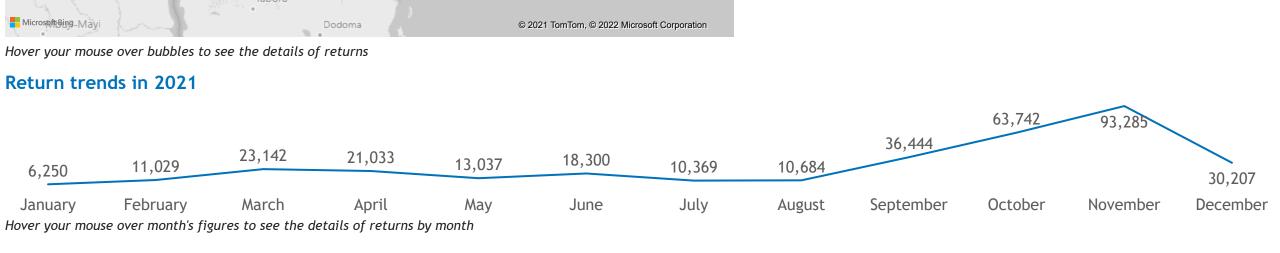
Background

While assisted returns in the region were suspended for most of 2020, movements resumed in early 2021 following the re-opening of borders and the progressive lifting of Covid-19 related movement restrictions. From January to December, **337,522** refugees were able to repatriate to their countries of origin. **64,673** Burundians continued to return at a steady rate from five countries of asylum with assistance from UNHCR and partners, with the majority returning from Rwanda and Tanzania, although a slowing down has been observed since September. Uganda also recently started returns to Burundi. **267,760** South Sudanese have also spontaneously returned, mainly from Uganda, Sudan, Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Kenya. **2,595** Somalis returned, assisted from Eritrea and Kenya and spontaneously from Yemen. **766** Ethiopians returned to Ethiopia from Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya. **1,728** Rwandans returned to Rwanda from the DRC.

Challenges: Logistical constraints of organizing returns in the context of Covid-19 remains a challenge. Support for long-term reintegration activities in countries of origin remains limited, despite ongoing efforts to engage development actors. Additional funding remains critically needed to strengthen returnee monitoring in Burundi.

Total figures in 2021





Yemen

Kenya

Sources: UNHCR

Updated date: 17 January 2022

Contacts: minuto@unhcr.org; mwangia@unhcr.org

2,237

1,867

Somalia

South Sudan

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on the maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by United Nations

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