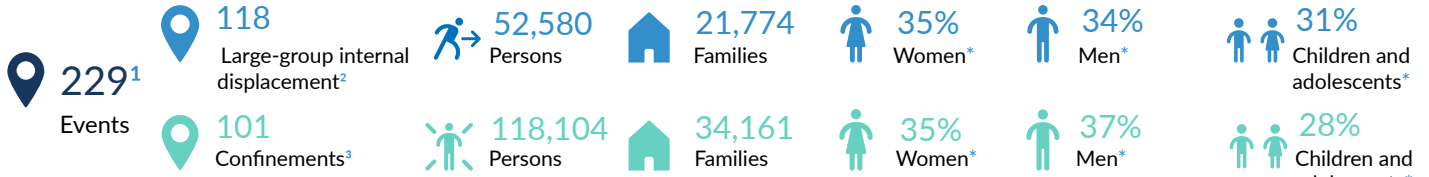


KEY FIGURES

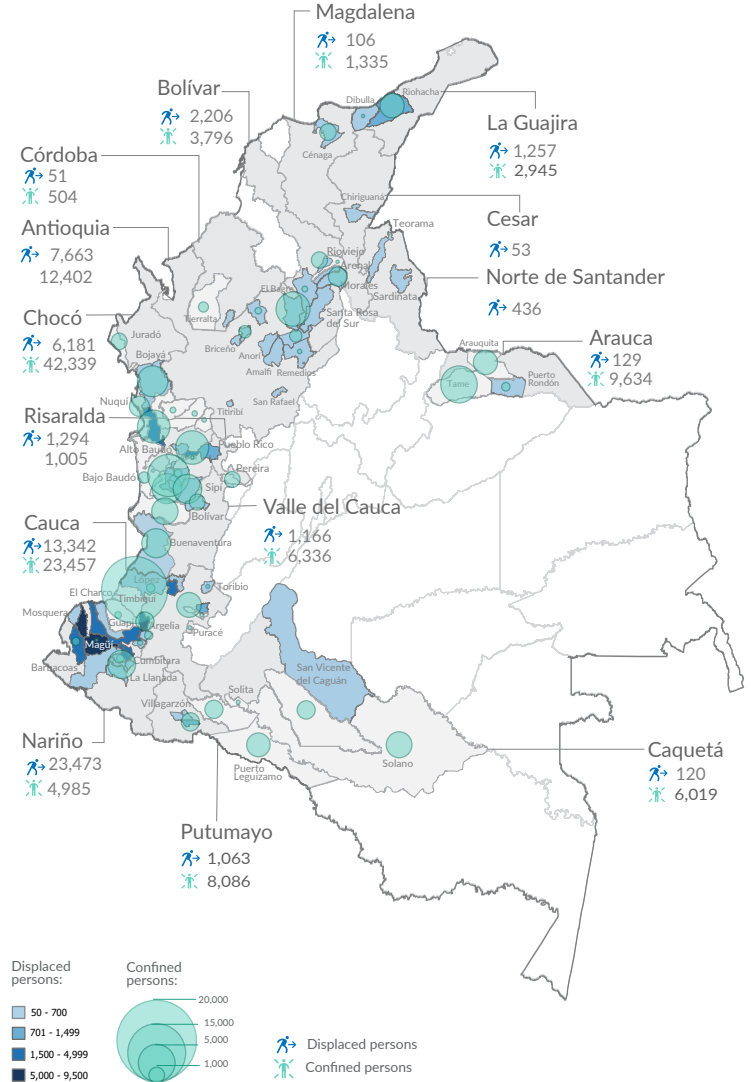


*The response rate for the gender and age disaggregation question was 30% of the total number of large-group internal displacement events recorded in UNHCR's monitoring.

Between January and December 2024, UNHCR confirmed **229 mass events (118 large-scale internal displacement events and 101 confinement incidents) that forced 52,580 people (21,774 families) to flee and confined 118,104 people (34,161 families).** The departments with the highest number of events and people affected by forced displacement throughout the year were Nariño, Cauca, Chocó, Bolívar, and Antioquia. A slight downward trend of 19% was observed in the number of mass displacement events compared to 2023, alongside a 12% decrease in affected individuals. However, this situation must be analysed considering other factors, such as the progressive increase in confinement, territorial and social control actions by non-State armed groups (NSAG) that prevent the civilian population from reporting and making forced displacement visible. Additionally, changes in displacement dynamics have been observed, with a growing trend towards individual declarations. Lastly, gaps in the institutional response have hindered both the declaration and the provision of assistance for these events.

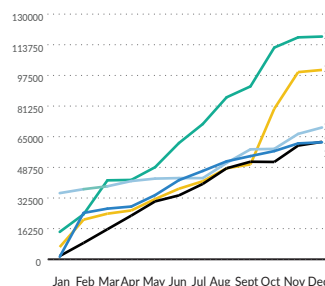
Throughout the year, internal displacement continued to affect areas with recurrent emergencies, as well as new regions such as Bolívar, Magdalena, La Guajira, Cesar, and Caquetá. **An increase in this situation was observed compared to the previous year in the departments of Cauca, La Guajira, Caquetá, and Chocó.** This situation was mainly driven by the expansion dynamics of NSAG and the struggle for territorial control, leading to increased clashes between these groups and heightened risks for communities. **March recorded the highest number of large-group internal displacements (22) and the highest number of affected individuals in the year (14,704).** Nariño experienced the greatest impact, accounting for 45% of the total displaced population. However, this department saw a significant decrease in displacement towards the end of the year compared to 2023, due to ongoing local negotiation processes between the Government and NSAG. Cauca was the second most affected department, with 26% of internal displacements, followed by Chocó with 12%.

Compared to 2023, the 2024 confinement figures show an increase of more than 18% in the number of affected individuals and 38% in reported events. The most impacted departments were Chocó, Cauca, Arauca, Valle del Cauca, Antioquia, and Putumayo. **The highest number of confinement incidents occurred in the first quarter of 2024, with a total of 38,308 people affected. Chocó experienced the greatest impact, accounting for 53% of the total confined population between January and March.** Similarly, in the third quarter, 35,565 people were confined, with Chocó once again being the most affected department, representing 52% of cases between July and

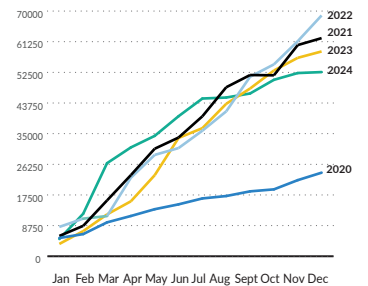


EMERGENCIES OVER TIME

Number of people confined (2020-2024)



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



¹ Emergency events are constantly being verified and validated; therefore figures are subject to change.

² 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.

³ 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 essential for survival.

Note: This document was produced with the support of the European Commission's Directorate General for Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).

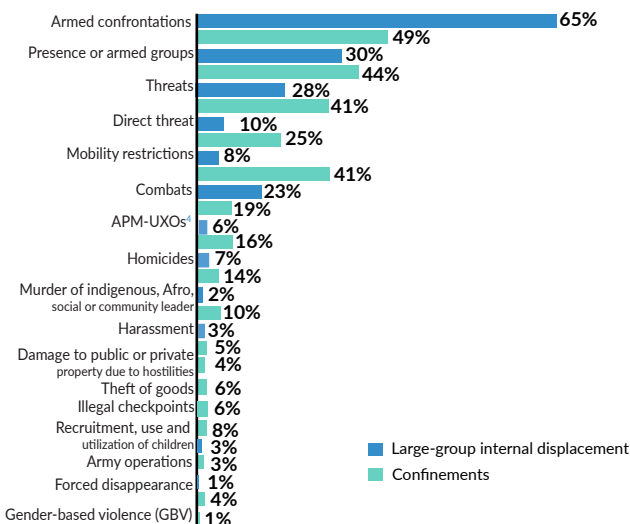
September, particularly due to the armed strike declared by the National Liberation Army (ELN) in August. **In October, the severity of confinement in Timbiquí, Cauca, stood out, with more than 15,000 people confined—the highest number recorded in a single event.** Additionally, Arauca saw a significant increase in confinement cases, rising from 2,742 people in 2023 to 7,418 in 2024.

Several factors characterized the confinement dynamics in 2024. **One of the most significant was the high underreporting of official figures due to limitations in the declaration process.** These limitations stemmed from institutional restrictions on accessing affected territories, the lack of community awareness about the possibility of declaring confinement and being recognised as victims, and institutional challenges in identifying and documenting mobility restrictions and confinement incidents. Additionally, **the continued control exerted by NSAG prevented civilians from reporting victimizing events, a trend that had already been observed in the previous year.** Another key challenge was the absence of a legal framework defining a clear response mechanism, which should establish roles and responsibilities at both the territorial and national levels to mitigate the impacts on confined populations and facilitate their protection and access to durable solutions. Finally, there was an increase in the percentage of victims who do not belong to Indigenous or Afro-Colombian populations. This trend was reflected in confinement cases reported in Bolívar, Arauca, Putumayo, Antioquia, Cauca, and Caquetá, where approximately 23,000 affected individuals were not identified as members of these groups.

In the fourth quarter of the year (October, November, December), 31 new humanitarian emergencies were reported across ten (10) departments. Of these, **20 were large-group internal displacements affecting 6,114 people (2,641 families) in eight departments, while 11 were confinement events impacting 26,432 people (6,133 families) in six departments.** This resulted in a total of 32,546 affected individuals (8,774 families) during the quarter.

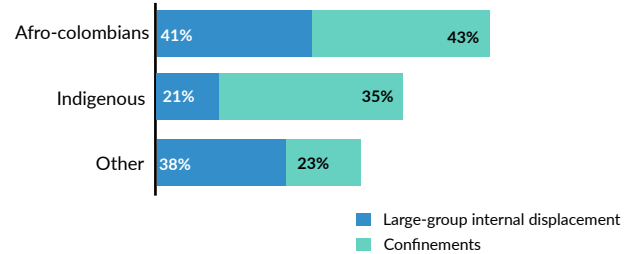
CAUSES OF EMERGENCIES*

In 2024, clashes between non-State armed groups (NSAG) were the primary cause of both large-group internal displacements (65%) and reported confinement cases (49%). **Similarly, the presence of NSAG was the second leading cause of these events, accounting for 30% of displacement cases and 44% of confinement incidents.**



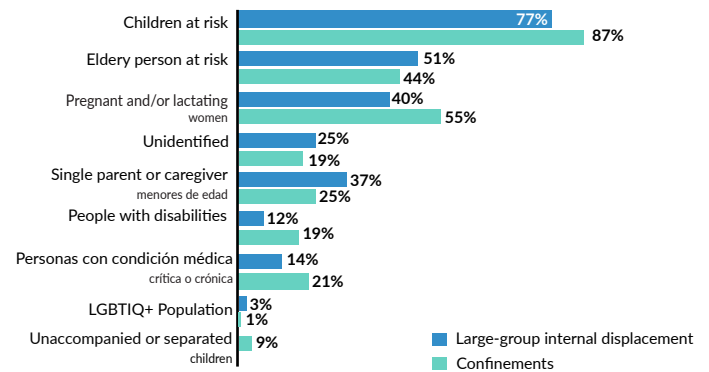
ETHNICITY

In 2024, Indigenous and Afro-Colombian populations accounted for nearly 62% of the total population affected by large-group internal displacements and more than 78% of those affected by confinement, highlighting the disproportionate impact of these events on these communities.

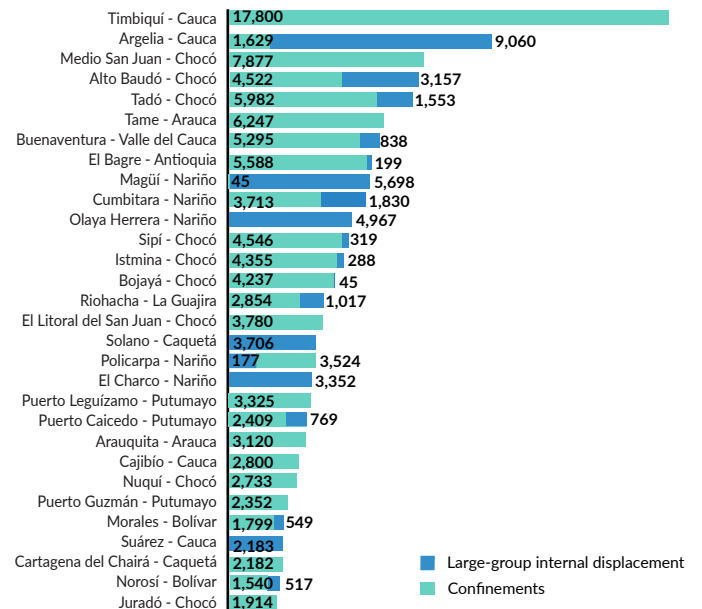


PROTECTION PROFILES IDENTIFIED

Among the most vulnerable populations affected by internal displacement and confinement in 2024, children and adolescents were the most affected, representing 77% of those displaced and 87% of those confined. **Older adults (60 years and above) were the second most affected group by displacement, accounting for 51% of cases. Additionally, breastfeeding women made up 55% of those affected by confinement.**



TOP 30 | PEOPLE AFFECTED BY EMERGENCIES BY MUNICIPALITY



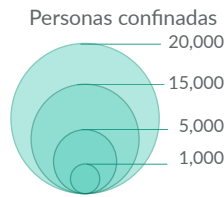
* Ombudsman's Office. Ombudsman's Office warns of alarming increase in recruitment of minors in Cauca. October 15, 2024. Available at this link.

[†] Contamination by anti-personnel mines and unexploded ordnance (AP-UXOs).

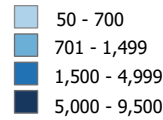
* Percentages add up to more than 100% because the same displacement event can have more than one cause.

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

 Personas desplazadas


 Personas confinadas


Personas desplazadas

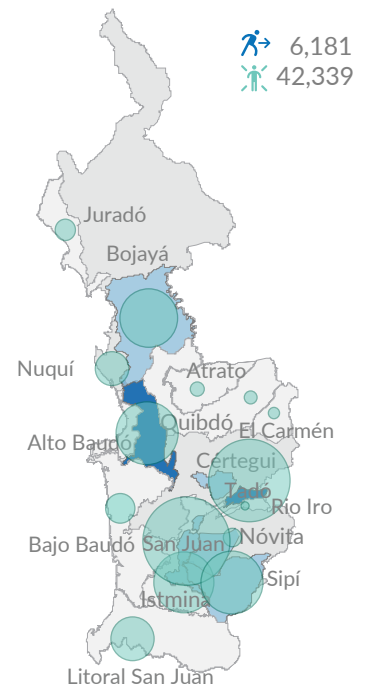
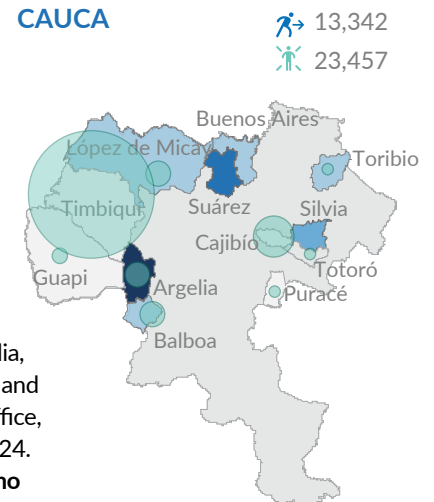


Chocó was the most affected department by confinement (36% of the total) and the third most affected by large-group internal displacement (12% of the total). In 2024, a total of 52 mass events were recorded: 36 confinement incidents affecting 42,339 people (12,029 families) and 16 large-group internal displacement events impacting 6,181 people (1,466 families). This situation highlights the severe humanitarian crisis, particularly in the regions of San Juan, Medio Atrato, and Baudó. Additionally, throughout the year, several armed strikes were declared by the ELN, further exacerbating confinement, especially among Indigenous and Afro-Colombian population. **This situation, which can be classified as prolonged confinement, has restricted the ethnic-territorial rights of these groups and severely impacted the population.** In response, affected communities have adopted self-protection measures, such as cultivating crops close to their homes, to mitigate the impact of confinement on food access and the limitations of humanitarian aid.

The significant deterioration of the humanitarian situation in the department of Cauca, particularly in the Micay Canyon subregion—which includes municipalities in the central, southern, and coastal areas of Cauca—was a constant throughout 2024. Its geostrategic location makes it a key area for the interests of NSAG due to the expansion of illicit economies. This region serves as a corridor between eastern and northern Cauca toward the Pacific Ocean and connects with Nariño to the south. The area is home to one of the largest coca-growing enclaves in the country (Argelia-El Tambo) and has a strong presence of illegal mining. **The rural area of Argelia was the scene of frequent armed disputes, making it, according to UNHCR monitoring, the most affected municipality by large-group internal displacement nationwide in 2024.** A total of 13 internal displacement events were recorded in Argelia, impacting 9,060 people (4,812 families) throughout the year.

Cauca experienced a 73% increase in the number of large-group internal displacement events compared to 2023 and a 148% rise in the number of affected individuals. In 2024, UNHCR identified 37 mass events, including 26 large-group internal displacements that affected 13,342 people (6,298 families). Of these, 50% occurred in Argelia, followed by Suárez, Balboa, Silvia, Toribío, Buenos Aires, and López de Micay. Regarding confinement, 12 events were recorded, affecting 23,457 people (5,846 families). The Caucana Pacific coast was the most impacted region, followed by Argelia, Cajibío, Toribío, and Balboa. There is growing concern over the increased presence of explosive devices and anti-personnel mines (APMs). Additionally, according to reports from the National Ombudsperson's Office, more than 373 cases of forced recruitment and use of children by armed groups were documented in 2024. It is also estimated that approximately **2% of the displaced population were Venezuelan nationals, who faced double vulnerability due to the armed conflict.** These individuals, primarily in Argelia, encountered additional challenges such as xenophobia, discrimination, food insecurity, labour exploitation, gender-based violence risks, and forced recruitment.

Throughout the year, **Nariño remained the most affected department by large-group internal displacements in Colombia, accounting for 45% of the total displacement.** This trend has persisted in recent years due to ongoing risk scenarios in various areas, such as the Pacific coast and the mountain range, where non-State armed groups (NSAG) continue to dispute territorial and social control. However, despite a complex displacement situation in the first quarter (with 16,371 people affected), the following months saw a gradual and substantial decrease in displacement and confinement emergencies. This decline may be linked to negotiation processes between the Government and NSAG in certain areas of the department. Despite dialogue efforts, the risk scenario for communities persists, partly due to new forms of territorial control imposed by NSAG. **These include the alleged prohibition on reporting incidents and pressure to force returns, which may be obscuring the true humanitarian impact.** Additionally, the arrival of new NSAG in the territory—driven by the exploitation of natural resources such as gold—and restrictions on humanitarian access in certain areas further exacerbates the situation. **The municipalities most affected by large-group internal displacement were Olaya Herrera, Magüi Payán, El Charco, and Policarpa, while Cumbitara experienced the highest confinement rate, with 75% of its population affected.**

CHOCÓ

CAUCA

NARIÑO
