

6% of individuals in the host community were identified as refugees in the host community

7% of refugees in the host community have returned to the settlements for family reunification, lack of food and other reasons.

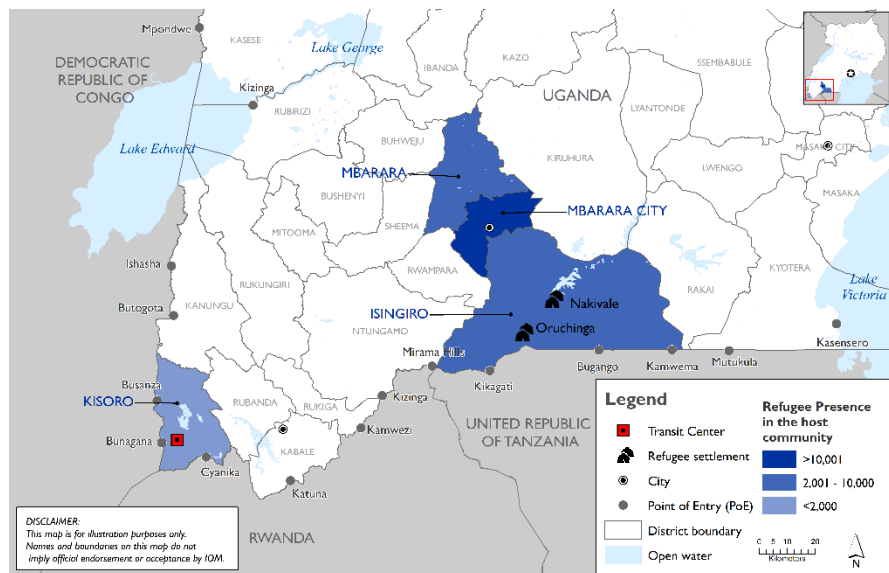
399,339 Number of individuals in the sampled host communities (Parish/Admin 3)

BACKGROUND

Uganda stands as Africa's largest host country for refugees and asylum seekers and as of 30 June 2024 with a total of 1,656,423 refugees and 45,855 asylum-seekers, with 79% being women and children. The majority of this population is comprised of refugees from South Sudan (57%) and the Democratic Republic of Congo (31%)¹. They primarily reside in settlements located in underdeveloped districts, though a small percentage live in urban areas like Mbarara city and Kampala Capital City. The refugee influx in the nation has triggered several implications in the host districts and urban towns on social services and livelihood among the host community. IOM Uganda closely works with the Office of the Prime Minister Department of Refugees to tackle these challenges, aiming to strengthen Uganda's institutions and systems to better address issues related to forced displacement and migration, including internal mobility assessments.

Recognizing the importance of accurate and comprehensive data, IOM, through its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) methodology, in collaboration with district authorities and key informants from local communities conducted a baseline assessment to inform on the situation in the host communities and urban center in the Southwestern part of Uganda and aiming to support evidence-based decision making and policy.

REFUGEE PRESENCE IN THE HOST COMMUNITY

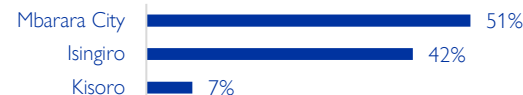


METHODOLOGY

The baseline assessment was conducted in 2 Districts and 1 City in Southwestern sub-region of Uganda at the sub county level (19 sub-counties/Admin 2). The baseline assessment is crucial for identifying the numbers and locations of target populations (refugees, returnees, and the host community) and understanding the impact of refugees on the host community. Information collected included information on the refugee movement (within the same sub-county or not), type of settlement, top needs and status of the main community assets and infrastructures. The assessment was carried out in collaboration with the District authorities through direct observations and key informant interviews. The assessment was carried out between the 28 of May 2024 and 10 of June 2024 in collaboration with the Office of the Prime minister (Department of Refugees) and the District/City authorities.

Assessed Subcounty (Admin 2) per district/City

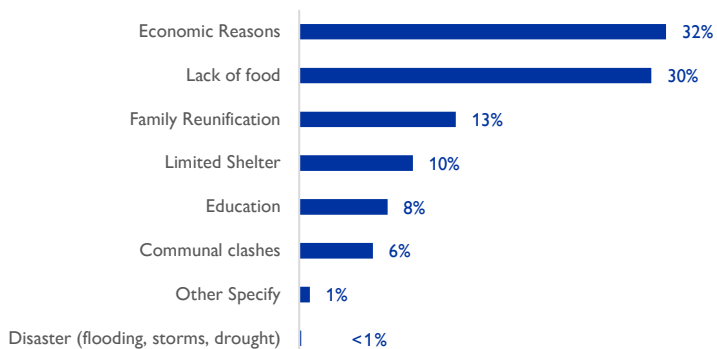
District	Admin 2(Subcounty)	Estimated Number of refugees (%)
Mbarara & Mbarara City	Mbarara city south	31.7%
	Mbarara city north	12.5%
	Kakoba	6.6%
Isingiro	Isingiro Town Council	8.6%
	Kabingo	8.5%
	Ngarama	6.8%
	Birere	6.0%
	Kabuyanda	3.3%
	Kagarama	3.1%
	Kashumba	2.7%
	Rugaaga Town council	1.6%
	Kigati	1.0%
	Kanchingi sub county	0.2%
Kigaagala	0.2%	
Kisoro	Nyakabande sub county	3.1%
	Bunagana Town Council	1.8%
	Kisoro municipality	1.7%
	Busanza	0.4%
	Buhumbu	0.1%



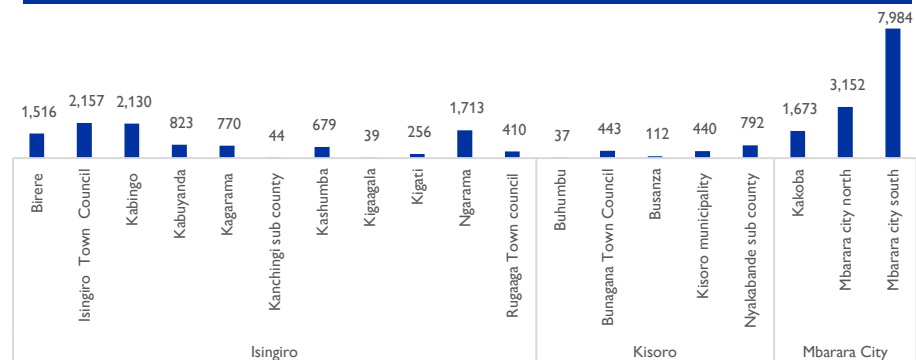
REFUGEES, ASYLUM SEEKERS AND RETURNEES

Districts	Refugees				Asylum Seekers				Returnees (Refugees)			
	HHS	%	Individuals	%	HHS	%	Individuals	%	HHS	%	Individuals	%
Isingiro	2,595	45%	10,537	42%	525	77%	1,614	68%	376	63%	1,256	69%
Kisoro	184	3%	1,824	7%	152	22%	747	31%	53	9%	188	10%
Mbarara City	2,941	51%	12,809	51%	5	1%	26	1%	165	28%	377	21%
Grand Total	5,720		25,170		682		2,387		594		1,821	

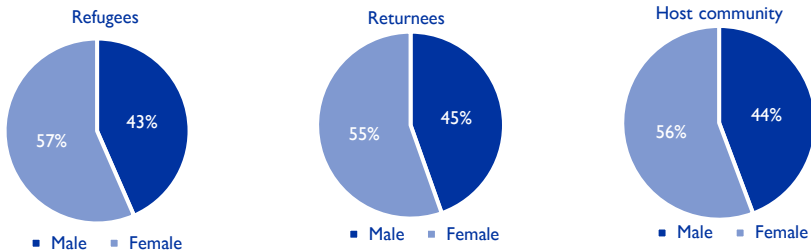
REASONS FOR REFUGEES DEPARTING FROM SETTLEMENTS



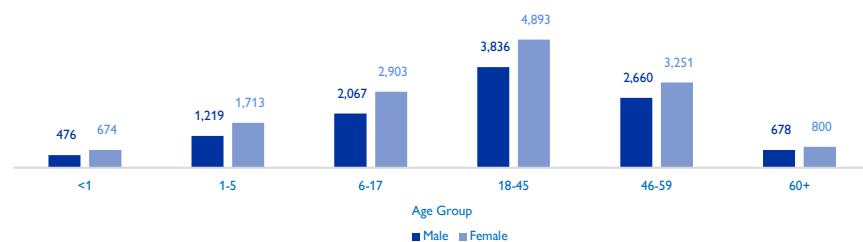
REFUGEES' PRESENCE AT A SUB-COUNTY (ADMIN 2) LEVEL



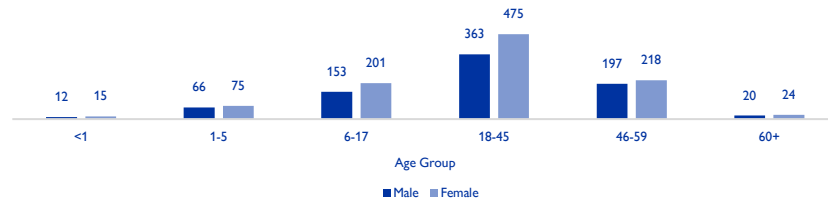
REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND HOST COMMUNITY POPULATION GROUP



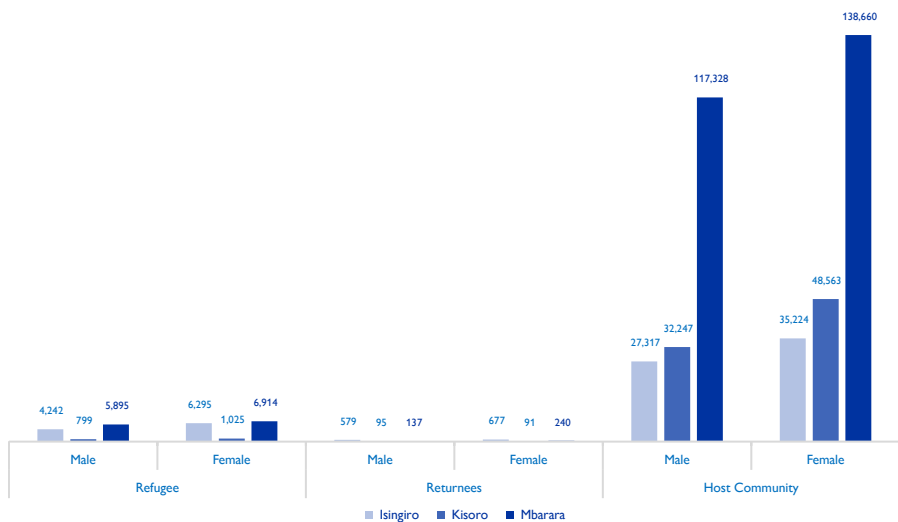
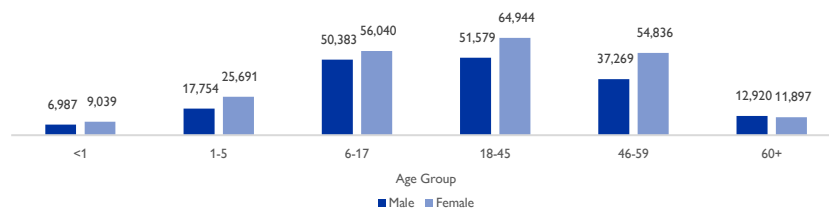
Refugee age break down



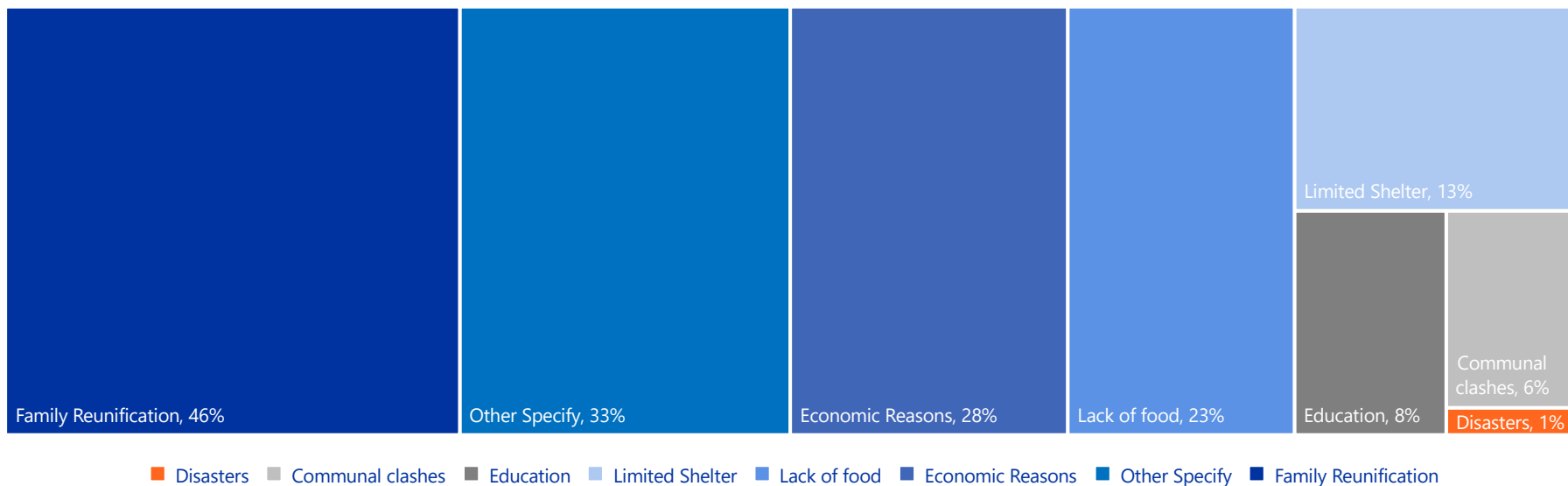
Returnee to the settlement age break down



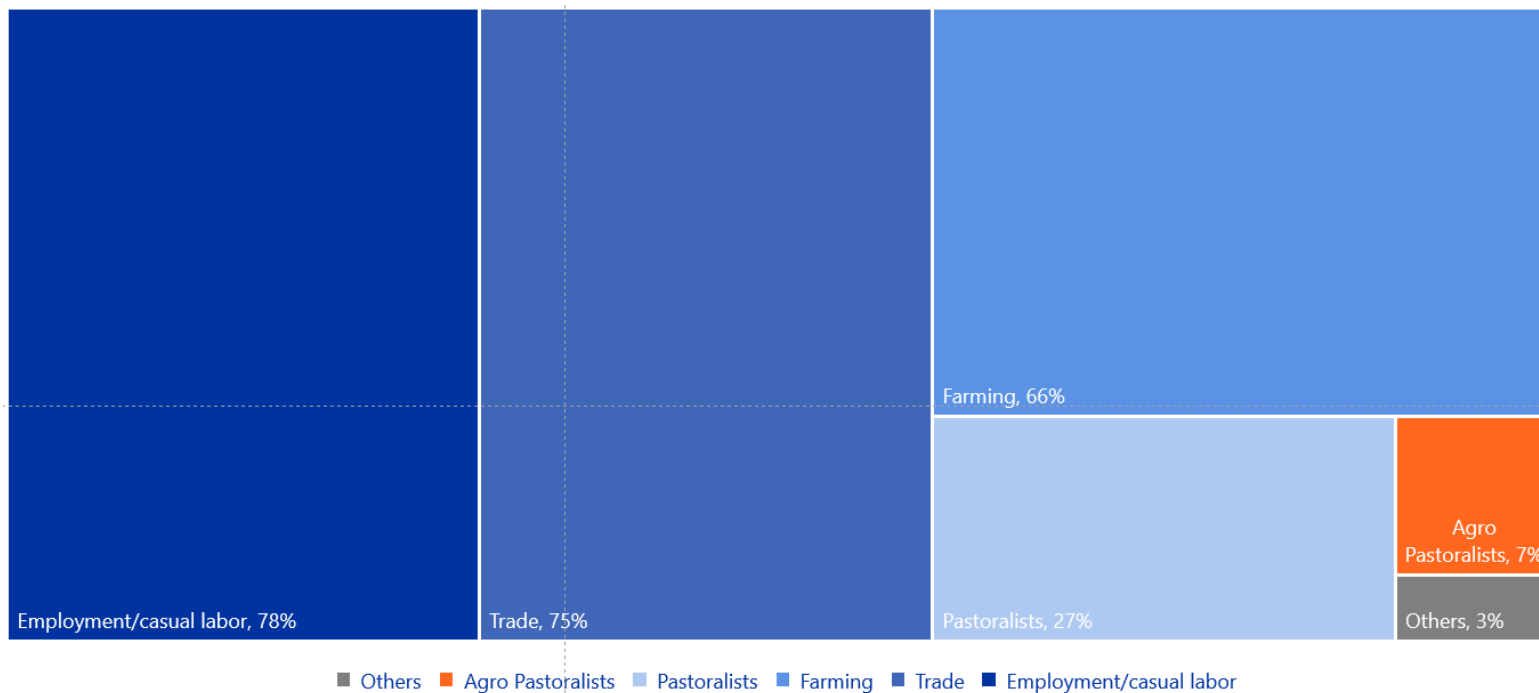
Host community population age break down



REASONS FOR REFUGEE RETURN TO SETTLEMENT

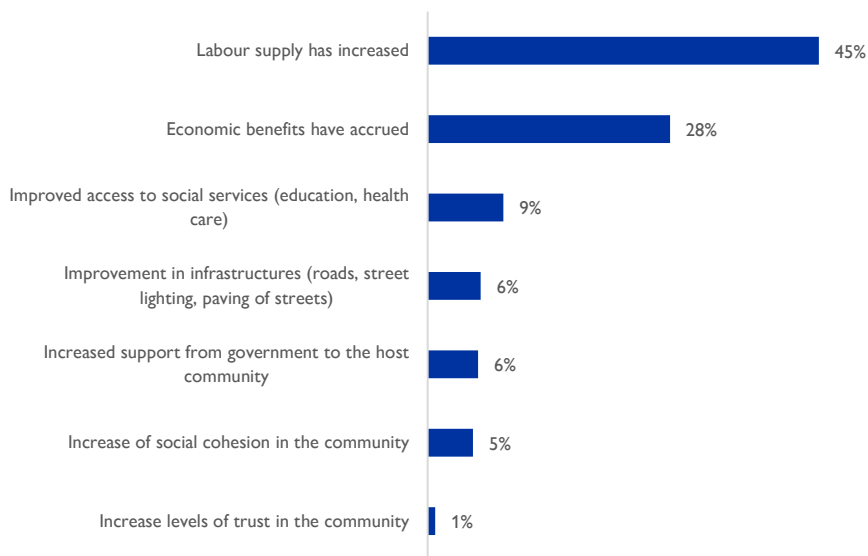


THE MAIN LIVELIHOOD OPTIONS FOR REFUGEES' POPULATION IN THE HOST COMMUNITY

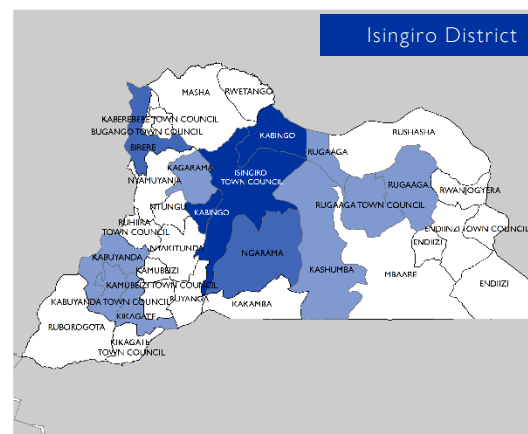
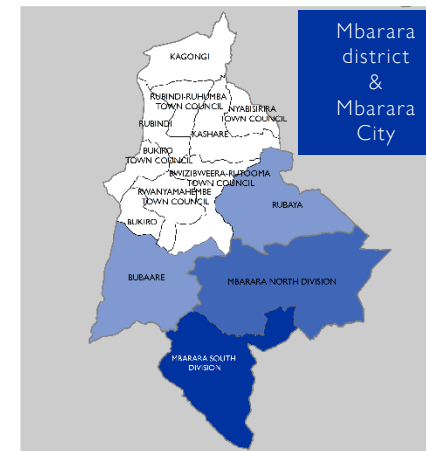
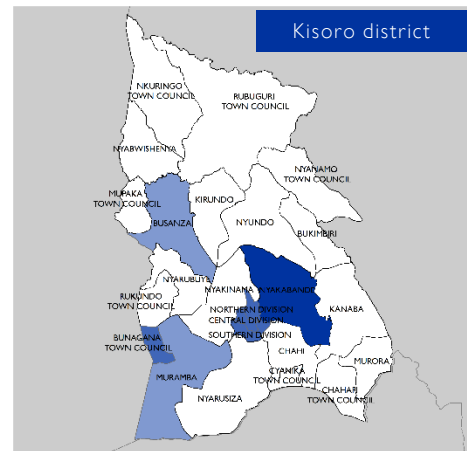


POSITIVE IMPACTS OF REFUGEES IN THE HOST COMMUNITY

There are positive changes that have occurred in the host community since the arrival of refugees. The most significant positive impact reported is an increase in labor supply, with 45% of respondents noting this improvement. This suggests that refugees have contributed to the local workforce, potentially filling labor shortages and stimulating economic activity. Other positive changes reported include economic development (28%), improved infrastructure (9%), increased opportunities (6%), and increased income (5%). These findings indicate that the presence of refugees has had a positive impact on the host community in various areas, contributing to economic growth, improved living conditions, and increased opportunities for both refugees and host community members.



RUFUGEE PRESENCE IN THE ASSESSED ADMIN 2 (SUBCOUNTY)



Legend

Level of refugee presence in the assessed Admin 2

- High (Dark Blue)
- Moderate (Medium Blue)
- Low (Light Blue)
- Not assessed (White)

DISCLAIMER:
This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

Scale: 0 3.5 7 14 Kilometers

DISCLAIMER: Mobility Tracking does not replace, in any case, official estimates of figures of refugees in the settlements, transit centers or in the selected Districts and City.

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