

CHILE



REFUGEES AND
MIGRANTS IN CHILE

457,324



PEOPLE REACHED
IN 2021*

68,951



FUNDING SITUATION**

REQUIREMENT: USD 46.1M

Situation

- After a [mas influx](#) of 1,800 refugees and migrants in February to the city of Colchane, entry point from Bolivia, highlighted the challenges of the reception capacity in the north, the Government put in place the “[Colchane Plan](#)” to encourage regular migration, which requires self-reporting to the authorities in order to be transferred to transitional shelters. Since then, however, R4V partners have observed that the number of refugees and migrants who enter the country through unofficial border crossings has increased, and local authorities [said](#) it has reduced their ability to properly manage the new arrivals. Irregular crossings expose refugees and migrants to risks from criminality and extreme weather conditions. So far in 2021, 11 refugees and migrants have lost their lives trying to reach Chile using these irregular pathways.
- As a member of the International Contact Group (ICG), on 13 July, the Government of Chile endorsed the group's [press release](#) expressing concern with the situation in Venezuela. It reiterates that a peaceful and inclusive dialogue is the only solution to the crisis in that country, calling on the international community to be part of a unified response to the crisis, especially by supporting internal dialogue. It also called attention to the deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Venezuela and its neighboring countries, which has been aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- On 18 July, Chileans voted in a presidential primary election for the 2022-2026 terms to select the candidates of the Chile *Vamos* (right) and *Apruebo Dignidad* (left) coalitions. The discussion about [refugees and migrants](#) was present during the debates, with positions ranging from creating regular pathways for permanent stay in the country, to tighter border controls with strict admissions criteria.
- On 19 July, the Chilean national police [rescued](#) 31 refugees and migrants (23 adults and 9 children, most of them from Venezuela) kidnapped by a woman from Venezuela (32 years old) who was arrested and accused of smuggling of migrants. All of them were transferred to transitory quarantine shelters in Iquique, where they received psychosocial support. The Undersecretary of the Interior [said](#) that the rescued children will be protected by the State.
- Chile [opened](#) its borders on 26 July to nationals and foreign residents returning from abroad who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19. The government created a "National Unit for Border Control and Passenger Surveillance" to oversee their return within the framework of Chile's "Protected Borders Plan". Chileans who leave the country will be required to undergo a strict 10-day quarantine upon return and will be tested for the virus before they are freed from confinement. Non-resident foreigners, however, are allowed entry to the country only by presenting a consular permit; tourists, on the other hand, still are not allowed.
- The National Institute of Statistics in Chile released the [results](#) of the National Socioeconomic Characterization Survey (CASEN) carried out in 2020. The data showed that there are around 490,000 Venezuelans in the country, making them the largest community of foreigners in Chile. On average they have higher incomes than Chileans and three more years of schooling. Finally, three out of four live in the Metropolitan Region.

Response

- R4V partners began **multipurpose cash-based interventions (CBI)**, aiming to reach at least 215 households in very vulnerable conditions in coordination with local governments and NGOs. CBI for health needs was also distributed, aiming to reach at least 320 households. R4V partners also distributed 8,700 blankets, 43,000 masks and 1,320 winter kits to over 3,000 refugees and migrants as part of the winterization campaign.
- R4V partners provided **training on Refugee Childhood** together with the Undersecretary of Childhood, to prepare health workers from temporary quarantine shelters in Arica to interact with refugees and migrants.
- R4V partners **donated masks, milk, diapers, cleaning towels and food items** to the Tarapacá Open Assembly of Migrants and Pro-migrants (AMPRO) for the refugee and migrant community in the Alto Molle Camp, in Alto Hospicio city, in the Tarapaca Region.
- In Arica, R4V partners **delivered 46 cash cards** to support the payment of health expenses, such as medications and exams. Also, refugees and migrants received medical attention and vaccinations against Covid-19. In the same city, R4V partners **delivered food vouchers** to 10 women, 7 men, and 20 children, and **provided emergency shelter** for 22 people.
- R4V partners delivered materials from the **Spaces Free of Xenophobia campaign**, including merchandise and informational brochures.



Health

97



Education

0



Food
Security

1004



Integration

139



CBI

1019



Protection

4,605



Shelter

1256



Hum.
Transp.

0



WASH

456