The exodus of Venezuelan nationals is the largest in the recent history of Latin America and the Caribbean and has become the **second largest international displacement crisis in the world**. Of the approximately 5.9 million refugees and migrants from Venezuela globally, some **4.8 million** are in Latin America and the Caribbean. By end of 2020, there were **851,119 pending asylum claims** from Venezuelans worldwide and 171,127 Venezuelans recognized as refugees in the world. Some 2.6 million residence or regular stay permits have been issued to Venezuelans by Latin American countries. The rest are living in an irregular situation and exposed to greater risk of various forms of exploitation and abuse, due to limited access to rights, including national health, social welfare programmes and basic services

As a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, many refugees and others have lost their sources of income, which further hampers their ability to pay rent and buy food and other essentials, as medicine. Evictions, compounded by the closure of some shelters, led to a spike in homelessness which has further eroded public perceptions of refugees and migrants. In Latin America and the Caribbean, UNHCR works to support this population and fosters their access to rights, included to national vaccination programmes. UNHCR co-lead Inter-Agency efforts to respond to these challenges, addressed by the **2021 Refugee and Migrant Response Plan**.

## RESPONSE in HOSTING COUNTRIES

**772,294** individuals
received legal assistance and protection services

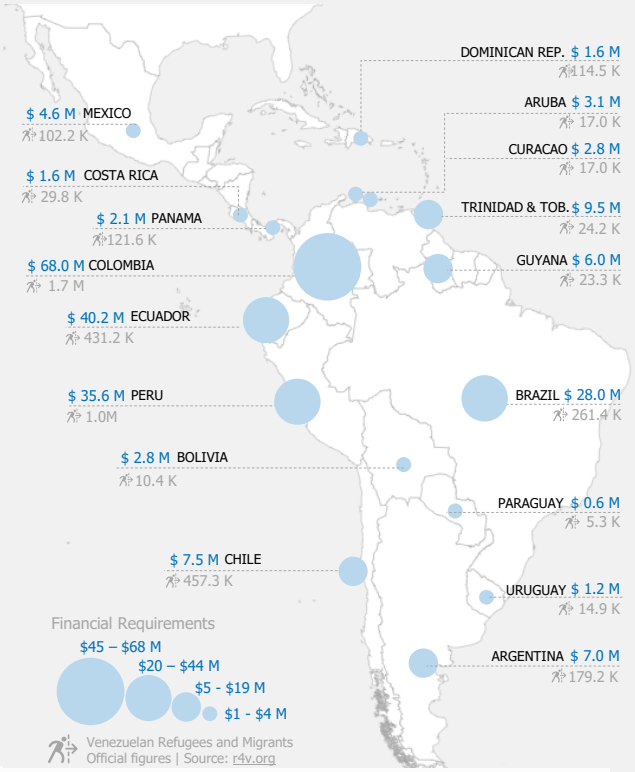
**143,697** people supported
with unrestricted cash assistance

**117,291** people
assisted with emergency and primary health

**33,397** refugees and migrants
sheltered and supported with other solutions

**59,220** individuals
provided with improved water and sanitation services, included with hygiene supplies

**help.unhcr.org**
updated information from **16 countries** throughout the region on prevention and remote services




## Making a Difference January – September 2021

| | |
|---|---|
| Child protection | 31,776 refugee and migrant children and adolescents who received specialized services |
| Food | 22,204 individuals receiving food assistance |
| Gender-based violence | 1,635 initiatives implemented to prevent and mitigated gender-based violence risks among refugees and migrants |
| Education | 20,851 children, adolescents and youth supported with supplies or services for their permanence in educational services |
| Integration | 64,196 people reached with support for employment or self employment |
| Humanitarian transportation | 18,359 refugees and migrants provided with internal transportation or transport to access protection services |
| Social cohesion | 665,872 individuals participating in activities promoting social cohesion. |

## RESPONSE inside VENEZUELA

UNHCR operates in 2021 within the interagency framework of the Humanitarian Response Plan to assist the most vulnerable population groups inside the country. In addition to activities under the WASH and Education clusters, UNHCR also contributes operationally and as lead of two clusters: Protection, and Shelter, Energy and non-food relief items (NFI).

In prioritized communities, particularly in border areas, UNHCR assistance helps address basic needs for vulnerable individuals through core relief items, including jerry cans, solar lamps, kitchen sets and hygiene kits. This assistance runs in parallel to support to reception capacities for spontaneous returns, taking place amid the pandemic, through capacity-building activities, the expansion of triage, medical and emergency shelter facilities, as well as hygiene and sanitation materials for frontline service providers.

UNHCR also works extensively with key institutions and community-based actors to strengthen access to rights through information, individual counselling and referrals. Legal assistance and psychosocial support are also made available to people with specific protection risks, including but not limited to survivors of violence and individuals at risk of statelessness. Community engagement remains a core feature of UNHCR activities, mobilizing networks across prioritized communities to strengthen grassroots efforts for access to rights, peaceful coexistence, and now public health risks.

**71** communities
prioritized and supported

**102** Refugee Housing Units
to support the COVID-19 response

**969,000** people*
received assistance by UNHCR & partners

**243,200** people
helped with household items as kitchen sets, mosquito nets or jerry cans

### Making a Difference January – September 2021

| | |
|---|---|
| Education | 2,100 children benefited by school kits levelling classes |
| Health and Community | 72 health, sports or community centres constructed or rehabilitated |
| Protection | 21,000 people trained on protection issues |
| Gender-based violence | 1,405 survivors assisted |
| WASH | 40,847 people benefitting from improved hygiene conditions |

** More than 345K beneficiaries (58%) were newly assisted persons and 249K recurring beneficiaries (42%).*

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

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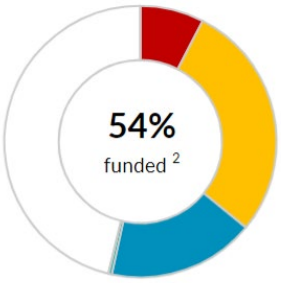


**UNHCR urgently needs in 2021**
USD **315.2 million** to save lives and protect the most vulnerable **Venezuelans in the Americas**

Tightly earmarked
Earmarked
Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
Funding gap (indicative)

Funding Update: 16/11/2021

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