With 48,953 persons, the Honduran National Migration Institute registered the largest number ever of refugees and migrants transiting through the country in one single month, which is an increase of 83% in comparison to the previous month.

The number of Venezuelans, Cubans and Ecuadorians in mixed movements doubled from June to July. More than 50% of the total number of persons in mixed movements are Venezuelans.

At least every third person on the move interviewed by UNHCR and its partners indicated to be in need of international protection as they were forced to leave their country of origin due to violence or persecution.

The main needs reported by persons on the move are food, medical assistance, clothes and shoes, water, shelter, information on the protection services and legal pathways available.

### Official Data:

**Total Irregular Entries 2022:**
188,858

**Total Irregular Entries Jan-Jul 2023:**
184,446

Total number of different nationalities who have entered Honduras irregularly in 2023:
114

Source: Honduran National Migration Institute
Irregular arrivals of people in mixed movements happen through blind spots along the southeast border of Honduras, mainly through Danlí, Trujillo and Choluteca. They can regularize their stay after registration with the National Migration Institute (INM) who grants them a five-day permit to transit the country, according to the amnesty approved in 2022, and renewed in June 2023 until 1 January 2024. INM previously did not work on weekends, but as of June 2023 they expanded their work hours to include the weekend, resulting in a greater number of registrations. However, the flows of people have also continued to increase, therefore increasing registrations in July. The number of persons in mixed movements transiting through Honduras are likely to be higher than reflected in this report, as not all those who enter the country irregularly register themselves with INM.

Source: Honduran National Migration Institute
Monthly irregular arrivals between Jan 2023 - Jul 2023 by region of origin
(including Venezuela):
UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, collects monthly information on the profiles, vulnerabilities and protection needs of refugees and migrants who enter Honduras through the border with Nicaragua and transit through the country towards the border with Guatemala. The information is compiled through individual interviews conducted at the main hotspots throughout Honduras, with a focus on the entry and exit borders. The preliminary results presented here are indicative only and should not be interpreted as representative of the total population of refugees and migrants who are part of mixed movements.

Interviewed Population Data

Interviewed Individuals by Sex

- Female: 58%
- Male: 42%

Average age: 32 years

Total Interviews
July 2023: 172
Interviewed individuals by age range

Number of interviewed individuals

Nationality

- **65%** Venezuela
- **10%** Cuba
- **9%** Ecuador
- **6%** Colombia
- **4%** Haiti
- **2%** Peru
- **2%** Nicaragua
- **2%** Other countries

Country of residence in the past year

- **47%** Venezuela
- **16%** Colombia
- **10%** Cuba
- **9%** Ecuador
- **9%** Other countries
- **5%** Peru
- **2%** Nicaragua
- **2%** Haiti
- **2%** Other countries include Afghanistan, Angola and Guatemala.

All interviewed individuals were asked where they lived in the last year to include persons who were residing in their country of origin as well as those living elsewhere.

23% of the interviewees lived outside of their country of origin and mainly resided in:
- Colombia (45%), Peru (15%), Dominican Republic (8%), Chile (8%), Panama (5%), Nicaragua (5%), Costa Rica (5%), Brazil (5%), Venezuela (2%) and Ecuador (2%).
Reasons for leaving country of origin

- Limited access to employment or low income: 81%
- Fear due to generalized violence and insecurity: 26%
- Lack of access to food: 19%
- Lack of access to healthcare and medicines: 8%
- Victim of violence, threats or intimidation: 8%
- Other: 4%
- Lack of access to education: 3%
- Family reunification: 1%
- Natural disasters: 1%
- Don’t know/Don’t want to answer: 1%

Some people indicated various reasons for leaving their country of origin. Other reasons include political persecution and human rights violations.

Reasons for leaving country of habitual residence
(only includes those who were living outside their country of origin in the past year)

- Limited access to employment or low income: 80%
- Fear due to generalized violence and insecurity: 13%
- Lack of documentation: 8%
- Lack of access to education: 5%
- Lack of access to healthcare and medicines: 5%
- Victim of violence, threats or intimidation: 5%
- Lack of access to food: 3%
- Other: 3%
- Don’t know/Don’t want to answer: 3%

Some people indicated various reasons for leaving their country of origin. Other reasons include government instability.

73% of the interviewed individuals left their country of origin/residence less than four weeks ago.

97% reported an intention to stay in Honduras for less than a month (usually, less than a week) to continue their journey to their destination, while around 3% will take longer (one or two months) to collect resources and continue their journey.

90% of the interviewed individuals reported the United States as their final destination and 5% reported Mexico as their final destination.

The remaining 5% indicated other countries as their final destination, including Canada.
Did you experience any mistreatment or abuse during the journey?

During the journey, of the individuals that responded “yes”, 64% reported being victims of theft and 35% of fraud. In addition, 19% declared being victims of physical threat or intimidation. Some people indicated various abuses.

Protection Concerns

- At least 3% of interviewed individuals reported traveling with pregnant or/lactating women.
- Around 2% of interviewed individuals reported having a single parent traveling with children in their group.
- Around 2% of respondents reported traveling with someone with a critical or chronic medical condition.
- Around 3% of interviewed individuals reported traveling with someone with a disability: physical (2%) and visual (1%).

Did you experience any mistreatment or other forms of abuse at the border or within Honduras?

In Honduras, of the individuals that responded “yes”, 55% stated being victims of robbery and 50% of fraud. Some people indicated various abuses.
Main Needs

- **Food**: 67%
- **Medicines and health care**: 38%
- **Clothing and footwear**: 24%
- **Water**: 22%
- **Information on protection and migratory alternatives**: 20%
- **Shelter**: 12%
- **Legal Assistance**: 12%
- **Internet and telephone access**: 8%
- **Food and items for children**: 6%

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**Have you previously applied for asylum?**

- **Yes**: 2%
- **No**: 98%

*The individuals that applied for asylum before, applied in Chile, Panama and Honduras.*

**Are you aware of the United States Government's Parole Program?**

- **Yes**: 48%
- **No**: 52%
- **A little**: 10%

*Only citizens of Venezuela, Nicaragua, Haiti and Cuba were asked this question, as the parole program only applies to these countries.*

**Have you been informed of the opportunity to seek asylum in Honduras?**

- **Yes**: 53%
- **No**: 46%
- **I already applied**: 1%

**Do you know how the United States Government's CBP One application works?**

- **Yes**: 50%
- **No**: 40%
- **A little**: 10%
Would you encounter any risks if you had to return to your country of origin?

- Yes (breakdown below) 40%
  - Risk of food scarcity 15%
  - Risk of generalized violence 14%
  - Risk of my or my family’s life or integrity 9%
  - Risk of legal persecution 9%
  - Inability to secure a job that guarantees subsistence 6%
  - Risk of extortion 5%
  - Imminent health risk 4%
  - Risk of forcible recruitment 1%
  - Other 1%
- No 60%

Some persons indicated that they would face several risks if they had to return to their country of origin.

The majority of respondents reported limited access to employment as the main reason for leaving their country of origin (see page 6).

At the same time a significant percentage of people indicated that they would encounter risks if they had to return to their country, including food scarcity, generalized violence, risk to their life or physical integrity, persecution and extortion. In other words, even if people left their country for employment reasons, it does not mean that they would not face other risks if they had to return to their country of origin.

Another important factor to take into account is that people in mixed movements with protection needs tend to not disclose a lot of information about the reasons that forced them to flee their country of origin.

How many meals did you eat yesterday?

- None 6%
- One 20%
- Two 33%
- Three or more 41%

Which communication platforms do you use to get information during the trip?

- WhatsApp 95%
- Facebook 48%
- Instagram 11%
- Web pages 6%
- Youtube 6%
- Tik Tok 5%
- Twitter 1%

For up-to-date information on the situation of mixed movements in the Darien crossing that impacts flows in Honduras, please [click here].

UNHCR Honduras
Data Sources: UNHCR Protection Monitoring, carried out between 24 and 28 July 2023.
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