MONITORING OF HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES/COLOMBIA LARGE-GROUP INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT AND CONFINEMENTS

(January to march 2024)

KEY FIGURES

92¹
Events

53 Large-group internal displacement²

Confinements³

39

?→ 21,713 Persons

38,948

8,544 Families

11.429

Families

40% Women*

45%

Women³

37% Men*

40%

Men*

Children and adolescents*

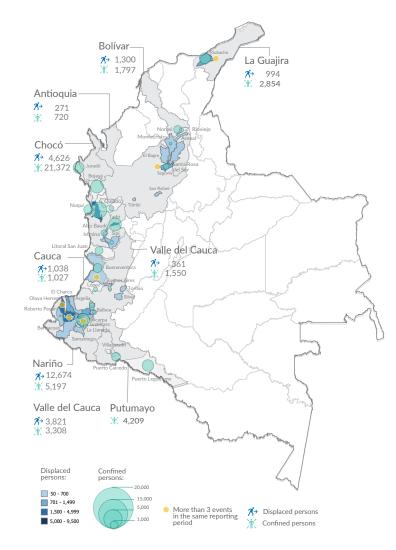
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15% Children and adolescents*

In the first quarter of 2024, UNHCR has confirmed 53 large-scale displacement events affecting 21,713 people (8,544 families). The departments with the highest number of displacement events and people affected are Nariño, Chocó, Bolívar, Antioquia, and Cauca. There is a 61% increase in the number of displacements compared to the same period in 2023 and a 64% increase in the number of affected people, indicating the worsening of the humanitarian situation in areas recurrently affected and in new areas identified since last year. In Bajo Cauca and northeast Antioquia regions, there is a significant increase in large displacements due to territorial control disputes between non-state armed groups (NSAGs). Nariño continues to have the highest number of reported displacement events in the country (26) due to the prolonged clashes between NSAGs and their presence, mainly in the Sanquianga and Cordillera sub-regions.

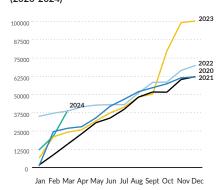
Additionally, during the reporting period, 39 confinement events affecting 38,948 people (11,429 families) have been confirmed. Compared to the first quarter of 2023, these confinement figures represent an increase of over 40% in the number of affected people and 69% in reported events. Chocó is the department with the highest occurrence of confinements (16 events – 21,372 people), followed by Nariño (4 events – 5,197 people) and Putumayo (3 events - 4,209 people). In departments like Nariño and Bolívar, there were multiple impact events, i.e., confinements occurring before or after displacement situations.

Institutions continue to have a lack of knowledge or difficulties in characterizing mobility restrictions and confinements, coupled with difficulties in taking statements, resulting in an under registration of these situations where only emergencies are being attended. Additionally, factors related to this scenario include the persistence of control actions by NSAGs, which prevent the civilian population from reporting victimizing events, as has been occurring since last year.

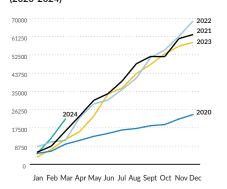


EMERGENCIES OVER TIME

Number of people confined (2020-2024)



Number of people displaced in large-group displacement events (2020-2024)



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^{*}The response rate for the gender and age disaggregation question was 42% of the total number of large-group internal displacement events recorded in UNHCR's monitoring,

Emergency events are constantly being verified and validated; therefore figures are subject to change

The confinements and large-group internal displacement in the infographic and monitored by UNHCR correspond only to the departments in the areas covered by the field offices

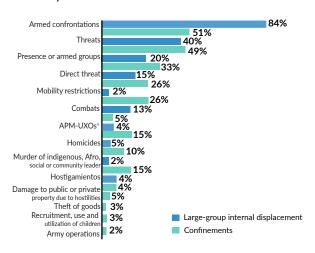
^{*}Confinement is understood as a situation of violation of rights in which a community loses mobility as a result of the actions of Non-State Armed Groups, thus preventing access to goods essent



Clashes continue to be the primary cause of displacements and confinements. Contextual situations, such as the breakdown of the bilateral ceasefire between the government and NSAGs, have led to increased fighting in departments like Nariño and Cauca. Regions like southern Bolívar and northeast Antioquia are experiencing increased displacements and confinements due to the expansion of NSAGs and disputes between them for control of this strategic area, which involves other departments, including Cesar. It is noteworthy that departments like Norte de Santander and Arauca did not present mass events in the first quarter of the year, contrasted with a high number of individual displacements according to the Victims Unique Registry (Source: UARIV).

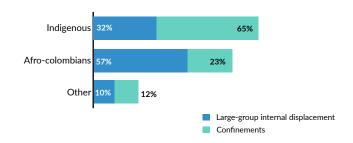
CAUSES OF EMERGENCIES*

Clashes between NSAGs were the primary cause of displacements during this quarter (84%), and of reported confinements (51%). Similarly, generalized threats accounted for 89% of these cases. Since 2023, these have been the main causes of the events, particularly in areas contested by NSAGs.



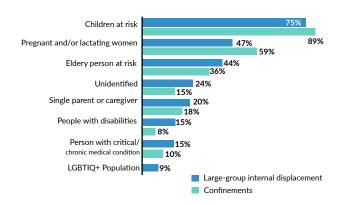
ETHNICITY

Afro-Colombian and indigenous populations constituted almost 89% of the total people affected by mass displacements and over 88% of confined individuals.

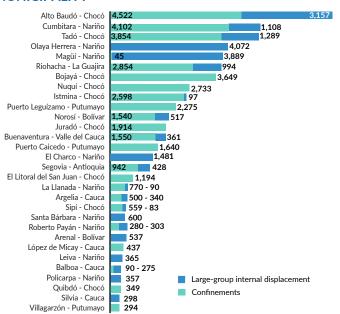


PROTECTION PROFILES IDENTIFIED

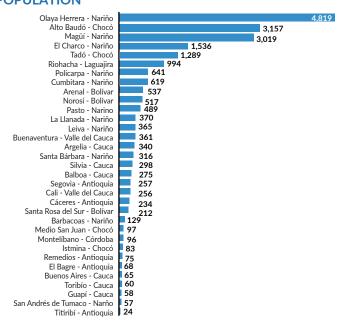
The most vulnerable profiles facing displacement and confinement impacts include children, adolescents, pregnant and/or lactating women, elderly people, and single mothers or fathers with minor children.



TOP 30 | PEOPLE AFFECTED BY EMERGENCIES BY MUNICIPALITY



TOP 30 | MUNICIPALITIES RECEIVING DISPLACED POPULATION



⁴ Contamination by anti-personnel mines and unexploded ordnance (AP-UXOs)

ercentages add up to more than 100% because the same displacement event can have more than one cause.



REGIONAL ANALYSIS

NARIÑO



In the first quarter of the year, Nariño remains the most affected department by displacement in the country, a trend that has persisted since last year, particularly due to continued risk scenarios in the Pacific coastal areas (Sanguianga, Telembí, and southern Pacific - Tumaco) and the Andean border (strategic corridor from Policarpa, Samaniego, and Santacruz towards Ricaurte, a border area), related to conflict dynamics between actors in the Cauca department. These scenarios have been exacerbated by the presence of NSAGs, clashes between them, and combat with public forces. The Office of the Ombudsman, through Early Warning 002-24, alerted about a high risk of intensification of armed confrontations in Olaya Herrera municipality, and in Early Warning 008-24 it pointed out the imminent risk situation in the municipalities of Cumbitara, Leiva, El Rosario, Policarpa, and Taminango, risks arising from the dispute for territorial control between dissidents and alliances formed with other NSAGs. According to UNHCR monitoring, 28 displacement events were reported in the first quarter, mainly in the municipalities of Olaya Herrera, Magüí Payan, El Charco, and Cumbitara, affecting around 9,400 people. Regarding the confinement events occurred in the municipalities of Cumbitara, La Llanada, and Roberto Payán, affecting around 5,100 people. There is great concern about the lack of recorded statements for confinements, and consequently, the underreporting of these events in the Victims Registry (RUV).

BOLÍVAR

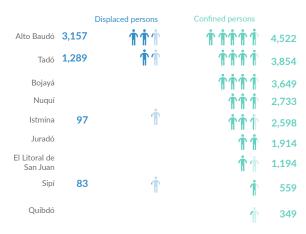
VICTIMS BY MUNICIPALITY

	ſ	Displaced persons	Confined persons	
Arenal	537	†		
Norosí	517	†	† †	1,540
Santa Rosa del Sur	212	Ť	Ť	153
Montecristo	34	Ť	Ť	160
Río Viejo			Ť	97

As has been warned since 2023, the humanitarian situation in the southern Bolívar region has become increasingly complex due to the presence, expansion, consolidation, and dispute among NSAGs in the area. The Office of the Ombudsman, through Early Warning 034-23, highlighted the risk scenario related to: i) the coexistence of three armed actors in the territory (ELN, AGC, and dissident factions of the former FARC-EP); ii) the expansion and consolidation of AGC territorial dynamics; and iii) the repositioning and strengthening of the dissident factions of FARC-EP of the self-styled Magdalena Medio Bloc in the municipalities of Arenal, Cantagallo, Morales, San Pablo, Santa Rosa del Sur, and Simití (Bolívar). In the first quarter, displacements affected at least 1,300 people and were reported in Montecristo, Arenal, Norosí, and Santa Rosa del Sur. More than 1,700 people were affected by confinement in Norosí, Montecristo, and Rioviejo. Additionally, this situation is related to the armed conflict and violence scenario in the Bajo Cauca and Northeast Antioquia regions.

CHOCÓ

VICTIMS BY MUNICIPALITY



Chocó is the department most affected by confinement and the second by displacement, demonstrating that the complex humanitarian situation that has been occurring since late 2023 has persisted. In the first quarter of 2024, 16 confinement events were recorded, affecting the rights of at least 21,372 people (4,895 families) from Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities (Wounaan and Embera Dóbida) in rural areas of Alto Baudó, Nuquí, Bojayá, Istmina, Juradó, Sipí, and Tadó, mainly caused by generalized threats and presence or disputes between NSAGs and contamination with landmines (MAP-MUSE). Although confinement is the most impactful victimizing event in the department of Chocó, it is important to mention that forced displacement affected the rights of at least 4,626 people (992 families) who were displaced massively, making it the second most affected department in the first quarter (after Nariño), accounting for 35.41% of the country's large-scale displacement events.