

CONTEXT

- The political and economic crisis in Venezuela continues to generate outward migration to neighboring countries across Latin America and the Caribbean, including Brazil. Of the 6.1 million people who have fled Venezuela, approximately 325,800 have migrated to Brazil, with hundreds of new arrivals entering daily, according to the Regional Interagency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela (R4V). The population influx is straining the capacity of the Government of Brazil (GoB) to provide services in areas of the country bordering Venezuela, particularly Roraima and Amazonas states.
- Approximately 80 percent of the Venezuelan migrant and refugee population in Brazil—many of whom remain in need of food assistance—reside in Roraima’s Boa Vista city and Pacaraima municipality, located along the Brazil–Venezuela border, R4V reports. Across Brazil, an estimated 198,000 Venezuelans are in need of emergency food assistance in 2022, according to R4V.
- The GoB led, UN-supported Operação Acolhida—Operation Welcome—relief and resettlement initiative offers a framework for providing migrants and refugees with humanitarian assistance and voluntary relocation from Roraima to other parts of Brazil. However, vulnerable Venezuelans, particularly those living without shelter, still require additional food and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance.
- The effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic continue to strain Brazil’s health care system and exacerbate humanitarian needs among host community populations, migrants, and refugees in Brazil. Brazil maintains one of the highest recorded totals of COVID-19 cases globally, while low compliance with public health guidance, the emergence of new variants, and logistical challenges to vaccine distribution continue to constrain efforts to stem the spread of COVID-19. Meanwhile, reduced economic activity and increased food prices resulting from the pandemic and associated restrictions have constrained resources of the most vulnerable households. Additionally, limited access to WASH services has contributed to worsening health conditions, food insecurity, and nutrition outcomes for many communities, as well as increased risk and incidence of gender-based violence and other protection violations.



ASSISTANCE

- In Fiscal Years (FYs) 2020 and 2021, USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) provided emergency food and nutrition support, as well as WASH assistance, to an estimated 50,000 Venezuelan migrants and refugees in Brazil’s Roraima State through two non-governmental organization partners.

- In 2021, Adventist Development and Relief Agency, with USAID/BHA funding, provided food vouchers to more than 50,000 Venezuelans in Boa Vista and Pacaraima, enabling beneficiaries to purchase nutritious food from local supermarkets.
- USAID/BHA funding is helping strengthen national COVID-19 response capacities and meet increased protection needs exacerbated by the pandemic by expanding access to critical health and WASH services—particularly among vulnerable communities—and by distributing personal protective equipment to local health care actors. USAID/BHA also supports partners—including Caritas Brazil, the International Organization for Migration, the Pan American Health Organization, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and World Vision—to bolster food security, as well as provide health, protection, and WASH assistance to vulnerable populations affected by COVID-19 across the country. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, USAID/BHA has provided more than \$15.9 million to support COVID-19 response and recovery activities across 11 states in Brazil.

USAID/BHA Funding in Brazil ¹			
	Emergency ²	ER4	TOTAL
FY 2020	\$20,000,000	—	\$ 20,000,000
FY 2021	\$21,950,000	\$500,000	\$ 22,450,000

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of **March 9, 2022**. Totals include estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

² Includes funding for programs that integrate ER4 activities with emergency response.