

3.5.1. Refugees, asylum seekers and IDPs

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UNHCR indicated that, at the end of 2024, over 60 % of IDPs lived in host communities, and 40 % in camps with limited basic services.[1107](#) In Borno state, for example, there were over two million IDPs, with 900 000 lacking electricity, clean water, shelter, and other essential services. Although Borno aided around 3 200 IDP households with cash, food, and shelter, inflation and currency devaluation hindered these state efforts.[1108](#) According to UNHCR, 46 % of IDP sites in the North-East are located in flood-prone and overcrowded areas, and IDPs often lack land tenure agreements, leaving them vulnerable to eviction.[1109](#) In the South-South, 78 % of refugees live in host communities, ‘integrating with ease and able to work’.[1110](#) The same source indicated that about 1 900 refugees were enrolled in social protection policies and 500 in health insurance plans in Cross River State and Akwa Ibom.[1111](#)

UNHCR indicated that the proportion of people residing in physically safe and secure settlements in 2024, with access to basic facilities, was 2.08 % among IDPs and 100 % among refugees and asylum seekers.[1112](#) The proportion of people living in habitable and affordable housing in 2024 was 62.1 % for IDPs, 28.43 % for refugees and asylum seekers, and 98.11 % of returnees. The same source indicated that 5.12 % of IDPs and 11.82 % of refugees and asylum seekers had access to electricity. Additionally, 45 830 IDPs and 27 400 refugees and asylum seekers received shelter and housing assistance.[1113](#) In Borno state, the government and UNHCR provided, in 2024, 110 ‘sustainable housing units’ to returnees, and over 2 900 ‘vulnerable’ households were supported with emergency shelter.[1114](#) In the South-South, 104 internally displaced families received assistance to repair their homes.[1115](#) UNHCR also trained over 15 500 refugee households on water treatment and safe storage; supported the deployment of real-time monitoring devices and data collection for 15 water facilities across refugee settlements in Benue and Cross River States; and built 500 latrines and 566 handwashing facilities, benefitting approximately 10 000 people.[1116](#)

FEWS NET noted that most urban IDPs in the North-West, particularly in Sokoto, Katsina, and Zamfara states, resort to ‘negative livelihood coping strategies’ including begging and prostitution to deal with food insecurity, and the worst-off households rely on food-based coping strategies, including skipping meals or going days without eating’.[1117](#)

- [1107](#)

UNHCR, Annual Results Report 2024: Nigeria, 29 May 2025, [url](#), p. 6

- [1108](#)

UNHCR, Annual Results Report 2024: Nigeria, 29 May 2025, [url](#), p. 6

- [1109](#)

UNHCR, Annual Results Report 2024: Nigeria, 29 May 2025, [url](#), p. 20

- [1110](#)

UNHCR, Annual Results Report 2024: Nigeria, 29 May 2025, [url](#), p. 27

- [1111](#)

UNHCR, Annual Results Report 2024: Nigeria, 29 May 2025, [url](#), p. 27

- [1112](#)

UNHCR, Annual Results Report 2024: Nigeria, 29 May 2025, [url](#), p. 5

- [1113](#)

UNHCR, Annual Results Report 2024: Nigeria, 29 May 2025, [url](#), pp. 19-20

- [1114](#)

UNHCR, Annual Results Report 2024: Nigeria, 29 May 2025, [url](#), p. 20

- [1115](#)

UNHCR, Annual Results Report 2024: Nigeria, 29 May 2025, [url](#), p. 20

- [1116](#)

UNHCR, Annual Results Report 2024: Nigeria, 29 May 2025, [url](#), p. 23

- [1117](#)

FEWS NET, Nigeria - Food Security Outlook, June 2025 – January 2025, 9 July 2024, [url](#), p. 12