Assessment of Key Datasets & Web Portals for Immediate Research Opportunities in Colombia

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La Agencia de la ONU
para los Refugiados

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Contact

Durable Solutions and Socioeconomic Inclusion Unit

Carlos Santiago Guzmán Gutiérrez
Associate Economist Officer
guzmangu@unhcr.org

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Context

Colombia faces significant humanitarian challenges due to both its longstanding internal armed conflict and its role as the main country for Venezuelan refugees and migrants amid the ongoing refugee crisis. According to data from the Victims' Unit -Colombia's institution for the reparation of conflict victims-, the internal conflict has left more than 9 million victims, of whom approximately 8.3 million are forcibly displaced, with 6.8 million in need of attention[1]. Further, Colombia hosts approximately 2.9 million Venezuelan refugees, asylum-seekers, and migrants that have arrived in the country since 2016[2]. Even though the Government's response overall has been positive, the escalation of violence due to the atomization of conflict in the country on the one hand, and the large influx of Venezuelans on the other hand, have exerted more pressure on Colombia's capacity to protect and assist, and have increased the protection risks of the forcibly displaced and stateless persons.

Despite the Peace Agreement signed in 2016 and the Temporary Protection Status implementation a— mechanism designed to foster the socioeconomic integration of Venezuelan refugees and migrants introduced in 2021—, both internally displaced persons (IDPs) and Venezuelans continue to face challenges as regards socioeconomic inclusion, including their access the labor market. According to the Great Integrated Household Survey 2022 (GEIH) conducted by the National Department of Statistics (DANE), the unemployment rate among Venezuelan refugees and migrants is 22%, compared to 11% among nationals. However, Venezuelans do have a higher rate of labor participation (66%) than nationals (59%), and also face higher informality rates.[3] They also experience challenges accessing financial and educational services.

At the same time, those who find a job are more likely to work in the informal sector, making them more vulnerable as they lack social protection and face income volatility. The situation is even more critical for Venezuelan refugees and migrants in an irregular situation, who do not have the right to work, insurance, or formal protection. Moreover,

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[1] Information consulted on November 15, 2022.

[2] According to the Colombian Migration Office "Migración Colombia", in October 2022 there were 2,894,593 Venezuelans living in Colombia. https://bit.ly/3DUKglh

[3] DANE. (2022). Mercado Laboral- Gran Encuesta Integrada de Hogares. Colombia: DANE. https://microdatos.dane.gov.co/index.php/catalog/771/data-dictionary/F54?file_name=Caracter%C3%ADsticas%20generales,%20seguridad%20social%20en%20salud%20y%20educaci%C3%B3n

Venezuelan refugees and migrants tend to work more hours than nationals, though the quality of their jobs is worse and on average, they earn lower wages (DANE, 2022).

Moreover, according to the GEIH 2022, IDPs face structural barriers that hinder their ability to enjoy their rights, including access to the labor market. Areas with high population of IDPs have higher poverty rates and face more deprivations in terms of multidimensional poverty (DANE, 2021). Regarding Venezuelan refugees and migrants, DANE reported that they were more likely to experience monetary poverty, with 63% of households living below the poverty line, compared to 39% of Colombian households (DANE, 2022).

The influx of Venezuelan refugees and migrants, combined with internal forced displacement, have significantly increased the demand for assistance and have highlighted the urgent need for government and international actors to produce high-quality information and data. To this end, this desk review examines the availability of datasets, reports, and data portals that can inform future research on refugees, migrants, and IDPs.

This document outlines the available datasets, web portals, and other platforms that compile information about the forcibly displaced and stateless persons (IDPs, refugees and migrants, asylum seekers, stateless and returnees). It aims to provide an overview and serve as a tool for UNHCR and other stakeholders to gain a deeper understanding of the situation in Colombia regarding forced displacement. Section 1 offers a description of internal UNHCR data and resources. Section 2 explores the data sources produced by the Government of Colombia (GoC), both administrative records and household surveys. Section 3 describes other data sources and web portals. Lastly, section 4 provides general conclusions regarding the data gaps and proposes research areas to explore.

1. UNHCR Data and Resources

UNHCR Colombia data production has been focused on the use of the Population Registration and Identity Management EcoSystem (PRIMES) and other complementary tools aiming to depict the current protection needs and living conditions of forcibly displaced and stateless persons. In this section, we present and describe each dataset. **Table 1** lists the available datasets and tools used by UNCHR to ensure its comprehensive response.

Table 1: List of UNHCR data sources and tools

Datasets	Organization	Period	Description

1.1 proGres v4	UNHCR	2018-ongoing	Official registry database from the UNHCR.
1.2 Protection Monitoring 2018-2020 (since 2020 it was complemented with a high-frequency survey)	UNHCR. Link	Ongoing	Protection monitoring survey. Includes refugees and migrants, asylum-seekers, IDPs.
1.3 High-Frequency Survey	UNHCR Link	2020 - Ongoing	Protection tool to track and identify protection needs of Venezuelan refugees and migrants.
1.4 UNHCR Colombia Scorecard	UNHCR	Ongoing	UNHCR tool used to target cash-based assistance.
1.5 UNHCR Colombia post-distribution monitoring survey tool	UNHCR	Ongoing	UNHCR tool used to monitor Cash-based assistance.
1.6 UNHCR monitoring tool for internal displacement and confinement	UNHCR Link	Ongoing	UNHCR tool used to monitor internal displacement and confinements.
1.7 UNHCR Colombia Participatory Assessments	UNHCR	Ongoing	UNHCR tool for Participatory Assessments
1.8 UNHCR's external publications platform	UNHCR Link	N/A	UNHCR's website about the operation. It has dashboards and summary statistics of the forcibly displaced and stateless persons.

1.1.   proGres v4

The Profile Global Registration System (proGres) is the case management tool developed by UNHCR to facilitate the protection of the forcibly displaced and stateless persons. It is part of PRIMES' ecosystem. It compiles individual and group-level data of the refugees, asylum-seekers, IDPs, returnees, and stateless populations in the operation.

In Colombia, registration activities are conducted by UNHCR and implementing partners. Around 15% of the total number of refugees and migrants, IDPs, and returnees in Colombia are registered in this system. One of the reasons behind the low level of registration in proGres is that the Government of Colombia has a registration system for both (i) victims of the armed conflict (internally displaced persons constitute the main category of registered victims) with the Victims Registry (further described in section 3), and (ii) refugees and migrants from Venezuela with the Single Registry of Venezuelan Migrants (RUMV by its Spanish acronym)[4].

Within the proGres system, two modalities of registration exist depending on time constraints and/or levels of emergency:

a. <u>Individual Registration</u>: Full registration procedure. It captures relevant and detailed information about the forcibly displaced and stateless persons. It collects sociodemographic data such as sex, date of birth, date of arrival in the country, legal status, and country of nationality among others.
b. <u>Reception</u>: Simplified registry. It is not as detailed as the *Individual Registration*, but it is more efficient in emergency situations. It does not collect sociodemographic information about all members of the group, but only for the heads of household. It is considered as a pre-registration.

Moreover, all the people who seek assistance from UNHCR are registered in proGres and this system makes it possible to monitor their current situation.

Only UNHCR staff and implementing partners have access to the system.

1.2.   Protection Monitoring 2018-2020

The Protection Monitoring is a tool that aims to identify and keep track of the protection needs of the forcibly displaced and stateless persons. It is a comprehensive analytical

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[4] A third database, regarding the asylum system, exists and is managed by the Colombian authorities. However, due to the lack of public information, it is not described in this document.

exercise that uses both primary and secondary data, along with anecdotical and systematized information provided by UNHCR Suboffices (SO) and Field Offices (FO)[5]. Since 2023, it is expected to be conducted every quarter. Before, it was conducted twice a year. It includes the following information:

- Characteristics of the household
- Coping mechanisms
- Health Access
- Characteristics of the dwelling
- Characteristics of the forced displacement movement
- Characteristics of the individual
- Education

The main objective of the tool is to correctly and promptly map the protection risks faced by the forcibly displaced and stateless persons and their most urgent needs. It is conducted nationally, including border entry points for Venezuelans.[6] The microdata for the 2018-2020 version is available at the UNHCR microdata library.

Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Protection Monitoring tool was complemented with the High-Frequency Survey, which serves the same purpose, but with a focus on Venezuelan refugees and migrants. The latest Protection Monitoring report published by UNHCR in December of 2022 is available at the UNHCR Data Portal. This report is available to the public. However, to request access to the licensed datasets, individuals have to register in UNHCR Microdata Library.

1.3.   High-Frequency Survey

The High-Frequency Survey (HFS) is a regional tool launched in 2020 to measure and monitor the protection needs and sociodemographic characteristics of Venezuelan refugees and migrants. It is an updated version of the previous Protection Monitoring tool. This new version has allowed UNHCR to reach new populations by incorporating *Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing* (CATI) survey methods. The questionnaire in Colombia has four rounds during the year. A report is published after each round.

In Colombia, UNHCR and nine of its implementing partners applied the instrument nationwide to Venezuelans who had expressed their intention to stay in the country.

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[5] To date, UNHCR Colombia has 19 SO/FO.

[6] The latest report produced by UNHCR is available at the UNHCR Data Portal.

Consequently, this survey is not representative of the full universe of Venezuelans in the country. However, it sheds light on their needs, living conditions, and protection concerns, among others, even during the COVID-19 pandemic when in-person visits were restricted. To date, 9 rounds of the survey have been conducted[7]. The reports are available at UNHCR Data Portal while the microdata is available at UNHCR Microdata Library.

1.4.   UNHCR Colombia Scorecard

The Scorecard is the survey tool used by UNHCR to target Cash Based Interventions (CBI) assistance. Its main purpose is to assess households' eligibility for CBI assistance based on critical socioeconomic conditions screened and detected by the Scorecard. It has been built by a multi-functional team of UNHCR Colombia supported by the Data, Identity Management, and Analysis Unit (DIMA) from UNHCR's Regional Bureau for the Americas.

The instrument collects information about:
- Household composition
- Sociodemographic characteristics
- Coping strategies

In 2022 UNHCR Colombia started a process to update the instrument. It is expected to be deployed in July 2023. The information is used internally and is not publicly available.

The survey is mainly applied by PAOs at the time of registration. However, some trained partners apply the survey. The information is collected in a KoBo[8] form managed by UNHCR Colombia. All persons receiving CBI must complete the survey.

1.5.   UNHCR Colombia Post-Distribution Monitoring tool (PDM)

The PDM survey is used by UNHCR to monitor the disbursement, utilization, and access of the cash assistance provided to the forcibly displaced and stateless persons. As such, it aims to track, from a process perspective, how the disbursement works in practice and what barriers refugees, asylum-seekers, and IDPs face. It is also a verification tool that helps UNHCR to ensure that the assistance is correctly delivered.

The PDM is applied three months after the disbursement, and asks questions about:
- Location
- Sociodemographic characteristics
- Cash and use of cash

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[7] 2020 Q4, 2021 – Q1 to Q4, and 2022 Q1 to Q4.

[8] KoBo is a free open-source tool for mobile data collection. To read more, please visit the official website.

- Protection risks and other issues
- Expenses categories

The instrument is used internally, and no public information is available. The latest report produced by UNHCR Colombia (2020) is available at the [UNHCR Data Portal](#).

1.6. UNHCR Monitoring Tool for Internal Forced Displacement and Confinement

UNHCR's monitoring tool for internal forced displacement and confinement explores and systematizes internal forced displacement and confinement events in areas where UNHCR Colombia is present. It is an internal instrument that provides information related to the event, main locations of occurrence, magnitude, and characteristics of the families and communities affected.

The UNHCR Colombia Monitoring Tool for Internal Forced Displacement and Confinement report is available at the [UNHCR Data Portal.](#) The last publication of the data was on 6 March, 2023.

1.7. UNHCR Participatory Assessments

UNHCR Participatory Assessment are used to identify, jointly with the communities, the protection risks and needs they face. According to UNHCR:

"*Participatory assessment is a process of building partnerships with refugee women and men of all ages and backgrounds by promoting meaningful participation through structured dialogue. Participatory assessment includes holding separate discussions with women, girls, boys and men, including adolescents, to gather accurate information on the specific protection risks they face and the underlying causes, to understand their capacities, and to hear their proposed solutions. Participatory assessment involves discussing with women, girls, boys and men and analyzing jointly with them the protection risks that they face. It helps mobilize communities to take collective action to enhance their protection and forms the basis for the implementation of rights and community-based approach*"

Therefore, the main objectives of the tool are (i) to analyze protection risks and incidents together with the forcibly displaced and stateless persons and (ii) to involve them in the design, planning, monitoring and evaluation activities of the projects implemented by

UNHCR. Focus groups are conducted in all locations where UNHCR has a regular presence. The Community-Based Protection Unit leads the process and produces an annual report with the main findings. It is an essential tool to understand context dynamics, current needs, and potential ways to identify solutions that contribute to overcoming complex situations.

In 2022, UNHCR consulted 1,254 persons: 777 women (62%), 471 men (38%), and 214 children (17%) as part of 94 Participatory Assessments with IDPs, Venezuelans and host communities, including 192 focus groups in 13 departments. The main findings were related to a lack of socio-economic integration due to unequal access to rights and a lack of guarantees for meaningful participation in decision making, discrimination, and xenophobia, as well as the persistence of protection risks, including those associated with armed conflict, such as child recruitment and use, GBV, labor exploitation, illicit economies, and disputes over territorial control.

1.8.　　UNHCR External Publications Platform

UNHCR Colombia data portal presents general operational information, which includes needs assessments and other situation monitoring documents. Their objective is to depict the country's current situation of forced displacement of the people UNHCR serves. All the information is publicly available and can be found in the Operational Data Portal.

This information is presented to the Victims Unit, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to compare and contrast various sources of internal displacement and confinement reports. A fact sheet is produced monthly to present the total number of events accumulated over time. The data used to produce the fact sheet is available upon request.

2. Data produced by the Government of Colombia

Colombia is home to a wealth of datasets, including both national household surveys and administrative records. The National Department of Statistics (DANE) produces detailed reports based on these surveys, which provide both descriptive and analytical information. Some of these reports even include data that is broken down by nationality. Overall, the country's extensive collection of data and analytical resources provides valuable insights into its population and economy.

Table 2 lists the datasets available that include information about refugees and migrants, and/or IDPs.

Table 2: Government of Colombia datasets and platforms

Datasets	Organization	Period	Description
2.1 GEIH (Colombian Household Survey)	DANE Link	2009-ongoing. Since 2012 the survey includes a migration module.	Household survey that provides information on household characteristics and labor market
2.2 Migratory Pulse Survey (EPM)	DANE Link	2021 – ongoing	Longitudinal household survey focused on a sample of Venezuelan households
2.3 Colombian Life Quality Survey – ECV (Colombian Household Survey)	DANE Link	Annually since 2008.	Survey that provides information on the quality of life of households.
2.4 PEPFF data (not public)	Ministry of Labor	2020 March – 2021 June	Administrative database that contains information about the issuance of the PEPFF permit (employment-based permit) and the characteristics of the beneficiaries.
2.5 Single Registry of Venezuelan Migrants, RUMV data (not public)	Special Migration Administrative Unit	RUMV: 2021 May – TBD	Administrative database that contains basic sociodemographic characteristics of Venezuelans who expect to obtain the TPS.

2.6 Victims Unit – National Victims Registry	Victims Unit National Registry Link 1 Link 2 (*Datos Abiertos* is a website from the government which centralizes access to information from many institutions, such as the Victims Unit)	Ongoing	The National Victims Registry contains anonymized sociodemographic information related to the victims.
2.7 Victims Unit – Profiling of victims of the armed conflict who have migrated to other countries	Victims Unit and NRC Link	2017-2019	Profiling exercise led by the Victims Unit and NRC. They collected surveys in 8 countries to provide evidence of the living conditions of victims that emigrated from Colombia
2.8 Observatory of Migration from Venezuela (OMV)	National Planning Department Link	Ongoing	Platform that keeps track of the Venezuelan situation using administrative records.
2.9 Research Platform of the Public Employment Service's Special Administrative Unit (UAESPE by its Spanish acronym)	UAESPE	Ongoing	Platform that contains research products regarding the Colombian labor market.
2.10 Regional Labor Market Observatory Network (ORMET Network)	Ministry of Labor Link (only in Spanish)	Ongoing	Platform developed by the Ministry of Labor. It contains information and research about the Colombian labor market.

2.1. Colombian Great Integrated Household Survey (GEIH by its Spanish acronym)

The GEIH is a survey that collects information regarding labor market outcomes (employment, income, social protection) and general characteristics of the population, such as sex, age, marital status, educational level, sources of income, and expenses (what does the population buy, how often and where). The GEIH provides information at the national, urban-rural, regional, and departmental levels, as well as for the capital cities of each department of Colombia.

The survey aims to provide basic information about the size and structure of the workforce (employment, unemployment, inactivity), as well as a description of the sociodemographic characteristics of the population.

On the other hand, the average monthly sample comprises approximately 21,000 households. The target population consists of individuals living in the national territory.

The list of principal variables is:
- Housing
- Household information
- General characteristics
- Social security –health
- Education
- Workforce (economically active, economically inactive, type of employment)
- Other activities: non-remunerated activities and support
- Other income: Income different from labor income
- Microbusiness: Information about the self-employed workers (firm size < 10 people)
- Fertility: Number of children born alive
- Migration: Migration dynamics at the national level
- Job training: Job training dynamics and skills certification
- Child labor: Activities and reasons for child labor

Migration module

In 2012, a migration module (for all members of the household) was incorporated by DANE into the GEIH structure. It includes five questions:
1. Place of birth

2. Place where the person lived
3. Where did you leave 12 months ago? (short-term migration)
4. Where did you leave 5 years ago? (long-term migration)
5. Reason to migrate

The objective of the module is to provide migration statistics. In 2013, aiming to improve the information, seven new questions were incorporated.

The reports are available on DANE's website[9].

Microdata is publicly available. To access the data, please visit the [Great Integrated Household Survey website.](#)

2.2. Migratory Pulse (EPM by its Spanish acronym)

The Migratory Pulse is a longitudinal survey that follows approximately 4000 Venezuelan households. It provides complementary information about Venezuelan refugees and migrants living in Colombia. It focuses on characterizing their living conditions to identify current needs and to inform better the policy-making process.

The survey is representative of Venezuelans living in Colombia and the sample is a subsample of the GEIH. It includes both Venezuelans and returnees. The sections of the survey are:
- Migration
- Labor market
- Integration (perceptions)
- Children Welfare

To date, four rounds have been collected and the reports are available on DANE's website[10].

Microdata is publicly available. To access the data, please visit the [Migratory Pulse Survey Website.](#)

2.3. Colombian Life Quality Survey (ECV by its Spanish acronym)

The ECV aims to quantify and characterize the living conditions of the population in Colombia. It is an annual survey, and it allows to identify Venezuelan or mixed households,

[9] Please visit the [DANE GEIH Website](#) for further information.
[10] Please visit the [EPM Website](#) for further information.

which is useful to understand their living conditions compared to nationals. It collects information regarding:

- Housing Characteristics
- Housing public services access
- Characteristics and household composition
- Health
- Comprehensive care for children under 5 years of age
- Education
- Workforce
- Information and communication technologies
- Child labor
- Household expenses

The survey is also used for the calculation of the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI).

Microdata is publicly available. To access the data and reports, please visit the Life Quality Survey Website.

2.4. Employment-based permit data (PEPFF)

In 2020, the Government of Colombia implemented an employment-based permit that aimed to regularize the situation of Venezuelan refugees and migrants after receiving a job offer. This permit was part of the broader temporary permits adopted in the country and preceded the wider Temporary Protection Status (TPS) mechanism created by the Government in February 2021.

The dataset contains information on all Venezuelans for whom hiring companies requested permits (approximately 22000 submissions). Further, it has information regarding the status of the request- whether it was approved, rejected, or in progress-, as well as sex, age, and sector of the job vacancy, among other administrative information.

The data is not publicly available. However, UNHCR is supporting the Ministry of Labor in assesing the effects of the policy.

2.5. Single Registry of Venezuelan Migrants (RUMV by its Spanish acronym)

The RUMV is the official administrative registration platform used by the Government of Colombia to register Venezuelan refugees and migrants who applied for the TPS. The registry collected information related to sociodemographic characteristics, household composition, and migration/displacement conditions, among others, to characterize the current population of Venezuelans in the country, and to validate whether they met the conditions to be eligible for the permit or not.

It has information regarding more than 2 million Venezuelans. The dataset is not publicly available. For more information about the RUMV, please visit the official website.

2.6. Victims Unit – National Victims Registry (RUV by its Spanish acronym)

The RUV is an administrative tool (database) used by the Victims Unit to determine who is eligible to receive legal assistance and reparation measures defined by the Law 1448/2011 on reparation for Victims and Land Restitution. As such, the registry tracks and keeps a record of the victims registered by the Victims Unit[11]. It asks for information related to gender, ethnicity, age, place of residence, and place of occurrence of victimizing events, among others. The microdata is not publicly available, but aggregate-level information can be reviewed on the Victims Unit Website.

As a complementary tool, the Victims Unit has worked on characterization reports of the effective enjoyment of rights at the municipality level. These reports aim to present the living conditions of the population included in the registry. Further, it sheds light on the sociodemographic characteristics of the victims, their access to services, and the way they were victimized, presenting information on their most urgent needs and the areas where efforts need to be intensified with an area-based approach. Retrieve the reports through the Victims Unit Characterization Website.

2.7. Victims Unit – Profiling of victims of the armed conflict who have fled to other countries

This is a profiling exercise led by the Victims Unit and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). Between 2017 and 2019, both institutions collected 2162 surveys in 8 countries[12] to provide evidence on the living conditions of victims who fled the country. The information was used to highlight the situation of those living abroad and to produce new evidence about how to improve their well-being and guarantee the respect of their rights.

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[11] By November 15, 2022, 9,379,87 conflict victims have been included in the RUV.

[12] The countries where the survey was conducted are Ecuador, Panama, the United States, Venezuela, Chile, Costa Rica, Spain, Canada.

The survey collected information regarding:
- Sociodemographic
- Work status
- Victim status
- Victim-related information

The microdata and the report are publicly available and can be retrieved from the Victims Unit Website.

2.8.   Colombian Observatory of Migration from Venezuela (OMV by its Spanish acronym)

The OMV is a platform developed and led by the National Planning Department (DNP by its Spanish acronym), a Government of Colombia institution, with the support of other government entities such as ministries and administrative departments. The tool gathers and presents intersectoral information (education, social protection, health, employment, integration) related to the situation of Venezuelan refugees and migrants, aiming to provide a detailed description of their current living conditions and inclusion status. To do so, the OMV links different administrative records and creates a Multidimensional Index of Socioeconomic Integration for Venezuelan Immigrants in Colombia (IMI by its Spanish acronym) that sheds light on the evolution of this population's integration process.

To date, the platform hosts public dashboards, studies, and reports that are useful to inform and understand the migratory phenomenon. Furthermore, the OMV is the result of a broader effort that started with the *Strategy for the management of migration from Venezuela*[13], a planning document developed by the Government. Altogether, the platform helps to identify current protection needs and gaps in the Venezuela migration, humanitarian, and development response.

The website is publicly available. Please visit OMV's Website for further information (only available in Spanish).

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[13] The Government of Colombia has planning strategies that are developed in planning documents called CONPES. CONPES 3950 establishes the guidelines and actions for the response to the Venezuelan situation.

2.9. Research Platform of the Public Employment Service's Special Administrative Unit (UASPE by its Spanish acronym)

Thu UASPE oversees job placement service providers (e.g. public employment agencies). As such, it is an agency that coordinates the provision of matching services for potential employers and employees. The UAESPE is key to promoting the employment of host communities, IDPs, refugees, migrants, and returnees, by facilitating the search for job offers and the application process.

The UASPE has a platform dedicated to research. It studies labor demand and supply, identifying current trends, and employers' and job seekers' profiles disaggregated by geography and population groups (IDPs, refugees, migrants, youth and people with disabilities). Information is only available in Spanish.

Further, the UASPE characterizes the types of vacancies and produces two types of databases with information on the vacancies:

1. **Labor demand:** It includes all the vacancies registered per month and year for the period 2015-2022. Information can be disaggregated by department, municipality, occupational classification, sectoral classification, education level and experience required for the position, and salaries offered. To access the dataset, please visit de [labor demand section](#).
2. **Labor supply:** It includes aggregate-level information on workers looking for a job for the period 2015-2022. One feature of this database is that it is possible to disaggregate the figures by ethnicity, refugee and migrant situation, and if they are victims of conflict. It also includes sex, education level, job experience, knowledge area, and disaggregation by department and municipality. To access the data, please visit the [labor supply section](#).

2.10. Regional Labor Market Observatory Network (ORMET)

The ORMET network is a platform that facilitates the exchange and generation of knowledge about the labor market from a regional perspective. It builds on the work developed by regional labor market observatories and fosters data collection activities, coordination of key stakeholders (private and public), and regional monitoring. Moreover, it is possible to find labor market studies and assessments for IDPs that shed light on their conditions and the barriers they face when looking for a job opportunity. To access the list of reports, please visit [ORMET's Website](#).

3. Other Data Sources

Table 3: Other data sources

Datasets	Organization	Period	Description
3.1 Interagency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants (R4V)	Interagency Platform Link	Ongoing	R4V's regional website for Latin American and the Caribbean (17 countries). It summarizes information regarding the response to Venezuelan refugees and migrants.
3.2 Interagency Group for Mixed Migration Flows (GIFMM by its Spanish acronym)	GIFMM Link	Ongoing	GIFMM's website with aggregate information regarding Vensit for Colombia.
3.3 Regional Survey on Evictions of Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela	The Protection Sector of the Regional Coordination Platform for the response to refugees and migrants from Venezuela (R4V) – (21 organizations + 5 universities from the Network of Legal Clinics of Colombia) Link 1 Link 2	Oct 2020 – Nov 2020	Database that contains the information of a large data collection effort conducted in 7 Latin American countries.
3.4 International Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), Colombia Country Profile	IDMC	N/A	IDMC's Colombia country profile with key information regarding internal displacement

3.1. Interagency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants (R4V)

R4V is a regional interagency platform for coordinating the response for refugees and migrants from Venezuela. Approximately 200 organizations are part of the platform in 17 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, making it one of the most prominent coordination efforts. The work of R4V is guided by the Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RMRP). Find the most recent version via the RMRP 2023-2024 website.

The R4V platform produces timely information regarding the evolution of the Venezuelan situation both at regional and country levels. It produces needs analysis, special reports, dashboards, services assessment, and other data. Furthermore, the platform work is structured around nine key sectors to identify the current needs of the Venezuelan refugee and migrant. These are:

- Education
- Food security
- Health
- Humanitarian Transportation
- Integration
- Nutrition
- Protection
- Shelter
- WASH

The information and reports can be accessed on the R4V Website.

3.2. GIFMM Colombia (aggregate and general information)

The Interagency Group for Mixed Migration Flows (GIFMM by its Spanish acronym) is the local coordination platform in Colombia for the Venezuelan refugee and migrationsituation, led by UNHCR and IOM. Complementing the Government actions, the group helps to align the response at the national level. There are local GIFMMs in 12 departments of the country.

The GIFMM conducts needs assessments, mapping exercises, and data collection in urban and border areas to highlight the situation of refugees and migrants with intention to stay in Colombia and in transit, producing a country profile. It also monitors the response and

provides data regarding the demographic profile of refugees and migrants, the number and types of beneficiaries, the number and types of activities, the response by sector, and implementing partners with their corresponding number of activities.

All the information is public and can be found on GIFFMM Colombia's Website.

3.3. Regional Survey on Evictions of Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela

The Regional Survey on Evictions of Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela is a data collection exercise conducted in 7 Latin American countries. The purpose was to assess the eviction situation, as well as to identify protection risk profiles and critical factors, to better design protection strategies that were included in a regional toolbox for the mitigation of eviction risks.

The main outputs of the survey are the report, which can be consulted on the Regional Survey on Evictions Website, and the database, available at UNHCR Microdata Library.

3.4. IDMC Colombia Country Profile

The IDMC portal compiles information about the internal displacement situation of the country. It depicts the internal displacement from two perspectives using two types of data: (i) Conflict and violence data and (ii) disaster data. Both datasets are available and present information for the period 2008-2021.

It is important to highlight the way the IDMC reports the figure of IDPs. The count of total IDPs reported by IDMC is lower than the one reported by the Victims Unit because the former focus on the people in need of attention. The difference arises because IDMC, though aiming to measure the progress on internal displacement, excludes deceased people. The reason for the Victims Unit to include the deceased people in the count is due to the historic value that the number has for the memory of the country.

The databases and reports can be found on the IDMC Colombia Website.

4. Data Gaps and Research Opportunities

4.1. Data Gaps

Colombia has worked towards the inclusion of refugees and migrants, and IDPs in national statistical systems. Currently, the country has been making several efforts that have helped to make the situation of the forcibly displaced and stateless persons more visible.

The work of the National Statistics Office is superb, and the analytical products it has developed have played a key role in UNHCR's understanding of the context. In addition, UNHCR has strengthened its data collection exercises, with the proGres database used as case management tool by the organization.

Despite the increase in the quality and quantity of data collected on forcibly displaced and stateless persons, three main gaps need to be addressed to strengthen the statistics and analytical production on refugees , IDPs, stateless people, and returnees. First, to date, there is still no systematic survey exercise that measures the situation of vulnerability of IDPs. Second, in terms of the intention to return to Venezuela, there is a lack of a proper measurement framework, but recent initiatives aim to contribute to this information gap. Third, more data on forced displacement due to natural disasters is needed to gain a better understanding of this phenomenon.

As such, UNHCR efforts should not only prioritize new data collection exercises but also complement ongoing activities led by Government agencies and other stakeholders. It is key to continue working on the identification of joint initiatives and, if helpful, towards signing Data Sharing Agreements (DSA) or Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) with strategic actors, like the National Statistics Office or Migration Units, that facilitate the use of data to develop analytical products on forced displacement. For instance, the use of administrative records -like the Victims Unit data or the RUMV- could help to foster characterization exercises of the forcibly displaced and stateless persons.

4.2.   Research opportunities

The scientific production on forced displacement in Colombia has been fruitful and an example for the region and the world. Still, access to major data sources other than household surveys has been a major barrier in contributing to the evidence base. Thus, the databases and portals reviewed in this document constitute a first effort to shed light on how to overcome some of these barriers and aim to provide a starting point in terms of research questions of importance for the Country Operation.

Accordingly, some research areas to be explored are:
- **Temporary Protection Permits and de facto socioeconomic inclusion.**
- **Labor market and inclusion of refugees, migrants and IDPs (incentives, barriers, needs, perceptions).**
- **Poverty dynamics for refugees and migrants and IDPs (transitions in and out of vulnerability).**
- **Causes of internal forced displacement and the decision to settle.**
- **Education skills certification and recognition of diplomas.**

To complement the thematic areas mentioned above, Annex II presents a list of potential questions that can be answered -or at least explored- with the information available in the databases and data portals.

References

DANE (2021). Great Integrated Household Survey. National Department of Statistics. Available at:

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Annex I: List of Acronyms

CATI	Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing
CBI	Cash-Based Interventions
DANE	National Department of Statistics
DIMA	Data, Identity Management, and Analysis – Regional Bureau for the Americas
DNP	National Planning Department
ECV	Colombian Life Quality Survey
EPM	Migratory Pulse
GEIH	Great Integrated Household Survey
GIFMM	Interagency Group for Mixed Migration Flows
GoC	Government of Colombia
IDMC	International Displacement Monitoring Centre
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IMI	Multidimensional Index of Socioeconomic Integration for Venezuelan Immigrants in Colombia
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
OMV	Observatory of Migration from Venezuela
PDM	Post-Distribution Monitoring
PEPFF	Special Permit for the Promotion of Employment Formalization
PRIMES	Population Registration and Identity Management EcoSystem
RMRP	Venezuela's Refugee and Migrant Response Plan
RUMV	Single Registry of Venezuelan Migrants
RUV	Single Victims Registry
TPS	Temporary Protection Status
UASPE	Special Administrative Unit of the Public Employment Service
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Annex II: List of potential questions

This Annex presents a list of potential research questions that can be addressed using the data sources described in the document. The list aims to be a resource to help guide potential research activities.

UNHCR Data Sources

- What are the needs Venezuelan refugees and migrants are facing? What are their priority needs?
- What are the characteristics of vulnerable persons and the coping mechanisms they are recurring to in order to survive?
- Do Venezuelan refugees and migrants have access to the health system? If so, to what extent?
- What are the main barriers to achieve integration reported by Venezuelan refugees and migrants?
- What are the main characteristics of the internal forced displacement dynamics observed in Colombia?
- What are the main barriers to employment for IDPs, refugees and migrants?
- What are the main risks of eviction faced by refugees and migrants?
    - How to mitigate potential risks of eviction?

Government Data Sources

- What is the labor force participation of IDPs, refugees and migrants in Colombia?
- What is the average income of refugees and migrants in Colombia?
    - Average working hours?
    - Sector of work?
- What are the gaps in terms of access to public services?
    - How can we improve access to public services for the IDP, refugee and migrant populations?
- What is the average educational level of the forcibly displaced and stateless persons?
    - What are the main barriers to access formal education?

- How do sociodemographic indicators of host communities compare to those for IDPs, refugees and migrants?
- What are the main barriers to child protection between nationals and refugees and migrants?
- What are the gaps in terms of access to effective health attention?
- What is the extent of child labor among the IDP, refugee and migrant population?
- Geographic analysis of these questions.

Assessment of Key Datasets & Web Portals for Immediate Research Opportunities in Colombia

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