




70,000 people
supported with cash to help meet basic needs



2,380 RHUs
delivered in 16 countries to strengthen the health response




560,000 items of personal protective equipment
distributed to national health authorities and first responders



120,000 individuals
received assistance after being registered by UNHCR and partners



300,000 people remotely informed
about health measures, their rights and accessing support programs



help.unhcr.org
provided updated information from **24 countries** throughout the region on prevention and remote services

The coronavirus outbreak is taking [a dire toll on displaced people](#) throughout the Americas, with border closures and stay at home orders leading to lost livelihoods, evictions and a spike in stigmatization of refugees, asylum seekers and Internally Displaced Persons.

UNHCR's response builds on the Agency's [experience managing emergencies](#) and is implemented in coordination with the World Health Organization (WHO) and national authorities. The response prioritizes:

Strengthen and support health care and wash services

El Salvador	2,400 hygiene kits delivered
Costa Rica	6,000 refugees and asylum seekers insured by the National Social Security
Belize	4,700 facemasks made by asylum seekers
Curacao	561 medical consultations provided
Venezuela	25,000 people with special needs and spontaneous returnees supported with relief items and improved access to water
Honduras	Biosecurity equipment delivered to respond to the needs of deportees and people in mixed movements
Brazil	20,000 masks produced by Venezuelan refugee and migrants

Strengthen protection and community engagement

Colombia	14,399 families registered (51,915 individuals, 73% female)
Peru	620 activities organized to prevent gender-based violence
Brazil	534 indigenous Warao people from Venezuela relocated to a shelter with better infrastructure
Chile	300 people provided information on access to asylum and services offered by UNHCR

Ramp up cash assistance, reinforce shelters, provide core relief items in congested urban and improve self-reliance

Guatemala	96 Refugee Housing Units , or RHUs, helped improve conditions at reception centers for deportees and returnees
Mexico	5,000 refugees and people in mixed movements hosted in 90 shelters
Ecuador	8,797 households supported with cash transfers
Colombia	8,155 individuals provided with emergency cash assistance
Peru	91,000 food rations provided in over 20 shelters, hotels and temporary centres since the start of the pandemic
Argentina	5,000 refugees, migrants and vulnerable population received food

Education

T&T	800 Venezuelan children able to access remote schooling
Brazil	2,300 children received school bags
Bolivia	234 children benefited from a Mobile Friendly Space

Situational highlights

Latin America has emerged as the **current epicentre of the COVID-19 pandemic** - with Brazil reporting the world's second-highest number of confirmed cases of the virus. The situation of refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced populations, stateless people and others of concern to UNHCR remains critical. Governments have launched plans to reactivate the economy amid serious concerns about a **long-term increase in poverty** throughout the region

Challenges faced by the population of concern

The pandemic exposes refugees and migrants to even greater hardships, as many have lost all sources of income and sometimes their homes amidst the lockdowns. This means they are at greater risk of **destitution, exploitation, gender-based violence and abuse**.

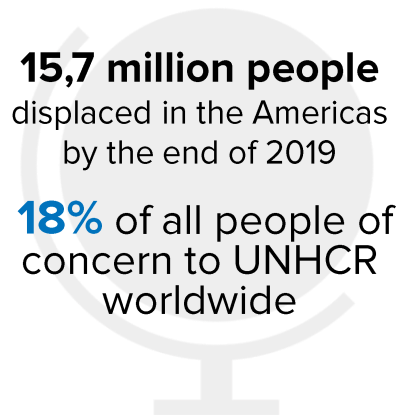
Most refugees, IDPs and other populations of concern to UNHCR are now **in need of urgent assistance to meet all their basic needs**, including shelter, food and healthcare. Amid growing fear and social unrest, many refugees and migrants are unable to comply with hygiene and physical distancing measures, **increasing the risk of stigmatization**. This situation is even more dire for women, children, indigenous population and LGBTI communities.

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

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UNHCR urgently needs

USD 611 million to save lives and protect the most vulnerable in the Americas

