



## Operation: Brazil

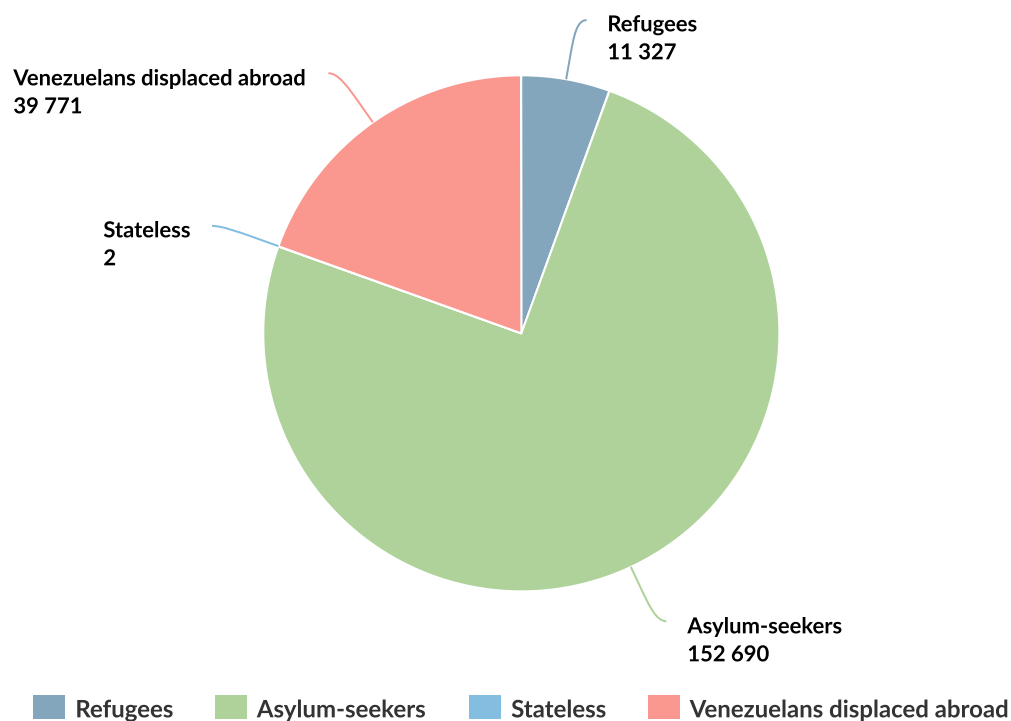


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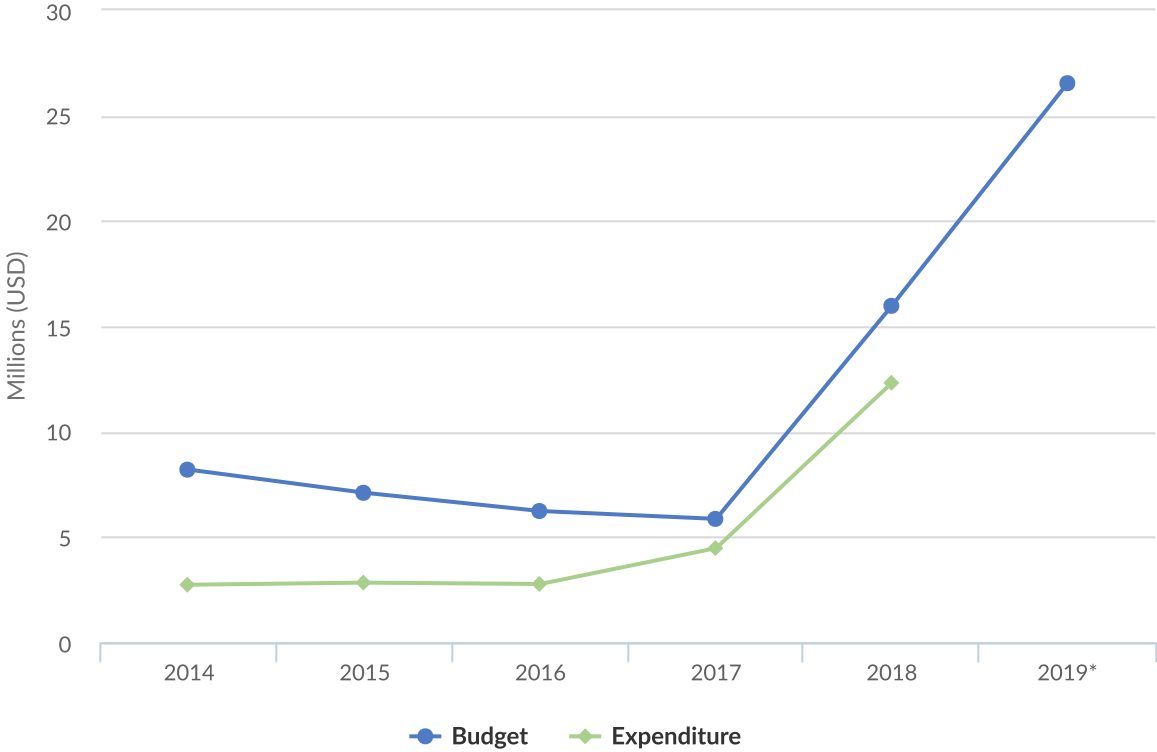
# People of Concern

INCREASE IN  
**37%** 2018

2018	203,790
2017	148,645
2016	68,087



# Budgets and Expenditure for Brazil



## Operational context

The operational environment in Brazil changed drastically in 2018 due to the deteriorating situation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. In July 2018, the emergency level was elevated from Level 1 to Level 2, as the number of Venezuelans arriving in Brazil and the accompanying protection, assistance and operational capacity needs continued to rise. Some 800 people arrived in Roraima State each day, which resulted in the Government declaring a state of emergency. UNHCR stepped up its operational response through strengthening and consolidating its presence in the cities of Boa Vista, Brasilia, Manaus, Pacaraima and Sao Paulo, while reinforcing its activities supporting the federal and local authorities.

The federal emergency response focused on reception and documentation of new arrivals, provision of emergency shelter to the most vulnerable and voluntary internal relocation programme to move Venezuelans from Roraima to other parts of Brazil. UNHCR provided support for biometric registration and documentation and coordination of shelter activities.

The role of Brazil as an emerging resettlement country was strengthened and consolidated through the Emerging Resettlement Countries Joint Support Mechanism. This was launched at the Leaders' Summit on Refugees, and provides a platform to facilitate strategic support and capacity-building efforts for the development of robust and sustainable resettlement programmes in new resettlement countries.

## Population trends

The total population of concern in Brazil stood at some 203,800 at year-end – an increase of some 37% from the end of 2017. This includes 11,300 refugees and 152,700 asylum-seekers, with the majority from Venezuela. Other nationalities of asylum-seekers include Haiti (7,030), Cuba (2,750) and China (1,450).

By the end of 2018, there were also some 40,000 Venezuelans who have applied for temporary residence.

## Key achievements

Important developments were achieved in the framework of the multi-year, multi-partner strategy. Reception mechanisms were developed in border areas and main points of arrival, including strengthened access to information, documentation and referral systems.

UNHCR responded to the sudden increase in needs in Brazil through emergency deployments. Furthermore, continuous training in emergency preparedness, shelter management and SGBV prevention were provided to local government partners and civil society.

UNHCR also began to identify avenues for solutions. For example, a voluntary relocation programme facilitated the move of over 4,000 Venezuelans from border areas in Brazil to other cities with greater employment opportunities and services, to enhance socioeconomic integration. UNHCR supported the relocation process through the management of two transit centres in Roraima and support to shelters throughout Brazil.

To improve access to livelihoods and strengthen economic inclusion, UNHCR completed, in partnership with ILO, a market assessment and value chain analysis in Brazil.

## Unmet needs

Due to funding constraints:

- UNHCR was unable to scale up its support to the government to provide shelter in the areas affected by the influx from Venezuela as well as the relocation programme with more shelters.

- Cash assistance programme could only cover the most vulnerable people.
- Communities could not be assisted with quick impact activities or community based projects that promote peaceful coexistence between refugee and hosting communities.
- Legal assistance and protection was provided but additional initiatives such as specialized legal services and representation, legal clinics were not implemented.

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