

CHILE



REFUGEES AND
MIGRANTS IN CHILE

457,324



PEOPLE REACHED
IN 2021*

12,237



FUNDING SITUATION**

REQUIREMENT: USD 46.1M

Situation

- According to data provided by the Investigation Police (PDI), 4,271 people entered Chile during January 2021, 81 per cent of whom were Venezuelans. A concentration of 1,600 refugees and migrants from Venezuela built up in the border town of Colchane, who could not move on due to lack of resources and livelihood support, creating a situation that overwhelmed the response capacities of local and regional authorities. In this regard, on February 4 the government decided to reinforce border control under Decree 265 that authorizes the collaboration of the Armed Forces. A few days later, under the same containment measures, 138 Venezuelans and Colombians were expelled from the country and deported to their countries of origin. National and international media [widely covered the events](#).
- By February, local authorities reported more than 2,200 people in six quarantine temporary shelters in Iquique, which is the city of Chile with the third most active cases of COVID-19, generating significant pressure from the local community after several months in quarantine. Authorities and local communities in several areas in the Tarapacá Region showed their discontent with the situation and the high number of families living on the streets.
- With the reinforcement of border control by the government, the population movements have considerably decreased. However, it is possible that refugees and migrants are trying to find other ways to enter the country, using other irregular crossings like Ollague (on the border between Chile and Bolivia) to reach Calama.
- Press publications, opinion columns, work on the ground, and meetings with R4V partners, among others, reflect a politicization of the migration issue. In the framework of the change to the Constitution, the Constitutional Convention (Convención Constitucional election) is scheduled for 11 April, are directly impacting the conversations and approach to the situation of refugees and migrants from Venezuela.

Response

- During January and February 2021, 7,769 people received food assistance** including breakfast, lunch, dinner, and emergency kits (food kits) **and 1,990 received protection from R4V Partners** in the cities of Colchane, Huara, Pozo Almonte and Iquique, in the Tarapaca Region. Additionally, during the period with highest concentration of persons the first days of February, R4V Partners coordinated the allocation of tents and blankets with the authorities and police, reaching 150 people without access to shelter.
- R4V Partners also continued to provide shelter, cash-based support, protection and humanitarian transportation.** While this assistance has been provided throughout Chile, it has mostly focused on the northern cities of the country such as Arica, Antofagasta and Calama, in addition to those mentioned above.
- Due to the notable increase in the number of homeless refugee and migrant families in the Metropolitan Region, R4V Partners are coordinating a joint intervention through a intersectorial roundtable with the Santiago Municipality to coordinate the appropriate response and assist them.
- The National Platform Coordination**, together with sector leads, prepared a series of sectorial meetings to develop an action plan according to the RMRP 2021.



Health

18



Education

515



Food
Security

7.769



CBI

34



Protection

1.990



Shelter

338



Hum.
Transp.

25



WASH

1.556