

The exodus of Venezuelan nationals is the largest in the recent history of Latin America and the Caribbean and has become the **second largest international displacement crisis in the world**. Of the approximately **5.7 million** refugees and migrants from Venezuela globally, some **4.6 million** are in Latin America and the Caribbean. By end of 2020, there were **851,119 pending asylum claims** from Venezuelans worldwide and 171,127 Venezuelans recognized as refugees in the world. Some 2.6 million residence or regular stay permits have been issued to Venezuelans by Latin American countries. The rest are living in an irregular situation and exposed to greater risk of various forms of exploitation and abuse, due to limited access to rights, including national health, social welfare programmes and basic services

As a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, many refugees and others have lost their sources of income, which further hampers their ability to pay rent and buy food and other essentials, as medicine. Evictions, compounded by the closure of some shelters, led to a spike in homelessness which has further eroded public perceptions of refugees and migrants. In Latin America and the Caribbean, UNHCR works to support this population and fosters their **access to rights**, included to national vaccination programmes. UNHCR co-lead Inter-Agency efforts to respond to these challenges, addressed by the **2021 Refugee and Migrant Response Plan**.

RESPONSE in HOSTING COUNTRIES



559,822 individuals received legal assistance and protection services



111,393 people supported with unrestricted cash assistance



71,416 people assisted with emergency and primary health



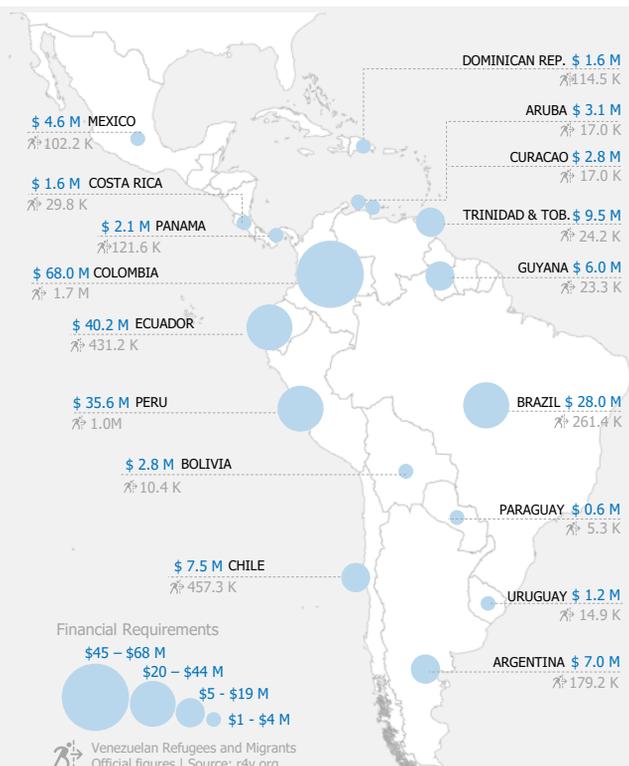
29,052 refugees and migrants sheltered and supported with other solutions



59,233 individuals provided with improved water and sanitation services, included with hygiene supplies



help.unhcr.org
updated information from **16 countries** throughout the region on prevention and remote services



Making a Difference January – August 2021

Child protection	25,105 refugee and migrant children and adolescents who received specialized services
Food	13,698 individuals receiving food assistance
Gender-based violence	1,292 initiatives implemented to prevent and mitigated gender-based violence risks among refugees and migrants
Education	11,150 children, adolescents and youth supported with supplies or services for their permanence in educational services
Integration	32,408 people reached with support for employment or self employment
Humanitarian transportation	10,982 refugees and migrants provided with internal transportation or transport to access protection services
Social cohesion	23,394 individuals participating in activities promoting social cohesion.

RESPONSE inside VENEZUELA

UNHCR operates in 2021 within the interagency framework of the Humanitarian Response Plan to assist the most vulnerable population groups inside the country. In addition to [activities under the WASH and Education clusters](#), UNHCR also contributes operationally and as lead of two clusters: [Protection](#), and [Shelter](#), Energy and non-food relief items (NFI).

In prioritized communities, particularly in border areas, [UNHCR assistance helps address basic needs for vulnerable individuals through core relief items](#), including jerry cans, solar lamps, kitchen sets and hygiene kits. This assistance runs in parallel to support to [reception capacities](#) for spontaneous returns, taking place amid the pandemic, through capacity-building activities, the expansion of triage, [medical and emergency shelter facilities](#), as well as hygiene and sanitation materials for frontline service providers.

UNHCR also works extensively with key institutions and community-based actors to strengthen access to rights through information, individual counselling and referrals. Legal assistance and psychosocial support are also made available to people [with specific protection risks](#), including but not limited to survivors of violence and individuals at risk of statelessness. [Community engagement](#) remains a core feature of UNHCR activities, mobilizing networks across prioritized communities to strengthen grassroots efforts for access to rights, peaceful coexistence, and now [public health risks](#).



71 communities prioritized and supported



102 Refugee Housing Units to support the COVID-19 response



969,000 people* received assistance by UNHCR & partners



243,200 people helped with household items as kitchen sets, mosquito nets or jerry cans

Making a Difference January – September 2021

Education	2,100 children benefited by school kits levelling classes
Health and Community	72 health, sports or community centres constructed or rehabilitated
Protection	21,000 people trained on protection issues
Gender-based violence	1,405 survivors assisted
WASH	40,847 people benefitting from improved hygiene conditions

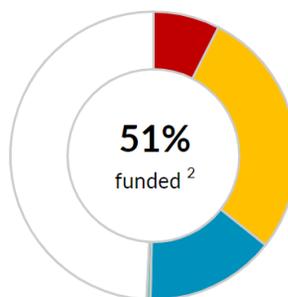
* More than 345K beneficiaries (58%) were newly assisted persons and 249K recurring beneficiaries (42%).

UNHCR is grateful for the critical and generous support provided by donors to the **Venezuela Situation**, as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked funding.

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UNHCR urgently needs in 2021
USD **315.2 million** to save lives and protect the most vulnerable Venezuelans in the Americas

■ Tightly earmarked
■ Earmarked
■ Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
■ Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
□ Funding gap (indicative)

Funding Update: 19/10/2021