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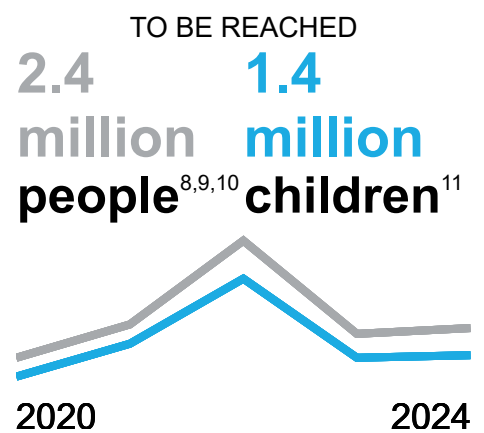
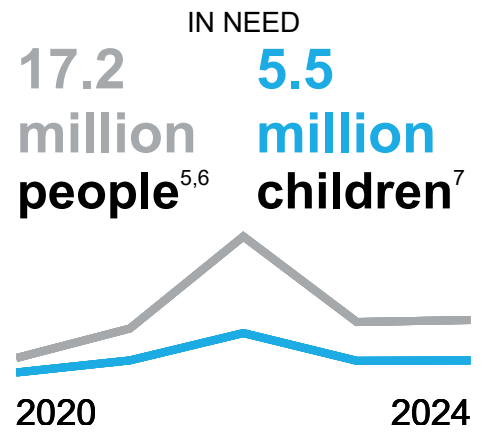
Humanitarian Action for Children

In Chocó, Colombia, UNICEF and partners support adolescents and young people to create life projects away from violence.

Children on the Move in South America, and crisis-affected communities

HIGHLIGHTS

- South America and some countries in the Caribbean face overlapping emergencies, including migration, violence and climate change. These have compounded people's existing exclusion and vulnerability, leaving 17.2 million people,¹ including 5.5 million children² needing humanitarian assistance.
- UNICEF will continue to reach refugee and migrant children, vulnerable children from host communities and other people in need of support with essential child protection, education, water, sanitation and hygiene, health, nutrition and social protection services, mainstreaming gender and gender-based violence prevention and mitigation in its response. UNICEF will also strengthen preparedness to ensure that its country offices are equipped to respond to diverse crises and support partners and national capacities.
- UNICEF is requesting \$177.4 million³ to meet the needs of 1.4 million children⁴ in 10 targeted countries, responding to the situation of children on the move and host communities, internally displaced people and, in some countries, children affected by violence, including vulnerable indigenous children.



KEY PLANNED TARGETS



590,210

children and women accessing primary health care



280,129

children/caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support



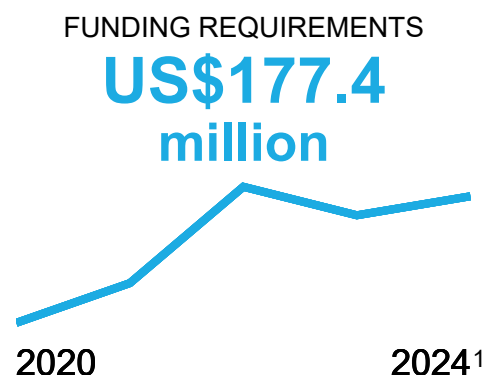
193,689

children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning



286,533

people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water



Figures are provisional and subject to change upon finalization of the inter-agency planning documents.

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

South America and some countries in the Caribbean faces multiple crises that are political, social, economic and meteorological and environmental in nature. Increasing migration movements, violence, climate change, growing insecurity due to organized crime¹² and an increase in energy and food prices – prompted by the war in Ukraine – will continue to impact countries in Latin American and the Caribbean in 2024, exacerbating people's exclusion and vulnerability and severely impacting children. In addition, such climate patterns as the El Niño phenomenon are expected to cause more extreme weather events in the region.

In Colombia, an estimated 7.7 million people, including 2.4 million children,¹³ will need humanitarian assistance in 2024 due to the impacts of internal armed conflict and extreme climate events. Children and adolescents face many crises, including conflicts, displacement, human mobility and malnutrition. With a limited institutional response and the presence of indigenous and Afro communities, who are particularly vulnerable to confinement and displacement, civilians continue to be affected by the reconfiguration of armed groups following the peace agreement that was signed in 2016.

Over the last decade, the Latin American and Caribbean region has been home to one of the largest refugee and migration crises in the world, largely due to the protracted socioeconomic and political crisis in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. It is estimated that 9.5 million¹⁴ refugees and migrants linked to this crisis will be in need of humanitarian assistance in 2024. There are also smaller – yet significant – movements of people within the region, including those moving from Cuba and Nicaragua, those moving within and beyond the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador and Peru and the extracontinental flows of migrants and refugees arriving in the region from Africa and Asia.¹⁵

Despite ongoing efforts by some governments in the region, refugee and migrant children continue to face substantial barriers accessing essential services, including social protection, in transit countries and at their destinations. And host communities struggle to meet the service and protection needs of migrant and local populations, causing additional strain on limited resources. Furthermore, tighter immigration measures taken by other countries create significant challenges. Migrants and refugees without official documentation find themselves stranded at border points without access to the most basic services. This leads them to travel along irregular pathways where they are exposed to violence including gender-based violence, trafficking and smuggling, particularly affecting women and girls. Moreover, refugee and migrant children are highly vulnerable to protection risks including violence, psychosocial distress and exploitation.

SECTOR NEEDS¹⁶



2.3 million
Children in need of health assistance¹⁷



2.6 million
children in need of protection services¹⁸



2 million
children in need of education support¹⁹



1.5 million
children in need of WASH services²⁰

STORY FROM THE FIELD



Fabiana, 18, left the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela when she was 11. Seven years later, and after living in Colombia, she is settled in Ecuador. She is now a mother and walks into the classroom with her baby, Miguelito, 11 months, in her arms. Leaving him at home is not an option, as her partner works long hours in a cosmetics factory and they do not have enough resources to hire a babysitter. The young mother is one of the nearly 800 teenagers who take part in the UNICEF Integral Protection Programme for migrant and refugee families from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela with children and adolescents in Ecuador.

[Read more about this story here](#)

Fabiana, 18, first migrated at the age of 11 from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to Colombia. She now lives in Ecuador with her son. She received economic support to continue her studies.

In 2024, UNICEF has planned actions in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay, places where most of the population in need is located and where the humanitarian needs are the highest. UNICEF will respond to each country context by bridging life-saving relief with efforts to foster longer-term access to basic services.

UNICEF will continue to address pressing needs in hotspots at borders and along transit paths, as well as in resettlement and host communities, while keeping child protection at the centre of its humanitarian action. Accountability to affected populations will be strengthened, as will the provision of services that are age-, gender- and disability-appropriate. UNICEF response is informed by gender analysis, accounting for the differentiated risks, needs and capacities of women and girls and men and boys.

In coordination with governments, United Nations agencies and partners, UNICEF will promote and advocate for the rights of migrant, refugee and internally displaced children and their families, including host communities and indigenous populations; ensure access to child protection, education, gender-based violence prevention and response, social protection, health, nutrition and WASH services. The organization will promote participation and accountability, social inclusion, integration and prevention of xenophobia by ensuring access to social services and long-term solutions, regularization of children's and families' legal status and legal identity and strengthened social policies and national and local capacities. In Colombia, UNICEF will continue to work closely with national and local authorities, other United Nations agencies and non-governmental and civil society organizations to provide children and families affected by armed violence, internal displacement and confinement with education, protection, WASH, health and nutrition services.

At the regional level, UNICEF will provide direct support to field teams to respond to the humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable migrants and refugees, as well as people affected by violence and displacement, particularly unaccompanied and separated children, children with disabilities and those from indigenous groups. UNICEF will also continue to contribute to the implementation and sectoral coordination of the inter-agency Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan, including strategic leadership in child protection, education, nutrition, WASH, cash voucher assistance and social protection. UNICEF closely monitors the humanitarian situation through an innovative methodology aimed at engaging people on the move; providing an early warning mechanism on increased flows; and generating information about available services. The mechanism is aimed at informing UNICEF programmes to adapt and improve the response.

Progress against the latest programme targets is available in the humanitarian situation reports: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/children-on-the-move-venezuela/situation-reports>



Health (including public health emergencies)

- **590,210** children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities
- **198,109** children receiving the minimum set of vaccines²⁵



Nutrition

- **64,183** children 6-59 months screened for wasting
- **4,593** children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment
- **149,226** primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling
- **34,557** children 6-59 months receiving micronutrient powder
- **14,984** pregnant women receiving preventative iron supplementation



Child protection, GBViE and PSEA

- **280,129** children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support
- **103,086** women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions
- **72,028** people reached with awareness activities and community mobilisation interventions on PSEA
- **52,385** children who have received individual case management
- **32,907** children provided with landmine or other explosive weapons prevention and/or survivor assistance interventions



Education

- **193,689** children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning
- **84,955** children receiving individual learning materials
- **16,667** children and adolescents accessing skills development programmes
- **28,344** teachers and facilitators trained in basic pedagogy and/or mental health and psychosocial support



Water, sanitation and hygiene

- **286,533** people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs
- **364,140** children using safe and appropriate WASH facilities and hygiene services in learning facilities and safe spaces
- **249,454** people reached with handwashing behaviour-change programmes
- **145,793** people reached with critical WASH supplies



Social protection

- **10,443** households benefitting from new or additional social assistance (cash/in-kind) measures from government-funded programmes with UNICEF technical assistance support



Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)

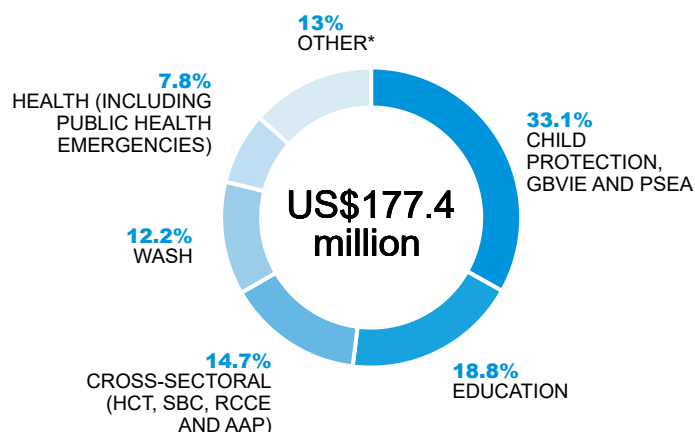
- **12,784** households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers (including for social protection and other sectors)
- **215,923** affected people (children, caregivers, community members) reached with timely and life-saving information on how and where to access available services
- **30,787** people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN 2024

In 2024, UNICEF is requesting \$177.4 million to address the immediate needs of refugee and migrant²⁶ children, adolescents and their families in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay; and the needs of internally displaced people and violence-affected children and their communities in Colombia.²⁷

The total funding requirement has increased compared with the 2023 appeal to address the needs of 2.4 million people in the 10 countries, where an estimated 17.2 million people, including 5.5 million children, will need humanitarian support related to ongoing crises, including migration flows, as well as internal displacement in Colombia. This Humanitarian Action for Children appeal requires urgent funding to ensure children's access to health, nutrition, child protection, WASH and education services during the year. Without a scale-up in support from donors, these migration and displacement crises risk becoming invisible.

Flexible support will enable basic services to continue and can help ensure that local partners and authorities can provide critical protection and psychosocial support to support vulnerable women and children. Without sufficient and timely funding in 2024, UNICEF and its partners will be unable to address the humanitarian needs of 1.4 million children in the region.



*This includes costs from other sectors/interventions : Nutrition (7.7%), Regional Office Technical Capacity (3.1%), Social protection (2.6%).

Sectors	2024 total requirement (US\$)
Health (including public health emergencies)	13,759,977
Nutrition	13,696,089
Child protection, GBVIE and PSEA	58,760,920
Education	33,398,156
Social protection	4,577,351
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)	26,019,582
WASH	21,653,338
Regional Office Technical Capacity	5,489,297
Total	177,354,710

Sectors	Bolivia	Brazil	Chile	Colombia	Dominican Republic	Ecuador	Guyana	Peru	Trinidad and Tobago	Uruguay	Regional Office	2024 total requirement (US\$)
Health (including public health emergencies)	580,000	1,844,632	266,800	7,038,705	504,600	1,432,600	394,400	1,698,240	-	-	-	13,759,977
Nutrition	264,480	2,079,613	484,880	7,267,056	887,400	1,247,000	359,600	1,050,960	55,100	-	-	13,696,089
Child protection, GBV/E and PSEA ²⁸	502,860	7,290,031	5,824,476	19,557,375	3,572,858	9,187,200	382,800	11,321,600	854,920	266,800	-	58,760,920
Education	635,680	2,353,949	3,142,324	15,814,003	452,400	6,587,640	116,000	3,155,200	1,140,960	-	-	33,398,156
Social protection	-	896,418	-	3,564,933	-	-	116,000	-	-	-	-	4,577,351
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP) ²⁹	2,233,000	1,830,896	1,750,208	7,774,216	2,378,000	5,916,000	69,600	3,335,000	715,262	17,400	-	26,019,582
WASH	562,600	3,553,362	1,745,220	7,706,956	2,262,000	3,787,400	371,200	1,664,600	-	-	-	21,653,338
Regional Office Technical Capacity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,489,297	5,489,297
Total	4,778,620	19,848,901	13,213,908	68,723,244	10,057,258	28,157,840	1,809,600	22,225,600	2,766,242	284,200	5,489,297	177,354,710

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ENDNOTES

1. According to UNICEF calculations based on preliminary data for the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan 2024 and the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan for Colombia.
2. According to UNICEF calculations based on preliminary data for the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan 2024 and the Humanitarian Response Plan 2023 for Colombia.
3. The UNICEF ask in 2024 includes: migration – \$130,006,010; and internal displacement and others – \$47,313,903. The total amount includes a regional support ask of \$5,449,297.
4. Of this figure, 73 per cent corresponds to Venezuelan migrant, refugee and host community children. The remaining 27 per cent corresponds to other populations affected by violence and displacement and by such natural hazards as floods, earthquakes, droughts and public health crises.
5. Of the total number of people in need, 54 per cent are people affected by human mobility from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. According to preliminary calculations for the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan 2024, this includes: 110,498 people in the Plurinational State of Bolivia; 571,919 in Brazil; 373,429 in Chile; 5,256,810 in Colombia; 106,267 in the Dominican Republic; 729,793 in Ecuador; 19,483 in Guyana; 1,959,981 in Peru; 38,492 in Trinidad and Tobago; 38,397 in Uruguay; and 1,555,470 in other countries not part of this appeal (Argentina, Aruba, Costa Rica, Curaçao, Mexico, Panama and Paraguay). The other 45 per cent corresponds to people affected by violence and displacement in Colombia. These are UNICEF estimates based on the preliminary 2024 RMRP and the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan for Colombia.
6. UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting, which means covering the unmet needs of children; and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities.
7. Of the total number of children in need, 56 per cent are children affected by human mobility from and to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, according to preliminary calculations for the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan 2024. This includes: 20,121 children in the Plurinational State of Bolivia; 200,987 in Brazil; 73,747 in Chile; 1,847,931 in Colombia; 30,818 in the Dominican Republic; 282,284 in Ecuador; 6,040 in Guyana; 603,494 in Peru; 8,853 in Trinidad and Tobago; 4,024 in Uruguay; and 367,663 in other countries not part of this appeal (Argentina, Aruba, Costa Rica, Curaçao, Mexico, Panama and Paraguay); and 44 per cent (2.4 million) are children affected by violence and displacement in Colombia, according to the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan for Colombia.
8. Of the total number of people to be reached, 81 per cent are Venezuelan migrants, refugees or their host communities. The remaining 19 per cent corresponds to other populations affected by violence and displacement by such natural hazards as floods, earthquakes, droughts and public health crises. Women and girls make up 57 per cent of the total. This was calculated using programme targets for 2024 for: the Plurinational State of Bolivia (78,498); Brazil (186,072); Chile (35,150); Colombia (725,380); the Dominican Republic (323,400); Ecuador (236,506); Guyana (25,680); Peru (749,736); Trinidad and Tobago (7,299); and Uruguay (1,000). UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting, which means covering the unmet needs of children; and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has coordination responsibilities.
9. UNICEF will ensure that figures under the 2024 appeal are aligned with its humanitarian action reflected in the updated 2023–2024 Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan and the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan for Colombia, which are currently under development. Once both documents are released for 2024, UNICEF will revise the figures to ensure alignment of targets and requirements.
10. UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting, which means covering the unmet needs of children; and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities.
11. Of the total number of children to be reached, 76 per cent corresponds to Venezuelan migrant, refugee and host community children. The remaining 24 per cent corresponds to other populations affected by violence and displacement and by such natural hazards as floods, earthquakes, droughts and public health crises. Girls make up 50 per cent of the total. This was calculated using programme targets: the Plurinational State of Bolivia (35,690); Brazil (113,755); Chile (19,900); Colombia (510,025); the Dominican Republic (286,000); Ecuador (178,996); Guyana (17,000); Peru (253,996); Trinidad and Tobago (5,397); and Uruguay (175). The remaining 28 per cent corresponds to other populations affected by violence and displacement and the natural hazards listed above.
12. For instance, increasing violence related to organized crime has been recorded in Ecuador in a region close to the Colombian border.
13. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Colombia: Humanitarian Response Plan Summary 2023, OCHA, March 2023, available at <<https://reliefweb.int/report/colombia/colombia-humanitarian-response-plan-summary-2023>>, last accessed 5 October.
14. UNICEF estimates based on preliminary calculations for the 2024 Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan, which is under development. Figures are provisional and subject to change upon finalization of the inter-agency response plan.
15. UNICEF, Child Alert: The changing face of child migration in Latin America and the Caribbean – A region like no other', September 2023, available at <www.unicef.org/media/144656/file/LAC%20Migration%20Child%20Alert.pdf>, last accessed 10 October.
16. Sectoral needs are extracted from 2023–2024 inter-agency planning figures. UNICEF will ensure that figures in this 2024 Humanitarian Action for Children appeal are updated based on the 2024 Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan and the 2024 Colombia Humanitarian Response Plan, which are currently under development.
17. In the context of the Venezuelan refugee and migrant outflow. According to the 2023–2024 Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan and including needs in 17 countries that are part of that Plan.
18. In the context of the Venezuelan refugee and migrant outflow. According to the 2023–2024 Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan and including needs in 17 countries that are part of that Plan.
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20. In the context of the Venezuelan refugee and migrant outflow. According to the 2023–2024 Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan and including needs in 17 countries that are part of that Plan.
21. This appeal is aligned with the revised Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, which are based on global standards and norms for humanitarian action.
22. UNICEF is committed to supporting the leadership and coordination of humanitarian response through its leadership or co-leadership of cluster coordination for the WASH, Nutrition and Education Clusters and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility. All cluster coordinator costs are included in sectoral programme budgets.
23. UNICEF is committed to empowering local responders in humanitarian crises in a variety of ways. The revised Core Commitments made investing in strengthening the capacities of local actors in the humanitarian response a mandatory benchmark for UNICEF action. A more localized response will improve humanitarian action and is fundamental to achieving better accountability to affected populations.
24. Beyond the UNICEF targets for these interventions, other humanitarian partners are expected to reach the remaining children/families in need.
25. Depending on the context, the minimum set of vaccines includes bacille Calmette-Guérin; diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis; hepatitis B, haemophilus influenza type B polio; and measles. Many countries use the pentavalent vaccine that includes DTP, hepatitis B and haemophilus influenza type B.
26. The funding requirements for the migrant and refugee response by country are as follows: the Plurinational State of Bolivia (\$4.7 million); Brazil (\$13.2 million); Chile (\$11.5 million); Colombia (\$36 million); the Dominican Republic (\$10 million), Ecuador (\$21.7 million); Guyana (\$1.8 million); Peru (\$22.2 million); Trinidad and Tobago (\$2.7 million); and Uruguay (\$249,400).
27. The funding requirement for the violence and internal displacement response in Colombia for 2024 is \$32,673,213.
28. Total budget includes \$50.3 million for child protection; \$5.9 million for the gender-based violence in emergencies response; and \$2.3 million for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse.
29. The budget under this line has increased compared with previous years because all humanitarian cash transfers interventions funded by UNICEF – which were previously presented under the social protection budget line item – are now presented under this budget line. The total requirement for the cross-sectoral line item includes \$11,924,574 for humanitarian cash transfers in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago and \$14,095,008 for other cross-sectoral efforts, including social and behaviour change and accountability to affected populations.