

PROTECTION SPACES

FACTSHEET | 2026

Context

UNHCR Protection Spaces (*Espacios de Protección*, EdP) are **safe, community-oriented multi-service points** where refugees, asylum-seekers, host community members and other vulnerable populations receive information, guidance and assistance on access to rights and services from UNHCR and its partners, including information on access to asylum procedures, documentation, legal orientation, case management, health and mental health services, livelihoods support and other protection interventions.

As of August 2026, UNHCR Peru operates **six fixed and five mobile Protection Spaces across Lima, Tacna and Tumbes**, with each being strategically located in areas with high concentrations of forcibly displaced people. These spaces were first established in 2023 and have since expanded both geographically and in scope, with mobile units reaching peri-urban and border areas and services extended through continued collaboration with government institutions, municipalities and humanitarian actors.

Peru remains **the second largest destination country for Venezuelan nationals** who have been forced to flee, with over 1.63 million residing in the country by June 2026. The capital, Lima, hosts over one million Venezuelans, making it the city with the largest Venezuelan population outside of Venezuela. Tumbes serves as the primary land border crossing for Venezuelan refugees, and Tacna, on the southern border with Chile, acts as a critical mobility corridor for forcibly displaced persons. By bringing vital services directly to the community level, Protection Spaces successfully reduce accessibility barriers, facilitate coordinated access to essential services, and improve protection outcomes for vulnerable populations.

Key Figures



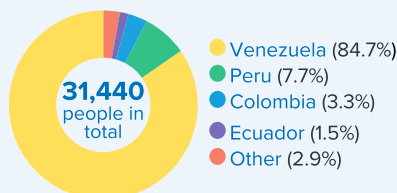
134,030
 People assisted
 from September 2023
 to August 2026.

31,440 people assisted from
 January to August 2026.

31,440 PEOPLE ASSISTED Jan - Aug 2026

Nationality

(Unit: %)

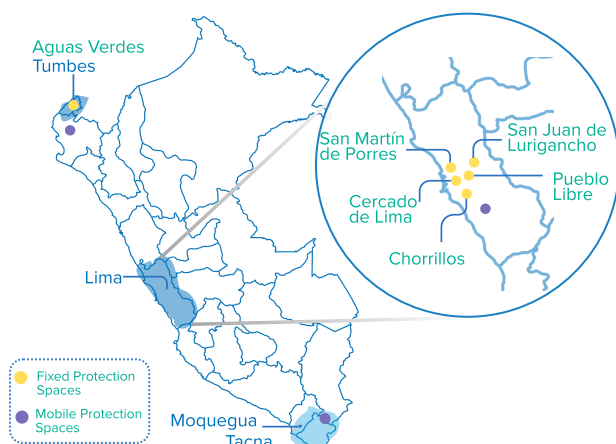


Region and type of EdP

(Unit: Persons)

Region	Fixed EdP	Mobile EdP	Total
Lima	26,473	341	26,814
Tumbes	3,136	1,023	4,159
Tacna	-	423	423
Moquegua	-	44	44
Total	29,609	1,831	31,440

Protection Spaces



Services provided

Services	Location	Provided by
• General orientation	Lima, Tumbes	UNHCR, Encuentros SJM
• Legal orientation & assistance	Lima, Tumbes, Tacna	UNHCR, Encuentros SJM, El Cirineo, The Ombudsperson's Office
• Access to documentation	Lima	SNM ¹
• Application for asylum	Lima	CEPR ²
• Prevention of violence against women and girls	Lima	Warmi Ñan Programme by MIMP ³
• Primary and mental healthcare	Lima, Tumbes, Tacna	APPV, ⁴ OCASIVEN, ⁵ (in Lima) Partners in Health (in Lima, Tumbes, Tacna)
• Livelihoods	Lima	World Vision ⁶

¹ National Superintendence of Migration (SNM)

² Special Commission for Refugees (CEPR)

³ Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations (MIMP)

⁴ Association for the Protection of Vulnerable Populations (APPV)

⁵ Organization of Collaborators for Social Assistance to Venezuelan Migrants (OCASIVEN)

⁶ During 2026, World Vision maintained operations in UNHCR Protection Spaces between January and July.

★ 2026 Highlights

- In January, UNHCR Protection Spaces **surpassed 100,000 visits since their establishment in 2023**, following the expansion of UNHCR's services to six fixed and five mobile spaces across Lima, Tacna and Tumbes.
- Between January and August 2026**, UNHCR Protection Spaces **assisted 31,440 people** across Peru, with Lima accounting for the largest share of assistance followed by Tumbes. Most people reached were from Venezuela (84%).
- The Ombudsperson's Office and Warmi Ñan**, a programme of Peru's Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations, **joined UNHCR Protection Spaces**, strengthening access to information on rights, referral pathways and services for survivors and persons at risk of violence against women and girls.
- In May, UNHCR relocated its Protection Space in **San Martín de Porres** to a larger facility, expanding access to protection services in one of Lima's districts hosting the largest refugee populations. By the end of July, the new facility had supported more than **2,140 people**.
- From May to August, UNHCR's Protection Space in San Juan de Lurigancho served as a training hub for the municipality's Local Registration Unit (ULE) household registration campaign which targeted **8,400 vulnerable households**. UNHCR provided technical assistance and personnel for the exercise, helping vulnerable Peruvian and refugee families access socioeconomic classification and state social protection programmes.
- UNHCR **established Connectivity Spaces across its five Protection Spaces in Lima**. These facilities provide asylum-seekers with internet access and the necessary support to complete the updating and validation of their asylum applications, a State-led online process scheduled to take place from 17 September to 16 October.



Protection Spaces user feedback survey



90% expressed satisfaction with the service they received.



95% noted that the available services at EdP were adequately explained to them.



89% reported resolving their concerns after receiving legal assistance.



82% were able to identify potential solutions and the appropriate service channels after receiving support.



+90% reported feeling safe during the assistance provided at the EdP.



99% indicated that they were treated with dignity and respect at the EdP.

Service Gaps

Users requested further access to psychosocial and mental health support (44%), humanitarian assistance (43%), and community or integrated activities (12%).

Who we work with in the Protection Spaces:



UNHCR is grateful for the support of donor countries that contribute to the office in Peru and to global programmes with flexible funding in 2026.



Private donors: Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden