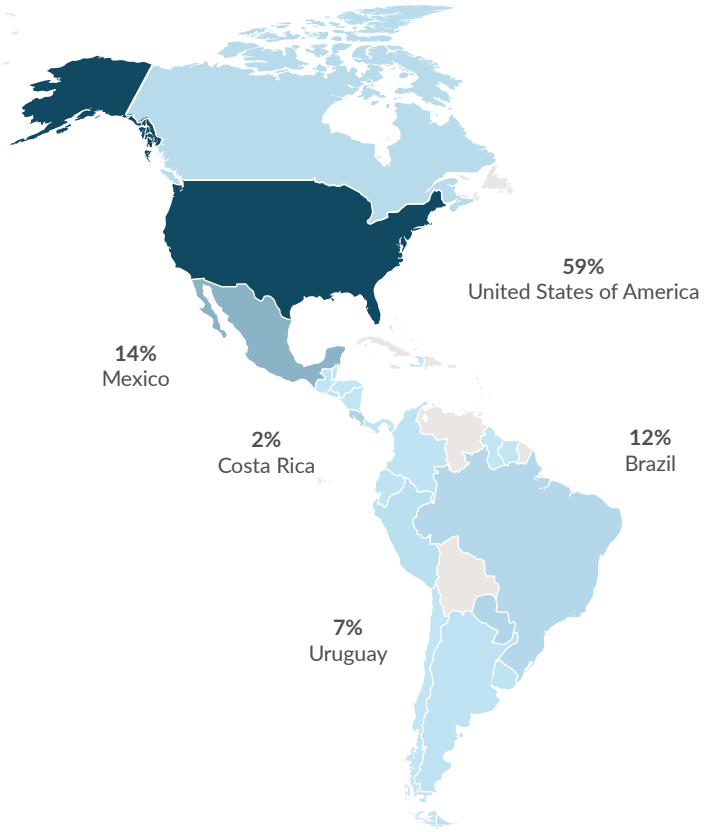
CUBA

Displaced Cubans in the Americas

(as of Jan 2025)

23,944	349,971	1,879,613
Refugees	Asylum-Seekers	Cubans in countries in the Americas

Refugees and Asylum-Seekers: Top 5 in the Americas by Mid-2025



Asylum Trends

3rd largest asylum-seeking nationality worldwide in 2025 (MYR), after Sudanese and Venezuelans.

140% increase in the number of applications registered compared to 2024, making Cuba the leading country of origin for new asylum claims in Latin America.

50,622 new claims in LAC in the first half of 2025, mainly concentrated in Mexico, Brazil and Uruguay

In response to the growing number of asylum seekers from Cuba, countries across the region have introduced differentiated processing approaches and alternative legal stay arrangements: Mexico and Costa Rica have implemented accelerated and simplified asylum procedures specifically for Cuban nationals, while Uruguay and Costa Rica have also established regularization programs to grant Cubans legal status, improve access to rights and services, and ease pressure on national asylum systems.

Mixed Movement Monitoring Q4 2025

Demographics

- **175** Cuban nationals interviewed
- **39** is the average age, mostly adult men
- **64%** travelling alone
- **90%** travelling without children

- **≈50%** left Cuba within one month prior to the interview
- **>1/3** have been displaced for more than one year

Reasons to leave

- **57%** **Lack of employment / low income**
- **33%** **Victim of violence, threats or intimidation**
- **32%** **Lack of access to food**
- **21%** **Fear due to the general situation of violence/insecurity**

Intentions

- **42%** plan to settle long term in the country of interview.
- **34%** expect to stay less than one year.
- **26%** remain undecided.
- **3%** intend to return to Cuba.

Intentions have shifted from the United States toward Mexico as the primary destination.

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