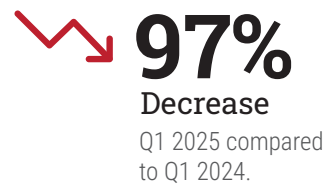


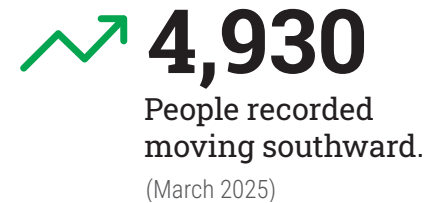


Overview of key figures and trends

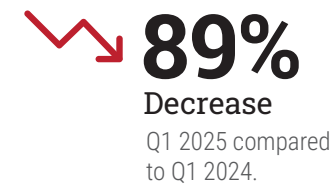
PANAMA: DARIEN IRREGULAR ENTRIES



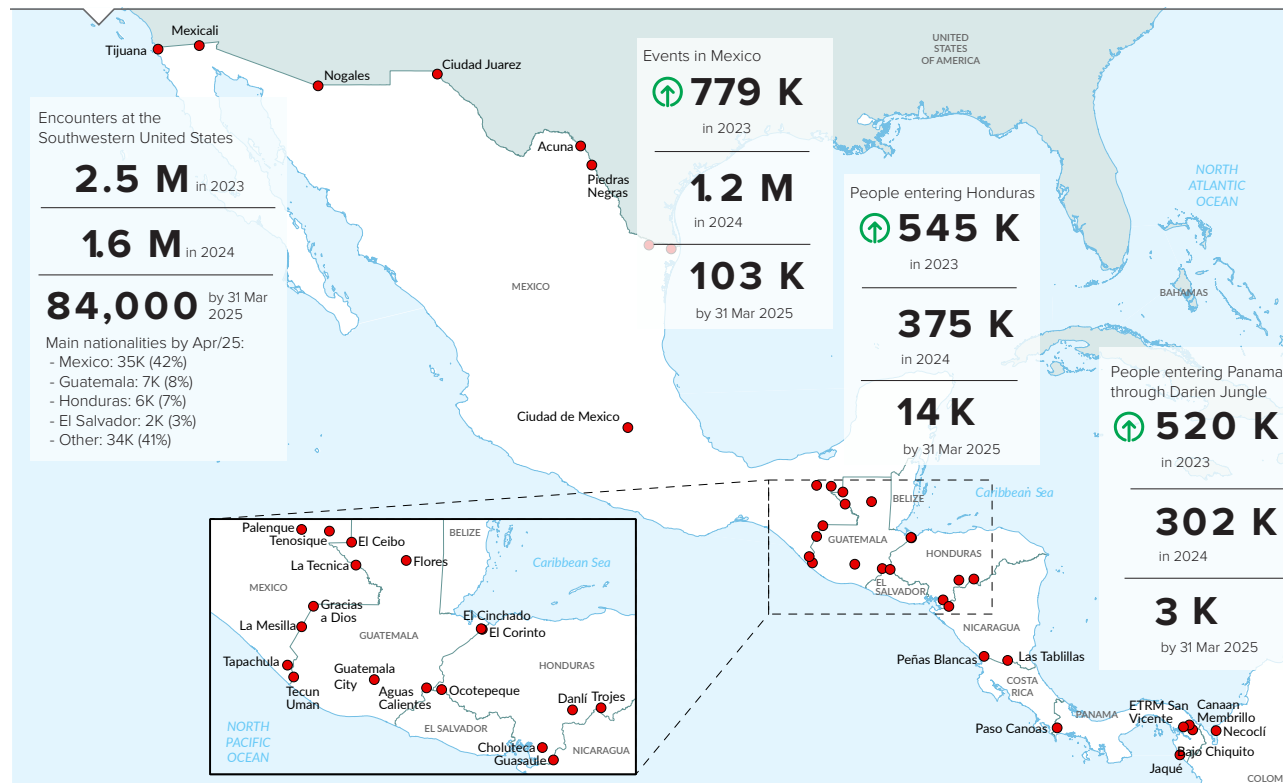
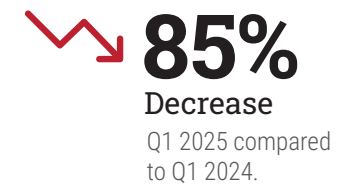
PANAMA: REVERSE FLOWS



HONDURAS: IRREGULAR ENTRIES



U.S. - SOUTHWEST BORDER ENCOUNTERS



In the first months of 2025, cross-border population movements across the Americas continued to decline—particularly northbound movements—though dynamics varied across countries.

Irregular entries into Panama through the Darien dropped sharply in the first quarter of 2025, with only 2,831 people recorded—a 97% decrease compared to the same period in 2024. March 2025 registered just 194 entries, the lowest monthly figure since 2021.

Irregular entries into Honduras also dropped sharply in the first quarter of 2025, with only 14,270 individuals recorded between January and March—an 89% decrease compared to the same period in 2024 (133,518 entries). This represents the lowest quarterly total since 2021.

As of April 2025, the Mexican government has not released updated statistics on events involving individuals in irregular status in Mexico since August 2024. The most recent data on asylum applications was published in December 2024, reporting a total of 78,975 claims during the year.

Note: This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown, and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the UN.

Sources: SENAFRONT: Panama, UNHCR, 2024.

Overview of key figures and trends

Policy Impact and Emerging Trends (Q1 2025)

Policy changes introduced since the beginning of 2025 have influenced migration and displacement dynamics across the Americas. A growing set of control and deterrence measures—such as tightened border enforcement, the removal of pathways to entry and admission, and the increased use of removals and deportations—have had a direct impact on the volume and patterns of mixed movements.

According to data from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), land encounters at the U.S. Southwest border dropped sharply in the first quarter of calendar year 2025. Monthly encounters declined from 61,448 in January to 11,709 in February, and further to 11,017 in March—totaling 84,174 encounters in Q1. This represents an 85% decrease compared to the same period in 2024, when 555,467 encounters were recorded (176,195 in January, 189,913 in February, and 189,359 in March). March 2025 marked the lowest number of monthly encounters at the Southwest border in at least four years, significantly below figures from March 2024 (189,359), 2023 (193,249), and 2022 (222,574).

Reverse Movements

In this context, a notable increase in southbound movements has been observed among individuals from various nationalities, including Venezuelans, Ecuadorians, and Colombians. Since January 2025, transit of people returning southward has been recorded at key border points, with a growing number seeking access to national asylum systems. Notably, refugees and migrants are reportedly opting for maritime routes from Panama back to Colombia to avoid re-crossing the Darién Gap. Between mid-January and the end of March, Panamanian authorities registered 4,930 individuals moving south.

Removals and Deportations

Efforts to expedite the removal of individuals deemed to be unlawfully present in the United States have been announced. While comprehensive monthly removal data is not currently publicly available, figures cited by U.S. authorities and other sources indicate that total returns have not exceeded the levels recorded during the same period in 2024. However, a shift in enforcement patterns has been noted: more individuals are reportedly being detained and removed from within U.S. interior cities, with fewer removals occurring directly from the Southwest border. During this period deportations of third country nationals from the U.S. to countries in Central America and other regions also occurred.

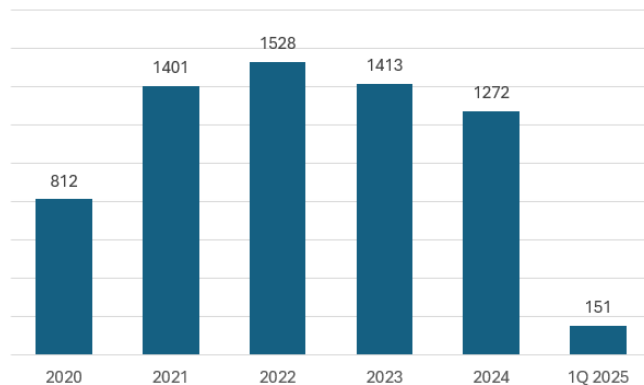




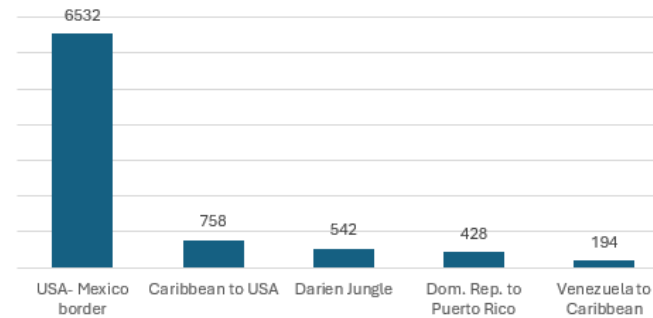
Missing migrants in the Americas

- Since IOM began monitoring deaths and disappearances of migrants and people on the move, between 2014 until March 2025, 11,151 cases have been recorded in the Americas. Actual figures may be a lot higher as not all deaths are recorded ([IOM, Missing Migrants Project, 2025](#)).
- Drowning is the most commonly known cause of death in the region followed by harsh environmental conditions and lack of adequate shelter, food, water. For instance, on February 22nd Panama government reports the death of a 8-year-old female child of Venezuelan nationality and the rescue of 20 people after a boat sank in waters near the community of Mansucum, in Guna Yala. They were heading to Colombia as part of the North-South bound direction.
- Since 2014, 499 children died or are missing. During the 1st Quarter of 2025, 12 children died.

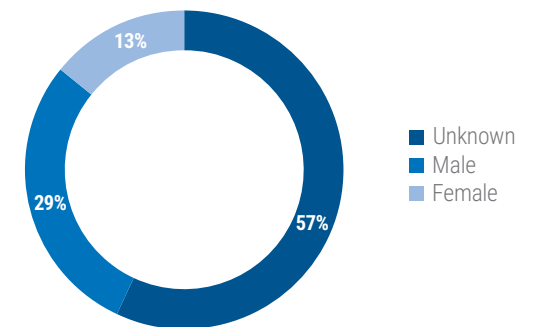
Total of missing people on the move recorded in the Americas by year (2020-Q1 2025)



Total of missing people on the move recorded in the Americas by Main Routes (2024)



Total of missing people on the move recorded in the Americas by sex (Q1 2025)





Colombia - Maritime companies in Necoclí

•Between February and March 2025, departures to Panama from Necoclí decreased (from Venezuela and of other nationalities), and on the contrary, refugees and migrants continued to embark on Southward journeys.

South North Direction



514

Individuals were recorded by Maritime Companies in Necocli between February and March 2025. Around 89,000 individuals were recorded during the same period in 2024.



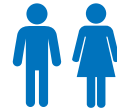
75%

Men



25%

Women



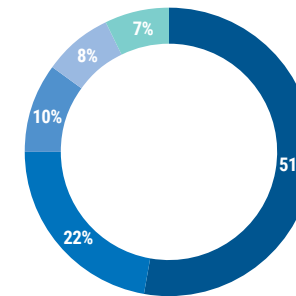
85%

Adult

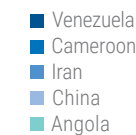


15%

Children



Countries of origin



North South Direction



3,799

Individuals were recorded by Maritime Companies in Necocli between February and March 2025. Most of them were Venezuelan nationals (97%) returning to Venezuela or heading to a third-country.



66%

Men



34%

Women



83%

Adult



17%

Children



Panama – Darien

 **2,831**

People have entered irregularly through the Darien Province from January to March 2025.

 **194**

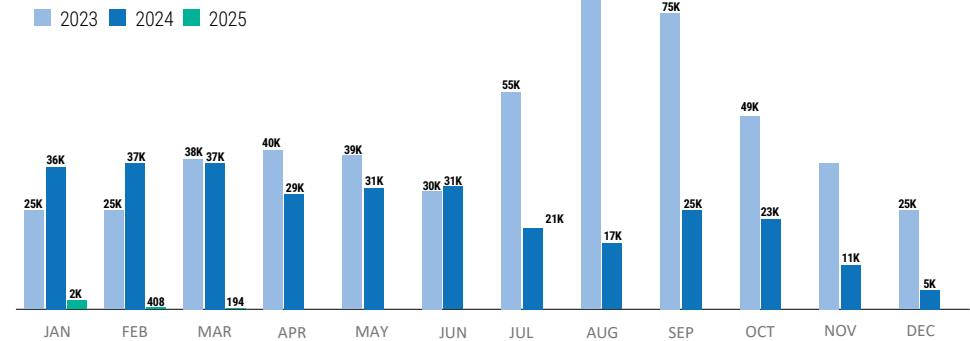
Irregular entries in the Darien Province in March, representing the lowest number since 2021.



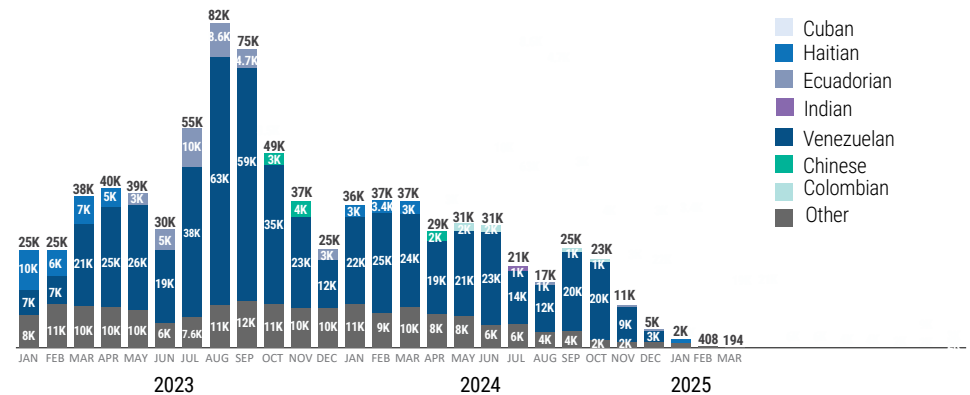
46% VENEZUELAN
6% COLOMBIAN
6% NEPALI
4% CAMEROONIAN
4% IRANIAN

Main nationalities in the Darien Province in Q4 2024.

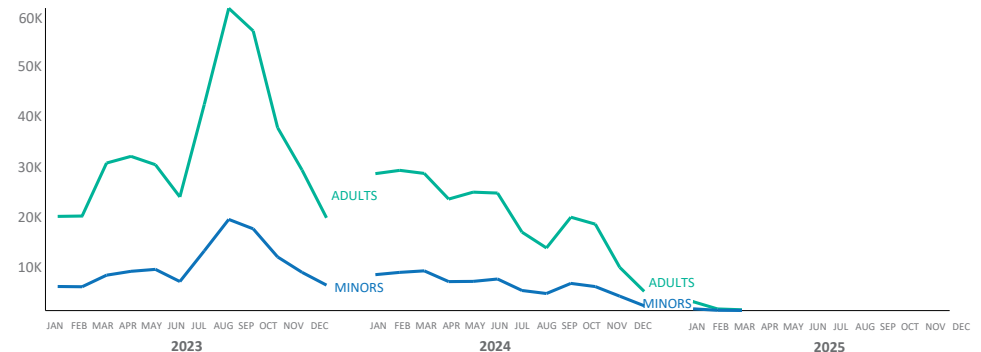
Irregular entries Darien | 2022 - 2025



Irregular entries by nationalities | 2022 - 2025



Irregular entries by age groups | 2022 - 2025



Source: Migraciones Panama.



Panama – Darien



372

Individuals were interviewed by IOM Panama between January and March 2025 at ETRM Lajas Blancas in Darien collecting data about 740 people (individuals interviewed and travel group).



55%
Men



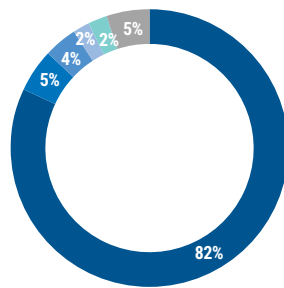
45%
Women



75%
Adults

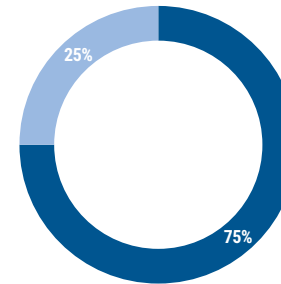


25%
Children



Countries of origin

- Venezuela
- Colombia
- Ecuador
- Peru
- Angola
- Other

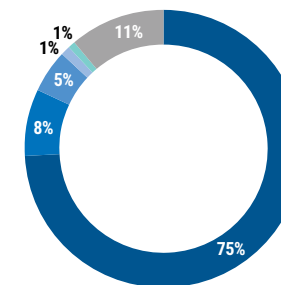
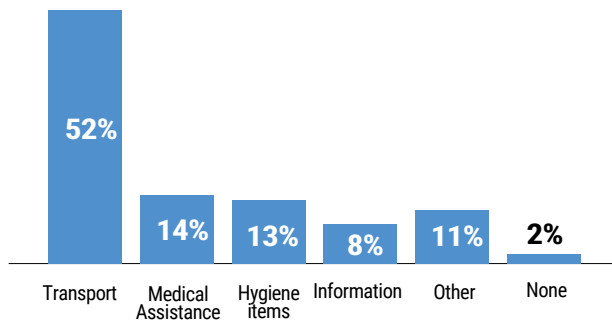


- Travel with family and/or friends
- Travel alone

***28% who declared to be travelling alone are women.**

Source: [IOM Flow Monitoring Survey DTM Panama](#)

Main immediate needs



Country of destination

- United States
- Mexico
- Costa Rica
- Canada
- Honduras
- Other



Panama

376

Individuals interviewed
Mixed Movements Monitoring
UNHCR/WFP/UNICEF

Entering Panama from Colombia in the
Darien province (Migration Reception
Centers Lajas Blancas and San Vicente)

59%
Men

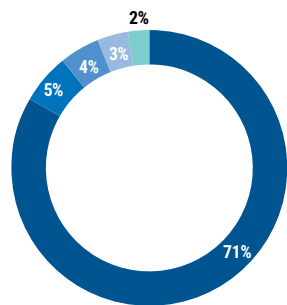
41%
Women

27
Different
nationalities
interviewed

5% Pregnant women
8% Breastfeeding women
7% Separated children
Specific needs

75%
left country of
origin due to
violence (to self
or generalized)

38%
Experienced or
witnessed
protection
incidents
during journey.



Countries of origin

- Venezuela
- Colombia
- Ecuador
- Peru
- Angola

Food security

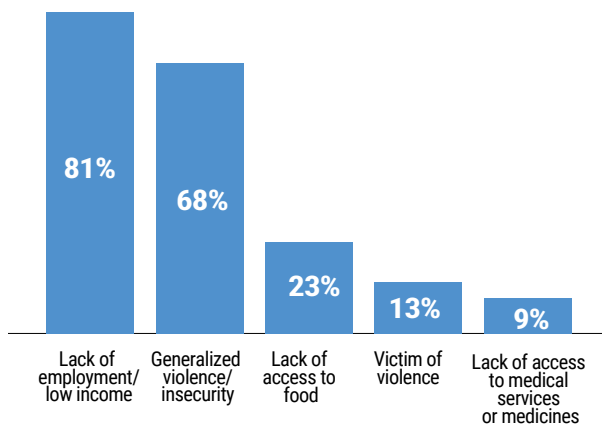
89%
had food security issues and
resorted to severe coping
strategies last week

14% limited adult food consumption for
children; 43% went whole day without
eating; 28% regularly skipped meals.

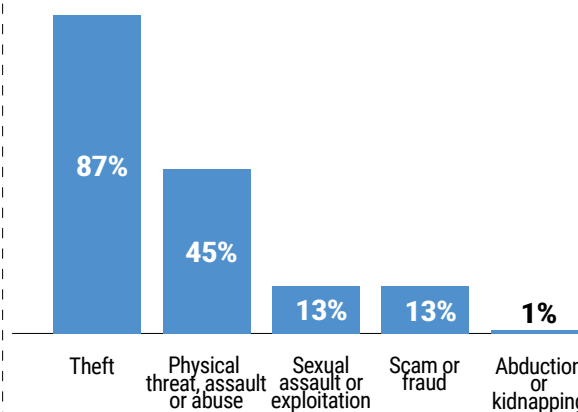
46%
had insufficient food
consumption the day before
the interview

37% consumed only one meal and 9%
consumed no meal the day before the
interview

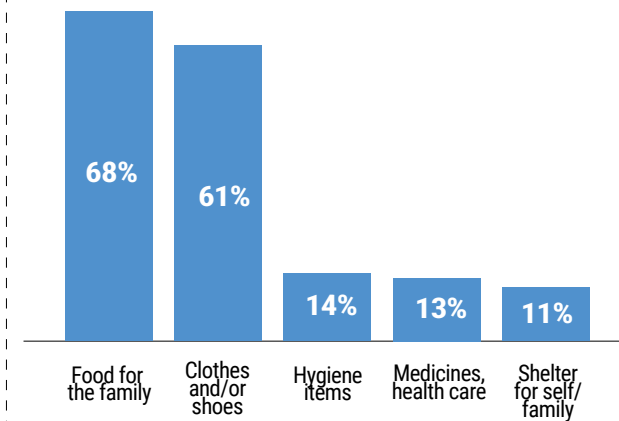
Main reasons to leave country of origin (More than one option could be selected)



Main protection incidents during journey (More than one option could be selected)



Main needs (More than one option could be selected)





Honduras



400

Individuals interviewed
Mixed Movements Monitoring
UNHCR/WFP/UNICEF



61%

Men



39%

Women



3% Breastfeeding women
1% Separated children

Specific needs



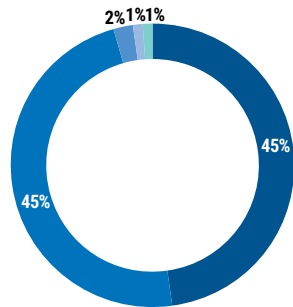
37%

left country of
origin due to
violence (to self
or generalized)



50%

Experienced or
witnessed
protection
incidents
during journey.



Countries of origin

■ Venezuela
■ Cuba
■ Haiti
■ Ecuador
■ China

Food security



54%

had food security issues and
resorted to severe coping
strategies last week

6% limited adult food consumption for
children; 5% went whole day without
eating; 22% regularly skipped meals.



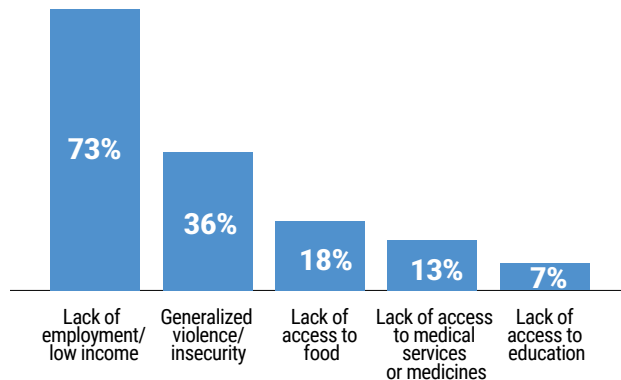
10%

had insufficient food
consumption the day before
the interview

8% consumed only one meal and 2%
consumed no meal the day before the
interview

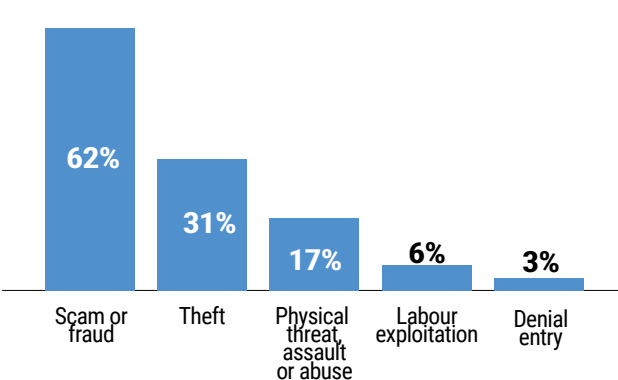
Main reasons to leave country of origin

(More than one option could be selected)



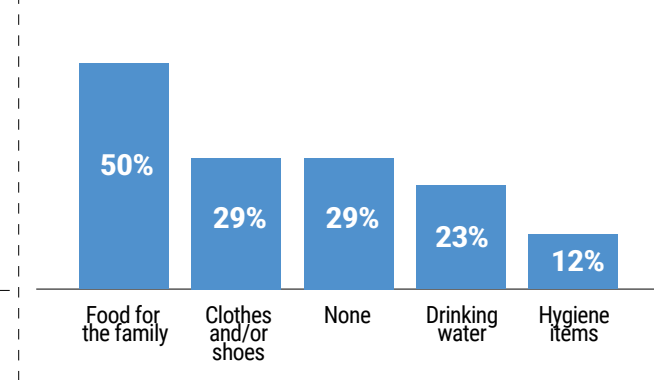
Main protection incidents in the route

(105 people who suffered protection incidents)



Main needs

(More than one option could be selected)





Guatemala



1,742

Individuals interviewed
Mixed Movements Monitoring
UNHCR/WFP/UNICEF

Interviews were conducted in several provinces and border points including Petén, Chiquimula, Izabal, San Marcos, Huehuetenango as well as the capital Guatemala City.



65%

Men



35%

Women



2% Pregnant women
8% Breastfeeding women
2% Separated children
Specific needs



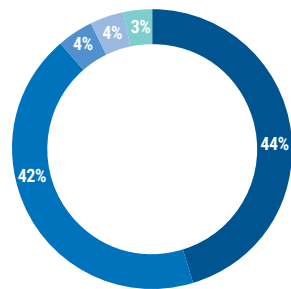
61%

left country of origin due to violence (to self or generalized)



60%

Experienced or witnessed protection incidents during journey.



Countries of origin

■ Honduras
■ Venezuela
■ Nicaragua
■ Mexico
■ El Salvador

Food security



86%

had food security issues and resorted to severe coping strategies last week

7% limited adult food consumption for children; 25% went whole day without eating; 32% regularly skipped meals.

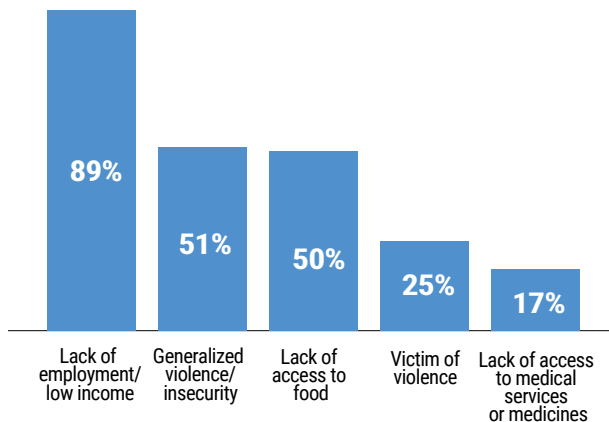


47%

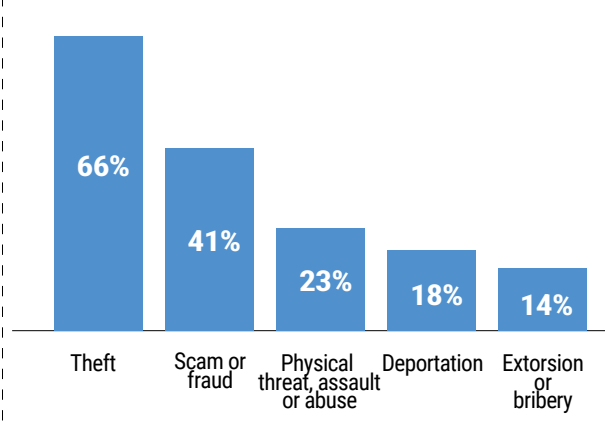
had insufficient food consumption the day before the interview

42% consumed only one meal and 4% consumed no meal the day before the interview

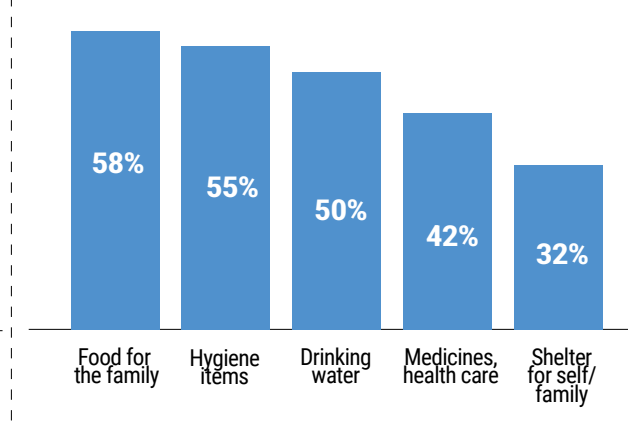
Main reasons to leave country of origin (More than one option could be selected)



Main protection incidents during journey (More than one option could be selected)



Main needs (More than one option could be selected)





Guatemala



588

Individuals were interviewed by IOM Guatemala between January and March 2025

at 4 Flow Monitoring Points (San Marcos, Chiquimula, Izabal, Petén) located in key transit migration areas across the country collecting data about 1,563 people (individuals interviewed and travel group).

Source: [IOM Flow Monitoring DTM Guatemala](#)



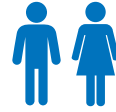
65%

Men



35%

Women



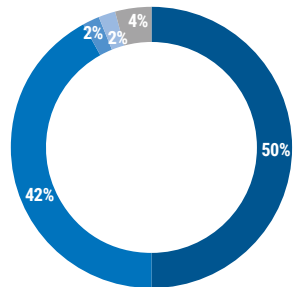
73%

Adult



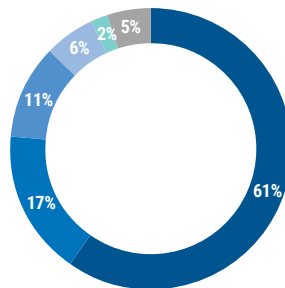
27%

Children



Countries of origin

- Honduras
- Venezuela
- Colombia
- El Salvador
- Other

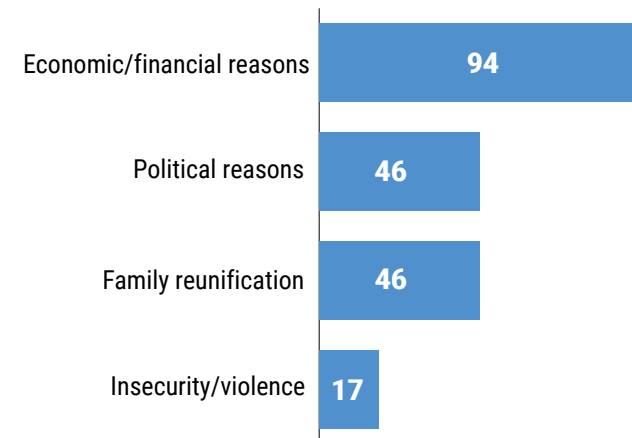


Countries of intended destination

- United States
- Venezuela
- Mexico
- Honduras
- Canada
- Other

Although most respondents continue to indicate that their intended destination is United States of America, it is important to note that since the second half of January 2025, an increasing number of individuals passing through the FMPs have been embarking on the journey heading south, having the intention of returning to their country of origin or a third country.

Main Reasons to Leave Country of Origin



Source: [IOM Guatemala DTM](#)



Asylum trends in Mexico

78,975

Individuals applied for asylum in Mexico from January to December 2024, a decrease of 47% compared to the same period in 2023 (COMAR, 2024).

No data has been published since December 2024.



35% HONDURAS
22% CUBA
14% HAITI
7% EL SALVADOR
7% VENEZUELA
15% OTHER

Top countries of origin in 2024

(COMAR, 2024). *No data has been published since December 2024.*



9,294

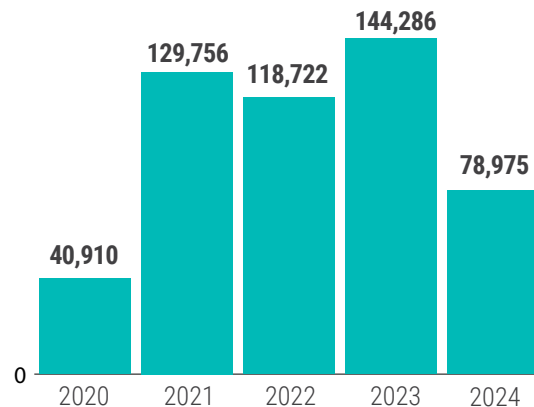
Asylum-seekers registered by UNHCR in Mexico from January to March 2025.



66%

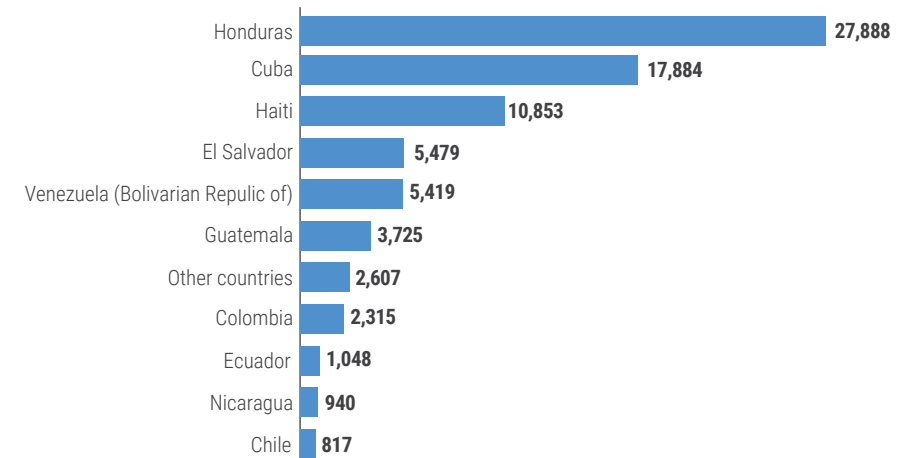
of asylum-seekers interviewed by UNHCR in Mexico from January to March 2025, have specific protection needs.

Asylum Applications in Mexico 2020-2024 (all nationalities)



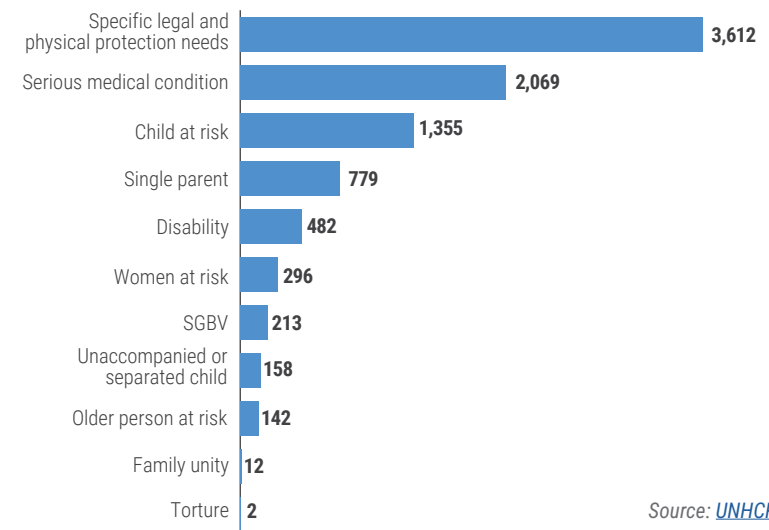
Source: COMAR, 2024

Top 10 Asylum applications in Mexico by country of origin in 2024



Source: COMAR, 2024

Mexico: Asylum-seekers with protection needs registered by UNHCR from January to March 2025



Source: UNHCR, 2025.



Mexico



550

Individuals interviewed
Mixed Movements Monitoring
UNHCR/WFP/UNICEF

Interviews took place in 18 cities across Mexico in both South and North borders.



43%

Men



56%

Women



1%

Non binary/
Prefer not
to say



5% Pregnant women
5% Breastfeeding women
6% Separated children
Specific needs



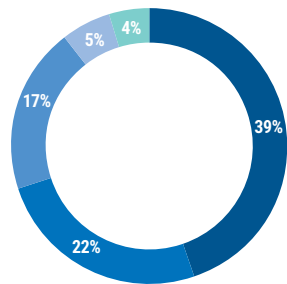
87%

left country of
origin due to
violence (to self
or generalized)



35%

Experienced or
witnessed
protection
incidents
during journey.



Countries of origin

■ Cuba
■ Venezuela
■ Honduras
■ El Salvador
■ Haiti

Food security



50%

had food security issues and
resorted to severe coping
strategies last week

4% limited adult food consumption for
children; 5% went whole day without eating;
20% regularly skipped meals.



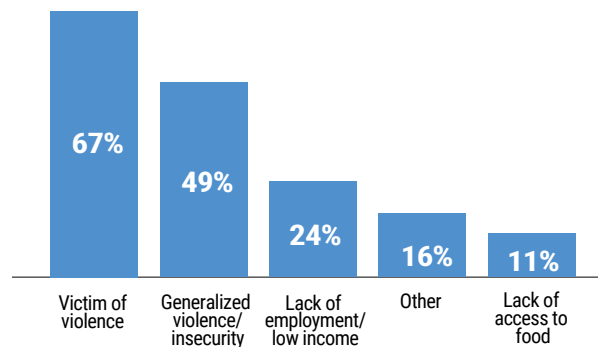
13%

had insufficient food
consumption the day before
the interview

13% consumed only one meal and 1%
consumed no meal the day before the
interview

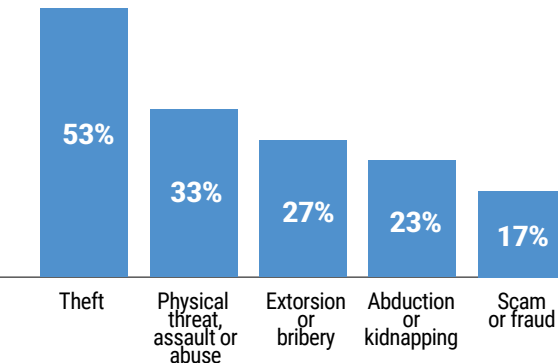
Main reasons to leave the country of origin

(More than one option could be selected)



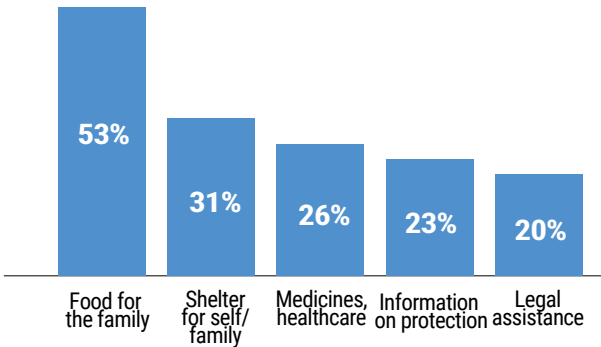
Main protection incidents during journey

(More than one option could be selected)



Main needs

(More than one option could be selected)





Land Border Encounters in Southwest in United States

↗ 84,175

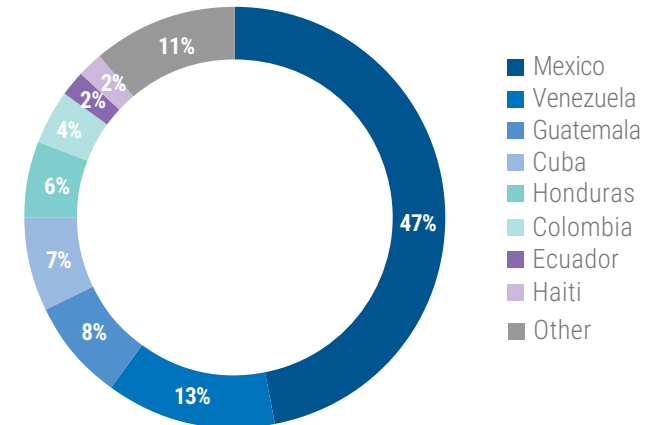
Encounters at the Southwestern border of the United States between January and March 2025



47% MEXICAN
13% VENEZUELAN
8% GUATEMALAN
7% CUBAN
6% HONDURAN

Main nationalities from January to March 2025.

Main counties of origin in United States Southwest land border encounters from January to December 2024



67%
Were adults travelling alone and 27% moving in family units.
from January to March 2025

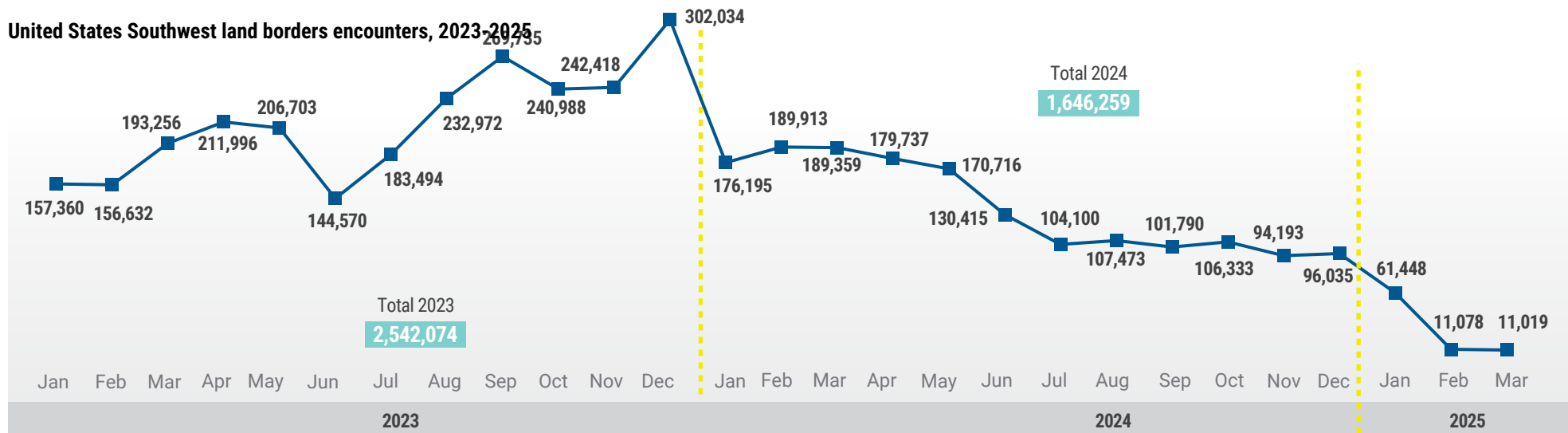


6%
Were unaccompanied children and adolescents.
from January to March 2025



85%
Decrease in the encounters at the Southwestern United States border in Q1 2025 in comparison to encounters in Q1 2024 (2,541,959).

United States Southwest land borders encounters, 2023-2025



Source: United States (U.S.) Customs and Border Protection (U.S.) Department of Homeland Security.



Returns to Northern Central American countries (El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala)

 **19,703**

Hondurans and Guatemalans were returned from the United States, Mexico and other countries

Between January and March 2025.

47% UNITED STATES
34% GUATEMALA
18% MEXICO

Origin of returns to Honduras

from January to March 2025.

80% UNITED STATES
20% MEXICO

Origin of returns to Guatemala

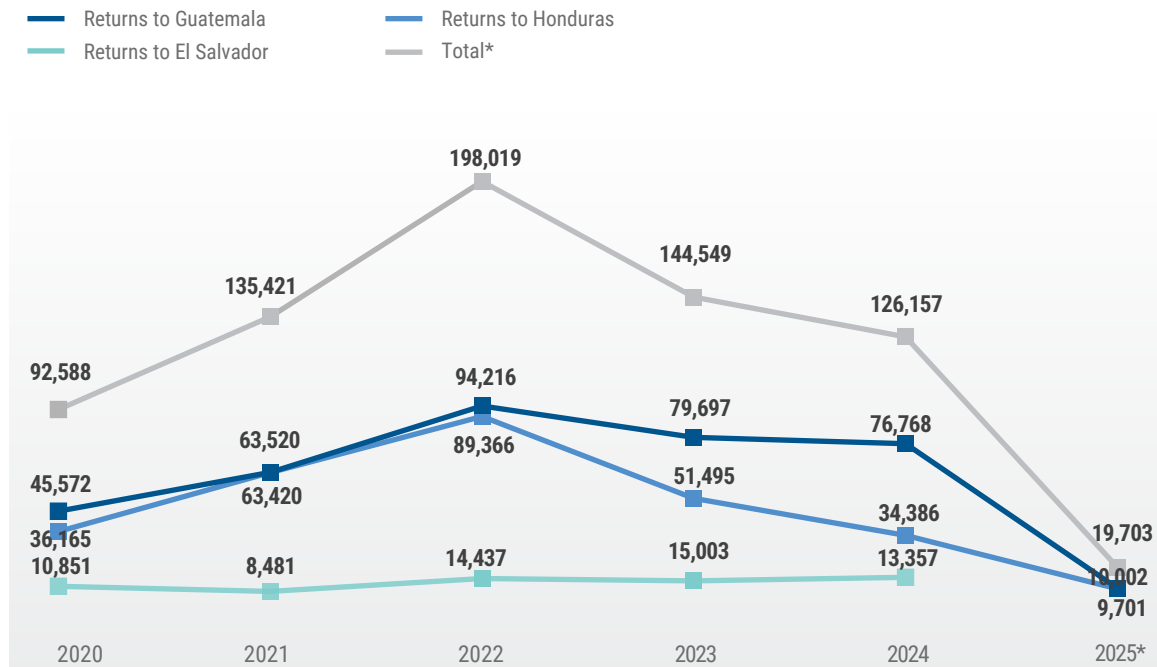
from January to March 2025.

 **44%**

Decrease in total returns from January to March 2025

in comparison to the same period in 2024.

Returns from Mexico, United States and other countries, 2019-2024 (January-September)*



Returns
disaggregation 2023
(January - December)

Returns
disaggregation 2024
(January - December)

Returns
disaggregation 2025*
(January - March)



58% (88,958)
Men



22% (33,109)
Women



12% (30,028)
Children and adolescents



75% (89,817)
Men



25% (30,226)
Women



14% (18,894)
Children and adolescents



79% (15,511)
Men



21% (4,192)
Women



13% (2,493)
Children and adolescents

Source: IOM, Unidad de información para los países del norte de Centroamérica Dashboard, 2025.

*Only data from Honduras and Guatemala was updated in Q1 2025 (January-March). Data from El Salvador was not available at the time of publication.



Children and Adolescents



3,130

Individuals interviewed
Mixed Movements Monitoring
UNHCR/WFP/UNICEF

between January and March 2025 in Mexico,
Guatemala, Honduras, Panama and Chile



39%

Travelling with
family.



27%

Travelling with
children in
family.



64% adults (N=2,600)

36% children (N=1,487)

Family composition



58% 6 - 17 years

39% 6 months - 5 years

4% 0 - 6 months

Age breakdown of
children



2% Pregnant women

7% Breastfeeding women

3% Separated children from family

Specific needs

Health



62%

Infants fully vaccinated
0-6 months of age (N=40)

77%

Children fully vaccinated
6 months to 5 years of age (N=372)

Education



29%

Children not receiving education
6 to 17 years of age, referred to the country where
they lived before starting the journey (N=409)

Nutrition



42%

Infants
exclusively
breastfed
0-6 months of age
(N=40)



73% Severe

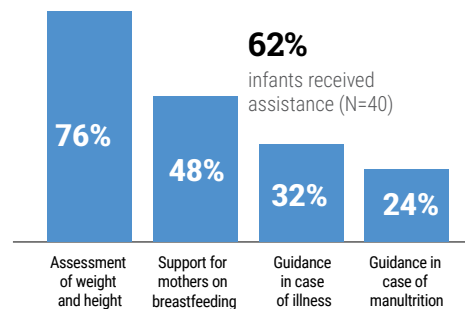
25% Moderate

2% No food poverty

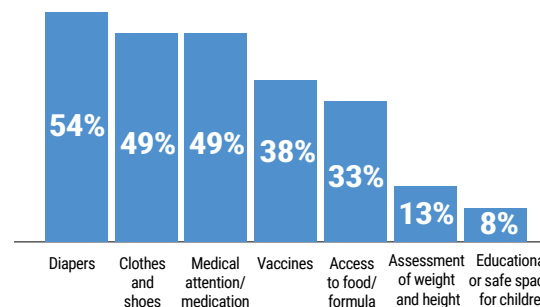
Food poverty

6 months to 5 years of age (N=369)

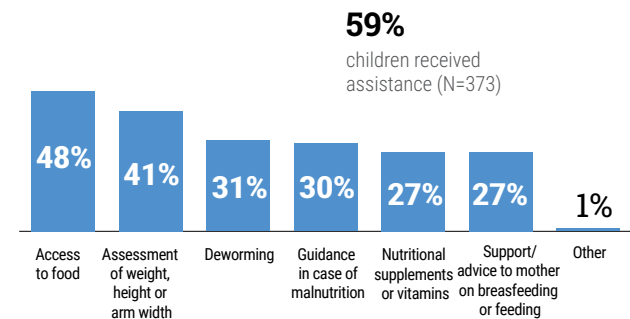
Humanitarian assistance (infants of 0 - 6 months) (More than one option could be selected)



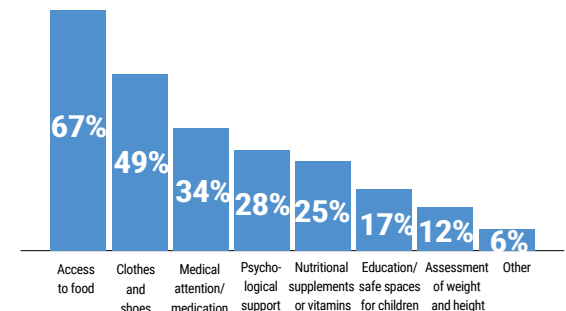
Main needs (infants of 0 - 6 months) (Up to 3 options could be selected)



Humanitarian assistance (children of 6 months - 5 years) (More than one option could be selected)



Main needs (children of 6 months - 17 years) (Up to 3 options could be selected)



Note: Questions related to children are asked only to caregivers and refer to one randomly selected child per age group. For brevity, we refer to 'percentages of infants/children,' but these percentages reflect the share of respondents who are caregivers of infants/children.