

# BV-8 ANNEX PACARAIMA



In June 2021, after the easing of the COVID-19 regulations, restricting the entry of foreigners through land borders in Brazil there was a significant increase of Venezuelan refugees and migrants in situations of extreme vulnerability arriving in Pacaraima. Many of them had to sleep on the streets upon arriving in the municipality, exposing themselves to a range of protection and security risks. In response to the situation, UNHCR, along with "Operation Welcome" and in partnership with AVSI Brazil, inaugurated on 27 October 2021 the BV-8 Annex, an emergency space with the capacity to host up to 550 people every night. From its inauguration until the end of UNHCR's management, the BV-8 Annex provided a safe space for **13,850** people. On 31 May 2022, UNHCR suspended its activities in the BV-8 Annex in recognition of an increase in the Operation's documentation capacity coupled with a reduction in the flow of refugee and migrant arrivals. IOM took over the management of the space as of June 2022.

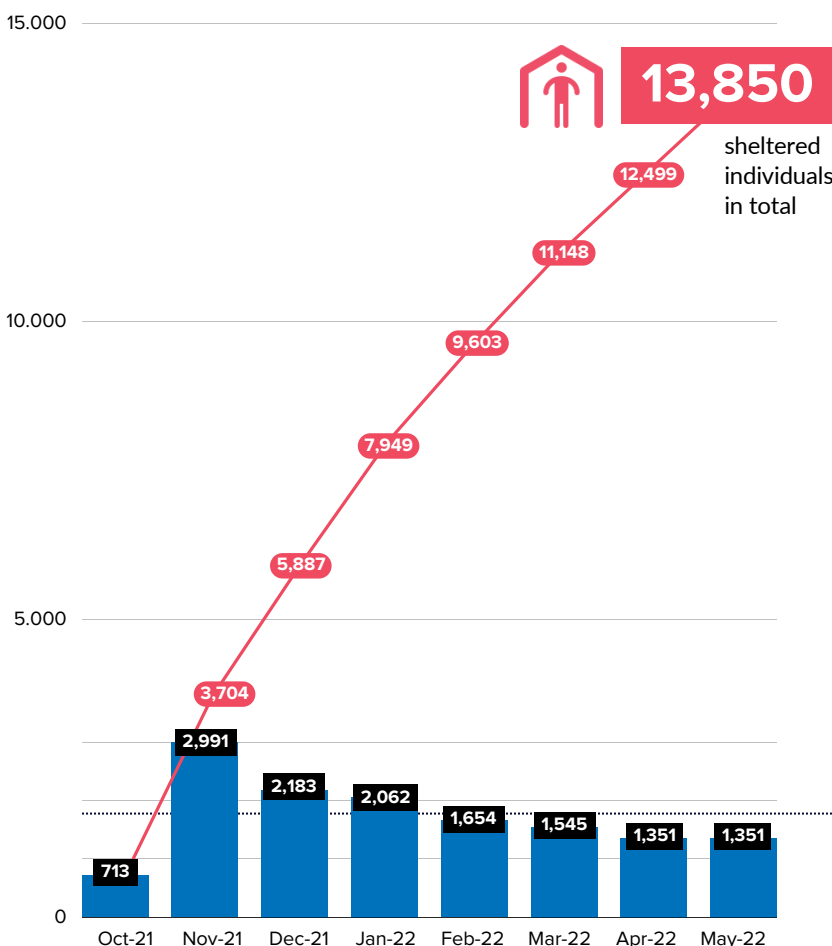


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## Entries (per month)

■ New entries ■ Accumulated

Source: ACNUR



## TARGET POPULATION

Single women

Pregnant women

Families with children

Elderly people



**30 days**

Maximum length of stay



**550**

Maximum shelter capacity



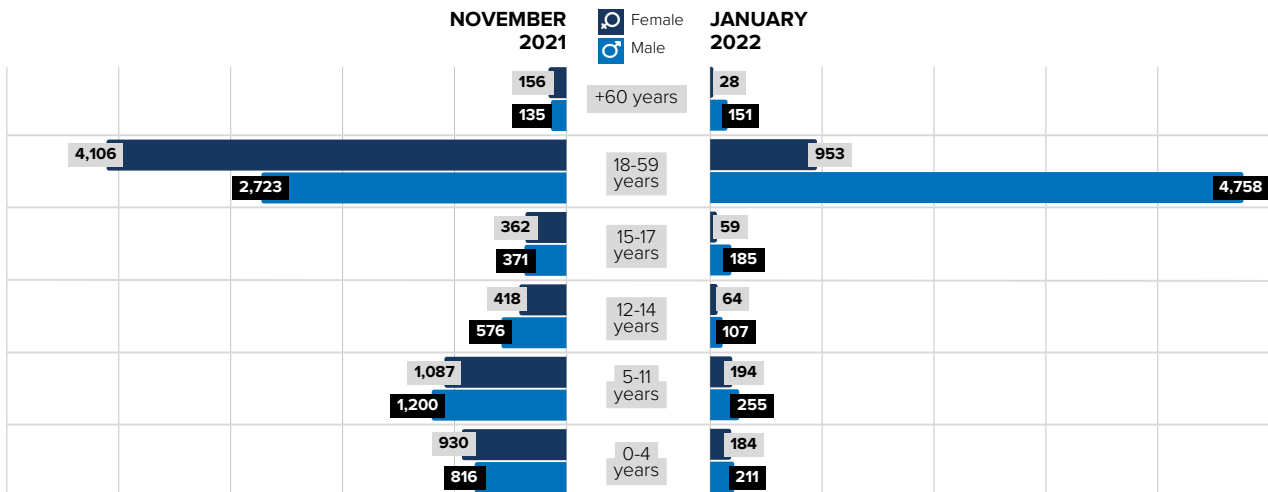
**1,731**

Monthly average of sheltered individuals

## POPULATION PROFILE

A comparative analysis of the BV-8 Annex population profile between November 2021 and January 2022 shows a significant shift in the age and gender ratio.

In 2021, the main sheltered group was adult women (4,106 persons), followed by children aged 0-11 years (4,033 persons). In 2022, most of those sheltered were adult men (4,758), with only a minority being women and children. In addition, the number of new entries began to decrease significantly between January and February 2022.



An assessment conducted with **115 refugees and migrants interviewed between 10 and 12 May 2022** further showed that the majority of refugees and migrants supported with overnight shelter at that time no longer had a high vulnerability and protection risk profile, according to the pre-established criteria, thus justifying the closing of UNHCR’s activities in this emergency space.

- 2%** are pregnant women
- 6%** identified themselves as LGBTI+
- 4%** are older than 60 years old
- 7%** are people with disabilities or reduced mobility
- 6%** reported risk of life in the country of destination
- 10%** reported chronic health illness

## HUMANITARIAN SERVICES

During UNHCR's management, the BV-8 Annex started its activities every day at 4 pm, identifying and registering the needs of people requesting shelter. AVSI Brazil was responsible for coordinating and running the activities of the shelter, while also analysing the vulnerabilities of those accessing the space and referring them to public services, health and/or protection support. After this process, the assisted people received personal hygiene kits and were allocated on mattresses inside the space. Every night, around 7 pm, a dinner was provided by ADRA Brazil. See below for details of the activities carried out by the organizations that, together with UNHCR, supported refugees and migrants on site.

- Registration of sheltered population:** Identification through UNHCR wristbands, ensuring control and security of spaces. **SUPPORT: AVSI BRASIL**
- Overnight shelter:** Space management, mattress distribution, luggage accommodation. **SUPPORT: AVSI BRASIL**
- Distribution of hygiene items:** 5,929 distributed items. **SUPPORT: AVSI BRASIL**

- Protection activities and services:** Screening, referral for *Operação Acolhida's* services, and community-based protection activities. **SUPPORT: AVSI BRASIL**
- Healthcare services:** 164 medical appointments, 110 SUS card issued, and support with 3 medical evacuations. **SUPPORT: OIM**

- WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) services:** 3 drinking water dispensers with 4 taps; 1 water storage box of 5.000L; 1 hand-washing structure and liquid soap, and 1 WASH monitor carrying out activities of hygiene and sanitation promotion. **SUPPORT: UNICEF e ADRA**
- Connectivity point:** 14,102 assistance services were provided, including 5,415 telephone calls, 6,490 wi-fi accesses and 2,197 battery recharges for restoring family links purposes. **SUPPORT: CICV**
- Food distribution:** Delivery of breakfast and dinner. **SUPPORT: ADRA**

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UNHCR Brazil is also thankful for the important support of and partnerships with other UN agencies, Brazilian authorities (at federal, state and municipal levels) and civil society organizations working together to deliver the emergency response and in the regular programmes of the Brazilian operation.