

MID-YEAR TRENDS REPORT

AMERICAS 2022

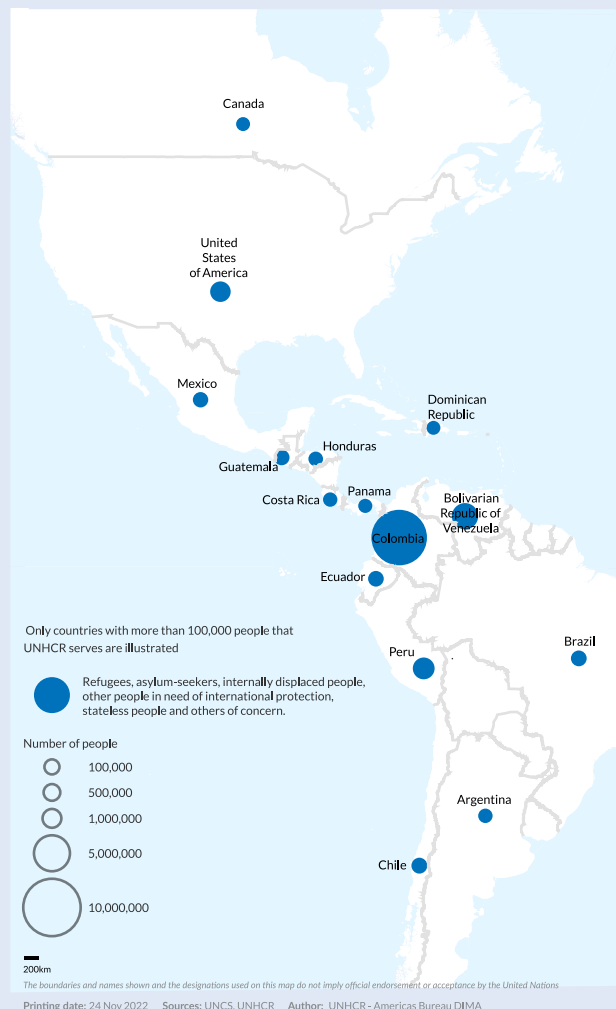


One in every six persons that UNHCR cares for globally (16%) lives in the Americas, as the root causes of displacement - violence, conflict insecurity, inequality, persecution and human rights violations - persist in the region. These causes are often exacerbated by the effects of [climate change](#).

According to the UNHCR [2022 mid-year trends report](#), more than 2 in 5 new asylum applications (42%) in the world were made by nationals of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, mainly from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Nicaragua, Cuba, Honduras and Colombia, as conditions in many countries in the region deteriorated during the first six months of 2022. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was the second largest country of origin of displaced people in the world, with 7.1 million* (5.3 million of them in Latin America and the Caribbean).

Globally, Colombia was the country hosting the second largest number of refugees and other people in need of international protection, with a total of 2.5 million Venezuelans.

UNHCR noted an increase in mixed population movements in 2022, particularly the number of people crossing the Darien Gap between Colombia and Panama. As of 30 June 2022, there had been a record 49,000 [crossings](#) (double the same period the [previous year](#)), most of them by Venezuelans, followed by Haitians.



People UNHCR serves in the Americas, mid-year 2022

**19.9
MILLION**

**690,006
REFUGEES**

(2.6% of the population of refugees worldwide)

**7,065,423
INTERNALLY DISPLACED
PERSONS**

(12.1% of population of IDPs worldwide)

**2,749,412
ASYLUM-SEEKERS**

(56% of the population of asylum-seekers worldwide)

**4,603
TOTAL STATELESSNESS**

(0.1% of stateless population worldwide)

**5,342,069
OTHER PEOPLE IN NEED OF
INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION**
IN THE AMERICAS**
(100% of the population of OIPs worldwide)

**4,067,773
OTHERS OF CONCERN*****
(21.9% of others of concern population worldwide)

*According to [R4V](#).

**Venezuelans previously designated as "Venezuelans displaced abroad (VDA)" are included in this new category. This change has been made retroactively in UNHCR's statistics since 2018. The term VDA will no longer be used.

*** See the [Methodology](#) page of UNHCR's Refugee Data Finder for a definition of each population group. Updated UNHCR's population figures can be found in [Refugee Data Finder](#).

REFUGEES

In the Americas, the number of refugees increased by 17.9% compared to 2021, due to a surge in the number of Venezuelans fleeing their country. Most of them are reported under "other people in need of international protection" (OIP). By mid-2022, the Americas region hosted more than 6 million refugees and others in need of international protection.

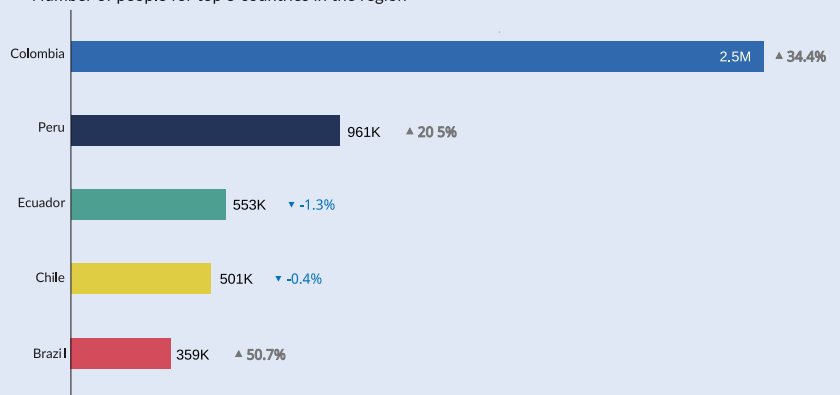
By mid-2022, there were 5.6 million Venezuelan refugees and other people in need of international protection in the Americas, 17% of the global total. Their number grew by 21 per cent in the first six months of 2022. The largest increases were reported in Colombia (+635,200), Peru (+163,300) and Brazil (+118,900), reflecting revised estimates by the Governments of Colombia and Peru. Colombia was globally the country hosting the second largest number of refugees, including other people in need of international protection (2.5 million).



Pedro is a young refugee from Cuba who joined the local baseball team in Leon, Mexico © UNHCR/Jeoffrey Guillemard

Refugees and others in need of international protection by host country in the Americas, mid-2022

Number of people for top 5 countries in the region



Source: UNHCR.org/refugee-statistics

ASYLUM-SEEKERS

During the first six months of 2022, new asylum applications in the Americas region increased by 146% compared to the same period last year, reaching 435,600 new applications from January - June 2022. In the United States of America, new individual asylum claims in the first half of 2022 more than trebled to 245,200 from the same period in 2021. More than half of all new applications were lodged by nationals of just five countries: the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Cuba, Honduras, Guatemala and Haiti.

Globally, new asylum applications were mainly lodged by nationals of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (106,900), Ukraine (99,600), and Nicaragua (81,500)*.

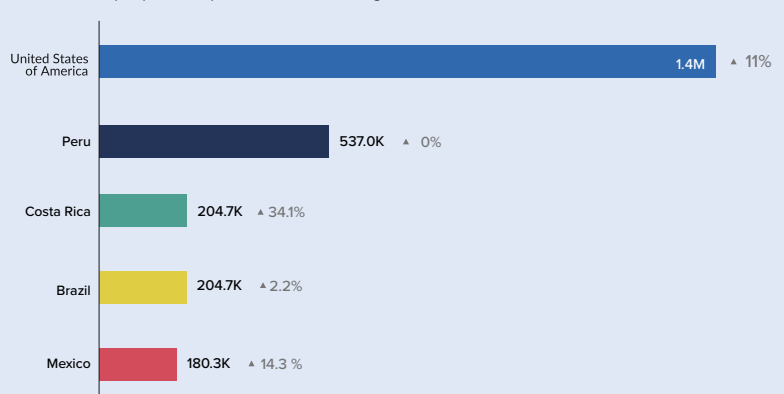
*This includes 65,200 applications in Costa Rica whereby Nicaraguans started their applications during the first six months of this year by obtaining an appointment to formalize their asylum claim. Of these, 38,800 claims were formalized, 12,700 remained to be formalized (i.e. individuals with an appointment to complete the application procedure) and 13,700 appointments were otherwise closed.



Salvadoran asylum-seeker stands by her small business which she opened with the support of UNHCR in Belize. © UNHCR/ Diana Diaz

Asylum-seekers by country of asylum in the Americas, mid-2022

Number of people for top 5 countries in the region



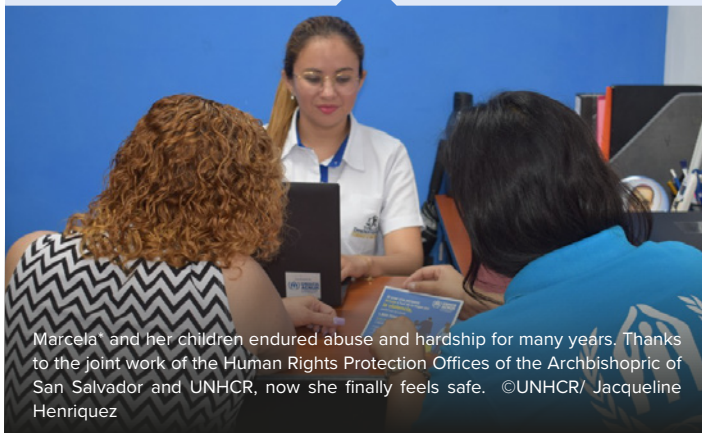
Source: UNHCR Refugee Data Finder @UNHCR, The UN Refugee Agency

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS)

In the Americas, internally displaced people constitute the majority of forcibly displaced people (45%). Around 48,500 new internal displacements were reported in Colombia during the first six months of 2022, up from 30,200 in the same period of 2021. In El Salvador, according to the analysis of the Protection Sector, the people most vulnerable to displacement are adolescents and young individuals between 12 and 29 years old, women and LGBTIQ+ people.

EL SALVADOR

Between 2006 and 2016, 1.1% of families in El Salvador were forcibly displaced raising the estimated number of internally displaced people to 71,500. According to the profiling exercise published in 2018 by the Ministry of Justice and Public Security, most displaced people are socio-economically vulnerable young families. By 2023, a nation-wide household survey is expected to update displacement statistics.



HONDURAS

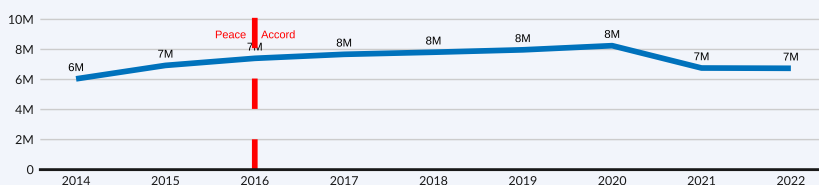
Forced displacement amid generalized violence tended to increase in the first half of 2022, with the media reporting larger-scale displacements in the high-risk areas of Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula. The hurricane season also added to the toll, affecting more than 84,000 people, many of whom became forcibly displaced.



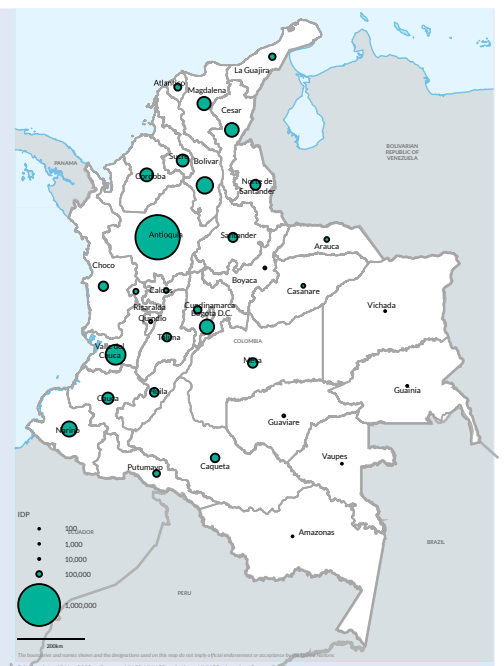
COLOMBIA

Colombia continued to report the second largest number of people internally displaced (6.7 million) in the world. In the first half of the year, Colombia reported 48,500 new internal displacements, ranking 10th in the world. Overall, Colombia reported slight decreases in the number of people remaining internally displaced at mid-2022 compared with the end of the previous year.

Colombia: Number of Internally Displaced People | 2014-Mid 2022
Number of people (in millions)



Source: UNHCR Refugee Data Finder @UNHCR, The UN Refugee Agency



SOLUTIONS ACROSS THE REGION



SOLUTIONS FOR STATELESSNESS

- ◆ Under the [#IBelong campaign](#) UNHCR is offering States technical help on eradicating statelessness and on access to civil registration and documentation.
- ◆ Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay and Uruguay have established statelessness determination procedures (SDPs). Colombia and Chile have adopted legislation that provides for the establishment of SDPs and are in the process of adopting further necessary regulations.
- ◆ Following a 2013 cooperation agreement with the Costa Rican Supreme Electoral Tribunal to promote effective access to nationality, Costa Rica naturalized 18 out of 67 stateless people in the country from January to June 2022.



RESETTLEMENT AND COMPLEMENTARY PATHWAYS

- ◆ During the first six months of 2022 over 2,700 cases were submitted from the Americas region to resettlement countries, including the United States of America, Canada and Australia, among others.
- ◆ This 2022 mid-year figure of submissions doubles the 1,400 people submitted during the first six months of 2021.



LOCAL INTEGRATION RESPONSES

- ◆ 6 new cities entered in agreements with UNHCR under the [Cities of Solidarity](#) initiative and Brazil published the first national [Cities of Solidarity Report](#).
- ◆ 30 private sector companies received El Sello Vivir la Integración "[Living the Integration](#)" seal in Costa Rica and 60 in Ecuador received the "[Inclusive Company](#)" seal.
- ◆ Over 331,400 refugees and asylum-seekers in 10 countries benefitted from government social protection programmes.
- ◆ Advances in naturalization of refugees: 11,958 in Canada, 67 in Mexico, 9 in Costa Rica and 2 in Argentina. UNHCR also estimates that around 12,700 refugees have been naturalized in the United States of America.



PARTNERSHIPS AND COORDINATION

- ◆ The Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework ([MIRPS](#)) and the [Quito Process](#) are regional initiatives to harmonize and implement policies to strengthen protection in situations of forced displacement, access to asylum and socioeconomic integration. UNHCR is supporting the respective Secretariats, in both initiatives.
- ◆ UNHCR is advancing partnerships with the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), and others to deepen the inclusion of refugees, IDPs and stateless people in development programmes and to strengthen efforts to address the root causes of displacement.
- ◆ UNHCR co-leads with IOM the inter-agency response to the situation of the Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela ([R4V](#)).

The importance of **flexible funding** for UNHCR's response

UNHCR's overall requirements for its **comprehensive response in the Americas in 2022** currently totals **\$779.6 million**, of which only **42% is funded** as of 10 November 2022. Funding shortcomings may jeopardize critical activities such as the provision of **life-saving assistance** and emergency shelter; the provision of **unrestricted cash assistance** to meet essential needs; and the support to **health responses**. This could have a direct effect on the ability of those who have fled to access host countries, asylum systems and mechanisms aimed at preventing gender-based violence. Also, funding shortcomings could hinder refugees' efforts to integrate into their host communities and earn a dignified living, as well as could hamper efforts to tackle discrimination and xenophobia throughout the region.

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

Thanks to all our donors in 2022 (as of 10 November)

Argentina | Belgium | Brazil | Canada | Colombia | Cyprus | Denmark | European Union | France | Germany | Guyana | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Luxembourg | Mexico | Norway | Netherlands | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United States of America | International Organization for Migration | Migration MPTF | UN CERF | UN Children Fund | UN Joint Programmes | UN Peacebuilding Fund | UN Programme On HIV/AIDS | UN Women | UNESCO

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Brazil. Venezuelan Refugee Shelter "São Vicente 2" in Boa Vista - Roraima
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FRONT COVER

Brazil. Venezuelan Refugee Shelter

"Rondon 1" in Boa Vista - Roraima

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**UNHCR
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La Agencia de la ONU
para los Refugiados

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