

Trinidad & Tobago

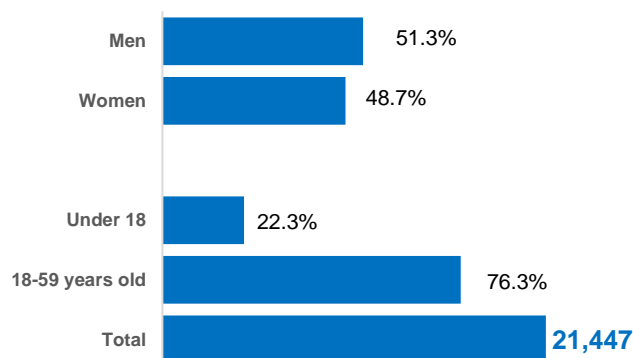
October 2021

Over **21,000** refugees and asylum-seekers are currently registered with UNHCR, most of whom are in an employable age.

In Trinidad and Tobago UNHCR's registered people of concern are from 40 different countries, **86%** of them Venezuelan and **6%** Cuban.

Almost **6,000 asylum-seekers** have received UNHCR documentation for the first time in 2021.

Population of concern*



* As of 31 October 2021. Registration at UNHCR premises had been temporarily suspended from 13 March to 26 May 2020, due to COVID-19. 3,402 individual records were inactivated in April 2020 due to registration documentation being expired for more than six months. A further 1,534 individual records were inactivated in December 2020.

CONTEXT

Trinidad and Tobago (T&T) remained under a State of Emergency in October, with a gradual resumption of activity in key economic sectors, including hospitality and entertainment. Challenges in managing hospital occupancy for COVID-19 patients were **reported**, while COVID-19 vaccination drives continued, inclusive of refugees and migrants.

Reports of irregular movements continued, with one notable **report** of a boat with 25 passengers sinking after reportedly departing Trinidad for Venezuela.

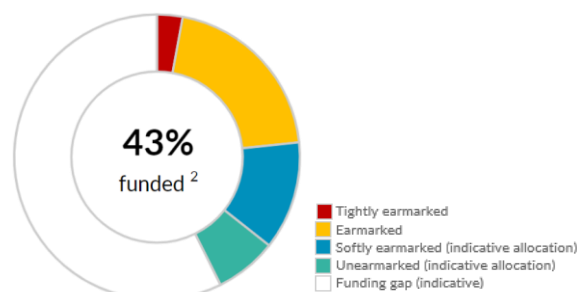
Persons continued to approach UNHCR and partners in October to seek asylum and assistance. Remote modalities for asylum-seeker registration and refugee status determination procedures remain in place, complying with mobility and gathering restrictions.

UNHCR continues to work with the government and other agencies to provide needed support, assistance and protection to forcibly displaced persons in T&T.

FUNDING (AS OF 9 NOVEMBER 2021)

US\$ 48.7 M

requested for Panama Multi-Country Office¹



¹ The financial requirements for Panama MCO include requirements for the operation's regular programme, Coronavirus Emergency, North of Central America Situation and the Venezuela Situation. Trinidad and Tobago is part of the Panama Multi-Country Office along with Aruba, Belize, Cuba, Curaçao, Guyana, Nicaragua, Suriname and Panama

² The percentage funded (43%) and total funding amount (\$20,770,962) are indicative based on the methodology described above. This leaves an indicative funding gap of \$27,907,555 representing 57% of the financial requirements.

UNHCR SUPPORTED T&T POLICE SERVICE TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

SI VES ALGO, DI ALGO EN ESPAÑOL



LOS HISPANOHABLANTES PUEDEN REPORTAR, COMPLETAMENTE EN ESPAÑOL



Through the donation of a translation software subscription incorporated on the **TTPS App**, UNHCR supported the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) to receive reports from non-English speakers. The software also allows police to provide non-English speakers with report receipts in their native languages.

UNHCR CONTINUES PARTICIPATION IN REFUGEE COMMUNITY OUTREACH

During the "Refugee Day" of the Archdiocesan Ministry for Migrants and Refugees (AMMR), UNHCR distributed 100 hygiene kits, and staff provided interpretation services and counselling on access to rights and services, and completed referrals for vulnerable persons.



UNHCR Response and Strategy

UNHCR works with three partners in Trinidad and Tobago and supports the State in the delivery of assistance and protection to vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers.

Main Activities

Alongside the government, partner organizations, civil society, faith-based organizations, development actors, and UN Agencies, UNHCR undertakes protection and solutions activities, including:



Emergency food assistance

In October, UNHCR through partner [Living Water Community](#) (LWC) provided emergency food assistance to **138** of the most vulnerable asylum-seekers and refugees via [QR code vouchers](#) redeemable at participating supermarkets nationwide. Thus far in 2021, **7,908 individuals** have received this emergency support.



Cash-based interventions (CBI)

In October, **20 individuals** with very limited or no ability to achieve self-reliance and facing protection risks were assisted with [multipurpose cash](#), bringing the total number up to **205 people** in 2021. 57% of cash applicants were survivors of gender-based violence, while 71% were unable to pay rent and were facing substantial risk of eviction or homelessness.



Access to medical services

Medical assistance continues to be delivered through partner [Family Planning Association](#) (FPATT) via telehealth and at clinic locations. In October, FPATT conducted **192 consultations** on sexual and reproductive health and **11 pediatric consultations**, with 37% of beneficiaries receiving health services from FPATT for the first time. Thus far in 2021, FPATT has provided **83 pediatric** and **1,624 sexual and reproductive health consultations** for refugees and asylum-seekers.



Mental health and psychosocial services

Psychosocial support was delivered through partner [Rape Crisis Society](#) (RCS), who provided **70 counselling sessions** for 42 refugees and asylum-seekers in October. RCS has delivered **649 counselling sessions** for vulnerable displaced persons so far in 2021.



Access to education and training opportunities

Over **1,400 students** have been enrolled in the [Equal Place \(EP\) programme](#), and over **30 facilitators** have completed English as a Second Language teacher training workshops, focused on integrating language, cognitive skills, and culture into lessons.



Access to documentation and refugee status determination (RSD) procedure

In October, UNHCR provided [access to documentation](#) for **424 persons**, 343 of whom received a UNHCR certificate¹ and 111 a UNHCR identification card². In addition, **73 refugee status determination** interviews were conducted. So far in 2021, **5,971 asylum-seekers** received UNHCR documentation for the first time and **770 asylum-seekers** had their RSD interviews completed.

Thanks to donors: The UNHCR Panama MCO wishes to convey a special thank you to its donors: the United States of America, the United Kingdom, France, the European Union, and the UN Programme On HIV/AIDS as well as to the following donors of unearmarked and softly earmarked funds: Algeria | Armenia | Australia | Austria | Belgium | Bulgaria | Canada | Costa Rica | Cyprus | Denmark | Estonia | Finland | France | Germany | Holy See | Iceland | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Latvia | Liechtenstein | Luxembourg | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | Morocco | Netherlands | New Zealand | Norway | Peru | Philippines | Portugal | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Singapore | Slovakia | South Africa | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | Thailand | Turkey | United Kingdom | United States of America | Uruguay | Private donors, including Australia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Spain, and Sweden

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Find more information about UNHCR [here](#) and click [here](#) for more on the work of the UNHCR T&T Operation. Follow us on [Facebook](#)

¹Delivered by LWC after a virtual interview (pre-registration phase)

²Delivered by UNHCR after in-person verification when biometric data is collected (registration phase). Only persons with [specific needs](#) are currently processed for registration.