

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 more than 6.1 million people who have fled Venezuela, approximately 345,000 are in Brazil, with hundreds of new arrivals entering weekly, according to the Regional Interagency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela (R4V).
- A majority of the Venezuelan migrant and refugee population in Brazil reside in Roraima and Amazonas states, located along the Brazil–Venezuela border, R4V reports. Across Brazil, an estimated 312,000 Venezuelan migrants, refugees, and host community members require humanitarian assistance—including food, health care, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support—in 2022.
- While the Government of Brazil (GoB)-led, UN-supported Operation Welcome relief and resettlement initiative offers a framework for providing migrants and refugees with humanitarian assistance and voluntary relocation from Roraima and Amazonas states to other parts of Brazil, the population influx has strained the GoB’s capacity to provide services in border areas. Thus, significant gaps—in particular, the need for additional food and WASH assistance—remain, particularly among unhoused and indigenous populations.
- The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic continues to strain the health care system and exacerbate humanitarian needs among populations in Brazil, including host community members and migrants and refugees. Reduced economic activity and increased food prices resulting from the pandemic and associated restrictions have constrained household resources and further limited access to WASH services for many communities, contributing to worsening food insecurity, health conditions, and nutrition outcomes, as well as increased risk and incidence of gender-based violence and other protection violations.



ASSISTANCE

- USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) partners Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) and Caritas Brazil are providing emergency food and nutrition support to approximately 58,000 Venezuelan migrants and refugees in Roraima and Amazonas states with Fiscal Years (FYs) 2021 and 2022 funding. This assistance includes food vouchers, hot meals, and nutrition education for Venezuelan migrants and refugees living outside of GoB-led Operation Welcome shelters.
- Following heavy rain and related flooding in northeastern Brazil from December 2021 to January 2022, USAID/BHA provided \$100,000 to ADRA to locally procure and distribute emergency relief commodities to affected populations. In addition, USAID/BHA also supported ADRA with \$100,000 to distribute relief supplies to

populations affected by heavy rains and related landslides and flooding in southern Brazil’s Rio de Janeiro State in mid-February.

- To respond to exacerbated humanitarian needs linked to the COVID-19 pandemic, USAID/BHA supports partners—including Caritas Brazil, the International Organization for Migration, Internews, 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 communities in Brazil. 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 in Brazil.

USAID/BHA Funding in Brazil ¹			
	Emergency ²	ER4	TOTAL
FY 2021	\$21,950,000	\$500,000	\$22,450,000
FY 2022	\$2,200,000	–	\$2,200,000

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of June 14, 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.