Covid-19 Situation Peru
5 August, 2020

Context

The Ministry of Health reported that a Prevalence Study revealed that 25.3 per cent of Lima, about 2.7 million people, would have been infected with COVID-19. These figures exceed by far the official data, which keeps Peru as the seventh country in the global ranking and the third in Latin America. Additionally, daily positive cases have risen again to over 7,000. The Government announced a revision of the official figures, which could imply a significant increase to over 43,000 deaths against the 29,000 currently reported.

Meanwhile, Peru’s Congress rejected a vote of confidence for President Martín Vizcarra’s Cabinet, forcing another reshuffle of his top advisers in the middle of the crisis brought on by the coronavirus pandemic.

The Ombudsperson’s Office in Tacna has required the Regional Government to adopt the necessary actions through the Regional Health Directorate (DIRESA for its acronym in Spanish) to equip the Intensive Care Unit with beds, oxygen and staff to prevent the collapse of the health capacity.

The Minister of Transport and Communications suspended interprovincial land and air travel in the regions that returned to strict quarantine measures due to the COVID-19 sudden increase. These regions include Cuzco, Puno and Tacna, where UNHCR has presence.

Asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants situation

The requirement for national and international health professionals to validate their professional titles in Peru to join the ranks has been eliminated. From August 15, graduates and specialists may provide services in public establishments without requiring validation or temporary authorization from the professional boards or colleges. Only the Apostille will be required for foreign titles. This measure follows strong advocacy by UNHCR and other organizations for the inclusion of Venezuelan health professionals to fight COVID-19 since the start of the emergency. This measure will speed up procedures and facilitate their inclusion amid the caseload increase.

Since the Special Commission for Refugees (CEPR for its acronym in Spanish) resumed the online asylum registration system on 22 June, some 17,000 asylum-seekers have lodged their claims and received a virtual work permit, out of which 14,000 are in Lima.

The Ombudsperson’s Office has requested the National Civil Registration Authority (RENIEC for its acronym in Spanish) to urgently implement the necessary measures to ensure the birth registration of 150,000 children born during the quarantine, including children of asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants. It highlighted the need to accept other documentation than the Peruvian national ID to request an appointment for birth registration through the recently opened virtual platform.

UNHCR Peru Funding Update (As of 22 July 2020)

$48.6 million
UNHCR financial requirements 2020

$43 million
43% funded

UNHCR financial requirements 2020

The financial requirements for Peru include requirements for the Coronavirus Emergency and the Venezuela Situation

For more information: reporting.unhcr.org

Highlight

Some 14,800 blankets have been distributed in Apurímac, Arequipa, Cuzco, Tacna and Lima since the start of the Emergency amid winter times as well as to enhance hospital response in Lima, as COVID-19 caseload is on the rise.
Remote support

Since the start of the emergency, some **3,450 protection cases** have been followed-up through specialized case management services of UNHCR and partners.

**Over 53,800 calls** have been answered via hotlines by UNHCR and partners since the start of the emergency.

**Over 860 activities on psychosocial support** and empowerment to mitigate Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and case referrals have been carried out through UNHCR and partners. Also, in Cuzco and in Lima, some 60 teenagers participated in SGBV prevention strategy sessions conducted by UNHCR partner Plan International, while partner CAPS offered capacity development activities for some 220 civil society organizations’ staff on protection and referral pathways. A safe shelter space for SGBV survivors is still operating through UNHCR partner HIAS.

Humanitarian Cash-Based Assistance (CBI)

Since the emergency started, **over 22,640 (some 7,000 families)** highly vulnerable refugees and migrants have received emergency Cash-Based assistance for over USD 1.5 million.

**Some 500 families** have been benefited with multipurpose supermarket vouchers via Plan International in Arequipa, Cuzco, Lima, Tacna and Tumbes. So far, **over 4,800 kits** and supermarket vouchers have been distributed.

Solutions to COVID-19

Basic Needs and Shelter

More than **550 vulnerable refugees and migrants** are receiving shelter and daily food support in **over 20 shelters/collective accommodations** supported by UNHCR in Arequipa, Lima, Puno, Tacna and Tumbes. UNHCR partner Action Against Hunger also provided three virtual child protection sessions for parents in Lima.

**Over 128,900 food rations** have been provided since the start of the Emergency in the shelters, hotels and temporary centres in Arequipa, Lima, Tacna and Tumbes.

The exit strategy from hotels implemented in Tumbes by UNHCR and IOM was successfully executed. **Over 50 cases** were supported with CBI interventions that allow them to start the integration process in Peru, whereas ten cases continue being hosted by UNHCR and IOM due to ongoing quarantine mobility restrictions in the region.
UNHCR is co-leading together with IOM the emergency coordination response for refugees and migrants through the GTRM (for its acronym in Spanish) composed by more than 70 partners including donors. The GTRM is coordinating with the recently activated Humanitarian Network and has been holding bi-monthly coordination meetings on Cash Based Interventions (CBI), protection, health, information management and communications, as well as basic needs (shelter, food security and food distribution) with all sector leads to operationalize and channel assistance.

GTRM partners are working with regional authorities to develop the capacities of local key actors to identify, refer and protect victims and potential victims of human trafficking. Partners are also scaling up support on the protection of children, the regularization of their parents’ status, and their inclusion in the public education system.

To read the latest dashboard about the COVID-19 Response access [here](#).
To see more on R4V General Response during June 2020, access [here](#).
To read previous updates please access [here](#).
Peru Operation: UNHCR and partners 2020

13 Organisations
11 Provinces

TUMBES (7)
- CAPS
- Obudsman’s Office
- Encuentros
- IFRC
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Plan International
- PKOSA

PIURA (2)
- Obudsman’s Office
- Encuentros

TRUJILLO (1)
- Obudsman’s Office

LIMA (12)
- Aldeas Infantes
- Scalabrinianos Association
- Action Against Hunger
- CAPS
- Obudsman’s Office
- Encuentros
- IFRC
- HIAS
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Plan International
- PROSA
- Pontifical Catholic Univ. of Perú

ICA (1)
- IFRC

AREQUIPA (4)
- Obudsman’s Office
- Encuentros
- IFRC
- Aldeas Infantes

CUZCO (4)
- Aldeas Infantes
- Caritas Cuzco
- Obudsman’s Office
- Plan International

TAMBOPATA (3)
- Caritas del Perú
- Obudsman’s Office
- IFRC

PUNO (1)
- Obudsman’s Office

CHUCUITO (1)
- Directa (Zepita District)

TACNA (5)
- Scalabrinianos Association
- Obudsman’s Office
- Encuentros
- IFRC
- Plan International

Key Figures 2020

Some 830,000¹ Venezuelan refugees and migrants in Peru

Some 1,230¹ Refugees

Some 482,500¹ Asylum-seekers

1. Figures from the Superintendance of Migration (up to January 2020)
2. Figures according to the Special Commission for the Refugees (CEPR) up to date

Follow us:
@acnur_unhcr_americas
@tucuaesaemicusa
/ACNUR
/tucuaesaemicusa
@ACNURamericas
acnur.org/peru

UNHCR is thankful to the donors who provide funds to the Venezuela Situation:
Private donors Australia I Canada I Denmark I European Union I Germany I Japan I Private donors Republic of Korea I Norway I Netherlands I Private donors Spain I Sweden I Switzerland I United Kingdom I UN Programme On HIV/AIDS I United States