Globally, 281 MILLION PEOPLE were estimated to be international migrants - people who were born in another country and/or held foreign citizenship - at mid-year 2020. An estimated 48 PER CENT of the total number of international migrants at mid-year 2020 were girls and women.

An estimated 13 PER CENT of the total number of international migrants in 2020 were children below 18 years of age. An estimated 11 PER CENT of the total number of international migrants at mid-year 2020 were between 15 and 24 years of age.

An estimated 169 MILLION INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT WORKERS – defined as international migrants of working age in the labour force – made up 62 PER CENT of the total number of international migrants in 2019. In 2022, remittances to low-and middle-income countries are estimated to have increased by 8 per cent compared to 2021 and reached USD 647 billion, continuing to overtake Foreign Direct Investments and Official Development Assistance to these countries.

Between 2014 and 2022, at least 54,397 people lost their lives while migrating internationally. In 2023, another 3,883 migrant deaths and disappearances were recorded globally as of 22 August. Disasters caused 53 per cent of the estimated new 60.9 MILLION INTERNAL DISPLACEMENTS in 2022. Among new internal displacements due to disasters, this is the highest annual number in a decade as well as 41 per cent higher than the annual average of the past decade.

By the end of 2022, there were an estimated total of 35.3 MILLION REFUGEES and 5.4 MILLION ASYLUM-SEEKERS worldwide. According to government statistics, 114,300 REFUGEES were resettled in 2022. Though this number is double than in 2021, it is only 7 per cent of the estimated resettlement needs.

At the end of 2022, an estimated total of 71.1 MILLION people remained displaced within the borders of their own country – 62.5 million as a result of conflict and violence and 8.7 million as a result of disasters. Disasters caused 53 per cent of the estimated new 60.9 MILLION INTERNAL DISPLACEMENTS in 2022. Among new internal displacements due to disasters, this is the highest annual number in a decade as well as 41 per cent higher than the annual average of the past decade.

Source: UN DESA, 2020
Source: UN DESA, 2020
Source: UNICEF, 2021; estimates based on UN DESA data
Source: ILO, 2021
Source: IOM's Missing Migrants Project, 2023
Source: UNHCR, 2023
Source: UNHCR, 2023
Source: IDMC, 2023
Source: IDMC, 2023
Source: Ratha et al., 2023
Source: Counter Trafficking Data Collaborative (CTDC), 2022.
Source: Counter Trafficking Data Collaborative (CTDC), 2022.