

INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF REFUGEES IN GUATEMALA

300 refugees in Guatemala by the end of 2016



 **50%** El Salvador

 **33%** Nicaragua

 **11%** Honduras

694 asylum claims from 36 different nationalities

206% increase in numbers of new asylum claims from 2014 to 2016

276% increase in numbers of asylum claims submitted by Hondurans and Salvadorians in Guatemala since 2012.



Decrease on abandonment rates of asylum claims down to **48%** in 2016

CONARE

National Commission for Refugees



3 months on average to complete the review of an asylum claim (first instance)



155 persons recognized as refugees in Guatemala since 2014



99% eligibility rates for Salvadorians and **88%** eligibility rates for Hondurans



Recognition of **LGBTI** persons as refugees due to persecution for reasons of sexual orientation and gender identity



Non-detention policy applicable to asylum-seekers



Since 2002, Guatemala registered 89 asylum claims submitted by children travelling with their families or unaccompanied, mostly submitted by girls (**52%**) from El Salvador (**70%**). **79%** of the cases resulted in recognition of refugee status.

GUATEMALA'S NATIONAL SAFE SPACES NETWORK

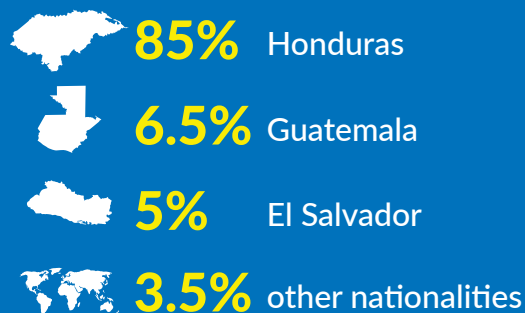


400,000 persons estimated to have entered Mexico after transiting through Guatemala in 2015

20,800 persons in transit estimated by UNHCR as having international protection needs

4,445 persons in transit assisted by the National Safe Spaces Network since its establishment

Profile of assisted persons in transit



- + Works through **7 safe spaces** and **10 protection focal points** based in the main transit routes
- + Safe spaces managed by **six civil society organizations**, in partnership with UNHCR: Pastoral de Movilidad Humana, Misioneros Scalabrinianos, El Refugio de la Niñez, Asociación Lambda, la Oficina de Derechos Humanos del Arzobispado de Guatemala, Cruz Roja Guatemalteca

Services provided:

- Humanitarian Assistance • Information on Asylum • Referrals to Protection Mechanisms

Of the total assisted population, **13%** was identified as having fled their countries of origin due to violence perpetrated by criminal gangs (87%), as well as domestic violence and sexual and gender-based violence.



In 2016, the number of children in transit travelling with their families or unaccompanied increased **745%** in comparison to the previous year



In the first quarter of 2017, the Safe Spaces Network assisted **700%** more LGBTI persons in comparison to 2016



Main profile of persons in transit identified with international protection needs

- 70%** Men
- 79%** Adults
- 70%** Honduran nationals