

# SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

## JOINT NEEDS ASSESSMENT – PANAMA

DECEMBER 2024

### GENERAL INFORMATION

This is the first joint needs assessment with in-destination Venezuelans in Panama to identify the needs of Venezuelan refugees and migrants. This exercise supports the planning process for the [Refugee and Migrant Response Plan RMRP 2025-2026](#) and channels resources for the response to refugees and migrants of Venezuela. Some of these results are incorporated in the regional Refugee and Migrants Needs Analysis, launched on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2024: [RMNA 2024 - Refugee and Migrant Needs Analysis](#). The data collection was jointly conducted with Activados Panamá.

In case of questions, please contact the information management team: Alejandra Gaviria: [gaviriar@unhcr.org](mailto:gaviriar@unhcr.org), Carlos Porras: [cporras@iom.int](mailto:cporras@iom.int) and Marketa Jerabek: [jerabek@unhcr.org](mailto:jerabek@unhcr.org), or coordination: Delia Ordonez Vernaza: [ordonez@unhcr.org](mailto:ordonez@unhcr.org), Yaribeth Michelle Pino: [ypino@iom.int](mailto:ypino@iom.int), Janine Hutchison: [jhutchison@iom.int](mailto:jhutchison@iom.int)



#### DATA COLLECTION

6 May - 10 June



#### MODALITY OF INTERVIEWS

In person



#### NUMBER OF PARTNERS

17



#### NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS

898 interviews  
2,546 people analysed  
3.6 average household

#### GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE

67% of the interviews were conducted in Panama City while 33% in Panama West.

#### MOVEMENT INTENTIONS (NEXT 6 MONTHS)

91% - do not intend to change their residence in Panama or move to another country.  
4.8% - intend to change residence within Panama.  
4% - don't know or prefer not to answer.  
0.1% - would like to return to Venezuela.

#### REASONS FOR LEAVING VENEZUELA

83.9% No jobs  
73.7% Food insecurity  
62.7% No access to medical services  
56.9% Insecurity/general violence  
13.5% Personal threats or against family



### PROFILE OF THE INTERVIEWED AND ANALYSED POPULATION

#### NATIONALITY OF THE ANALYSED POPULATION

The assessment includes 2,546 people.

84%



Venezuela

16%

Mixed Nationality  
Venezuela / Panama / Haiti /  
Ecuador / Colombia / Peru

#### TOTAL NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS: 898

65% of the respondents were women and 35% men

10.8% arrived via Darien jungle

48.7% of households with children / adolescents

38.6% female head of households

77.5% of households with majority of household living in Panama

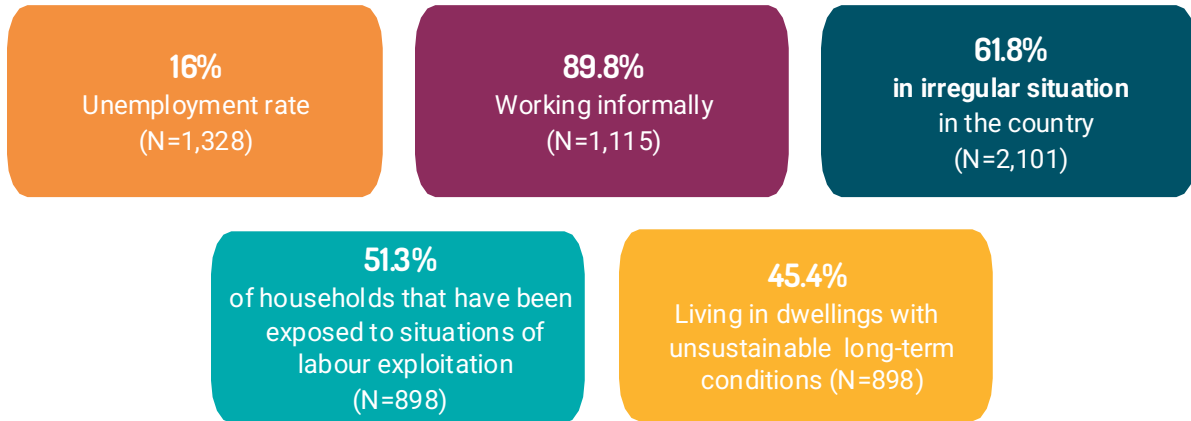
6.4% households with at least one pregnant/or breastfeeding woman

11.5% of households have at least one child (0-3 years)

41.2% arrived 3-10 years ago or more / 22.8% arrived 2-3 years ago  
16.7% arrived 1-2 years ago / 19.3% arrived less than a year ago

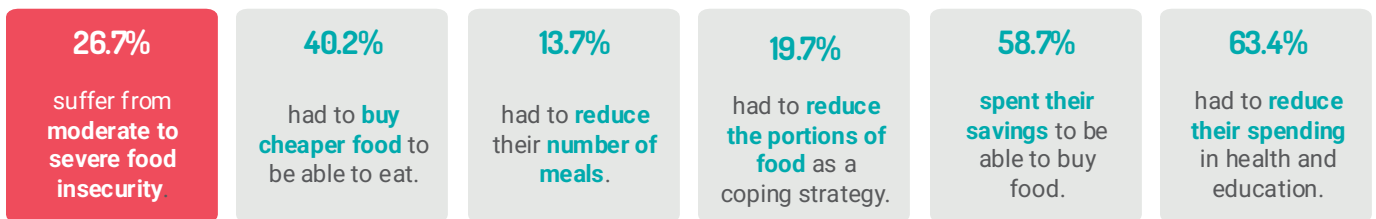
# MAIN NEEDS

On household and individual level



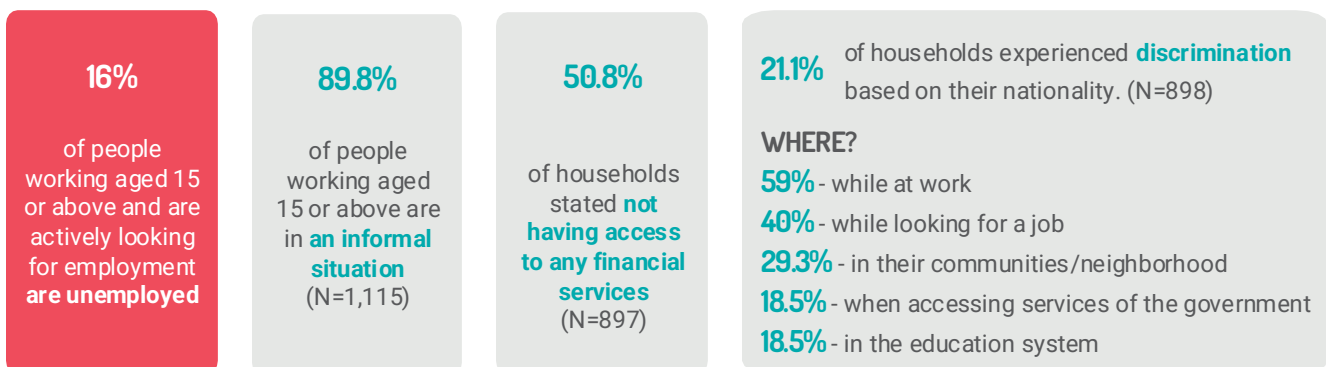
## FOOD SECURITY

Many households (N=898) adopted various coping strategies, such as buying lower-quality food, eating less frequently or in smaller portions, and cutting spending on health and education to ensure they could provide enough daily food for the family.



## INTEGRATION

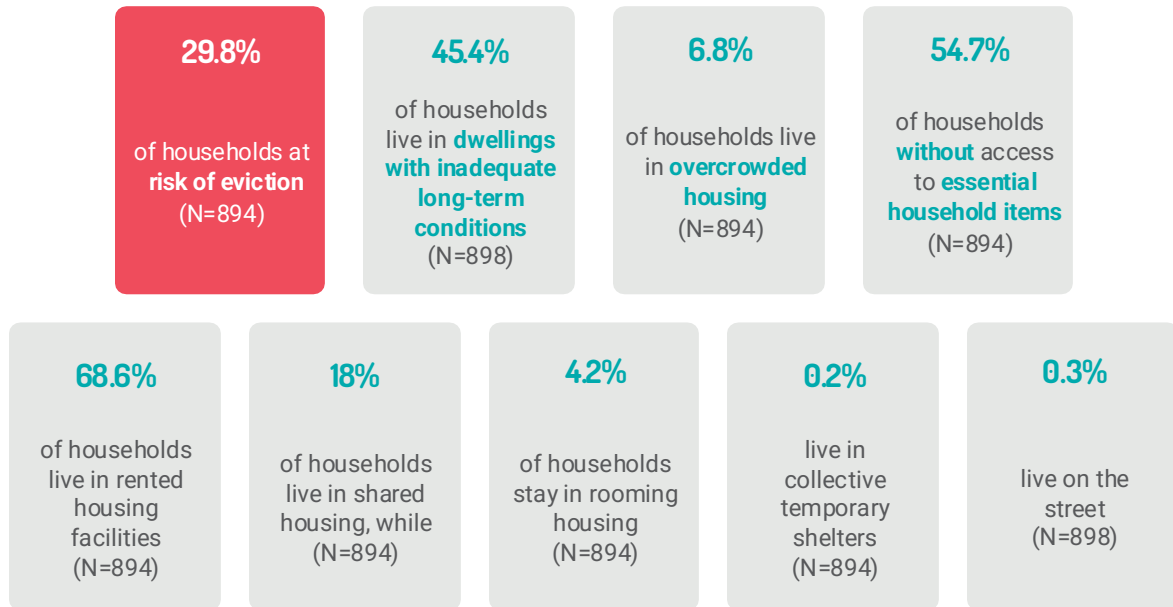
In this sector, households were asked about financial inclusion, whether they have income-generating activities, are formally or informally employed, or have health insurance (through their work) or pension funds. The percentage of people in informal employment is calculated as the number of people in informal jobs (without a contract or without social security) divided by the total number of members who reported being employed. Additionally, households were asked whether they had experienced any form of discrimination.





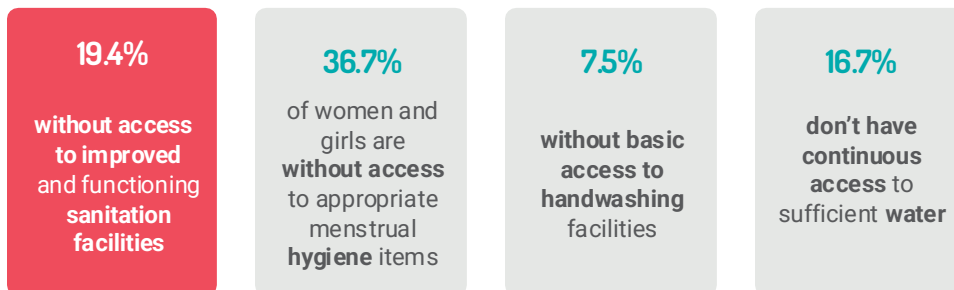
## SHELTER

The shelter sector aimed to understand the housing situation of the refugee and migrant population in Panama and the quality of housing facilities where Venezuelan migrants and refugees live.



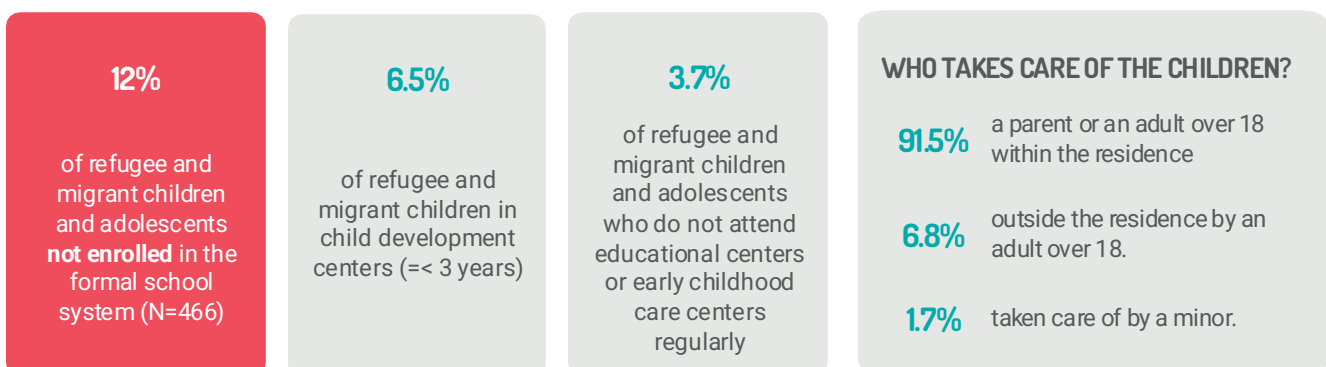
## WASH

WASH includes the analysis of needs regarding access to quality water, basic sanitation, and hygiene conditions in households (N=898).



## EDUCATION

The assessment identified the percentage of children and adolescents not enrolled in the school system, children (0–3) lacking early childhood development services or adequate care, and those not regularly attending educational or childcare centers.





## HEALTH AND NUTRITION

The health sector evaluated access to health insurance for workers and the availability of health services when needed. The nutrition sector assessed the needs of pregnant and/or lactating women and children aged 0-59 months in terms of nutritional interventions received and child food poverty.

**ONLY 10.8%**

with health insurance by virtue of work (N=1,115)

**99.1%**

of boys and girls (6 to 59 months) have not received minimum nutritional interventions in the last 3 months (N=113)

**9.3%**

have required some form of healthcare in the destination country but have been unable to access it (N=2,546)

**76.5%**

of boys and girls under 6 months who did not receive minimum nutrition interventions in the last 3 months (N=17)

**59.3%**

of boys and girls aged 6 to 59 months in child food poverty (N=113)

**87.7%**

of pregnant and lactating women have not received minimum nutritional interventions in the last 3 months (N=57)



## PROTECTION

The protection sector evaluated security, protection, human rights violations, displacement issues, and international humanitarian law, as well as the need for legal assistance, guidance, and international protection. Child protection examined violence, abuse, neglect, and exploitation, while the GBV sub-sector focused on women's and girls' safety. Human trafficking questions addressed refugees' and migrants' risks of trafficking and labor exploitation.

**22.6%**

of households concerned about security, protection, and violations within their human rights, international humanitarian law, and displacement-related issues (N=897)

**61.8%**

of individuals with irregular status in their destination country (N=2,101)

**38.4%**

of households in need of legal assistance or guidance (N=896)

**40.4%**

of households in need of international protection (N=898)

**27.5%**

of households facing difficulties in safe access to destination country (N=896)

### CHILD PROTECTION

**41%**

of households knowing a child or adolescent who has experienced violence, abuse, neglect, and exploitation or is irregular situation in the country (N=898)

**3.1%**

of households knowing a child or adolescent who has experienced violence, abuse, neglect, and exploitation and has not received assistance (N=898)

### GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

**17.4%**

of households with women and girls who avoid places because they feel unsafe (N=898)

**6.1%**

of refugees and migrants who feel or have felt insecure in their locality/community regarding the risk of Gender-Based Violence (N=898)

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING

**51.3%**

of households that have been exposed to situations of labour exploitation (N=898)

**7.5%**

of households exposed to situations of human trafficking (N=897)