Amid multiple challenges, Colombia portrayed economic growth over the last year. The country was able to reach high levels of stability, after the recession due to the impact of the pandemic. Despite this progress there still are challenges that already exist in the most vulnerable population due to the pandemic and which are expected to continue in 2022. In addition, the country continues to face multiple emergencies triggered by factors of violence, natural disasters and mixed transcontinental movements that generate intersectoral humanitarian needs in various communities, especially those located in the areas most affected by the conflict (ZOMAC by their Spanish acronym). Given this scenario, emergencies configurated due to double and multiple affectations, particularly in the departments of the Pacific zone (Nariño, Cauca, Valle del Cauca and Chocó), Northwest (Antioquia, Córdoba, Sur de Bolívar and Sucre), Frontier with Venezuela (La Guajira, Norte de Santander, Arauca and Vichada), and the Southern centred departments (Putumayo, Caquetá, Meta, Guaviare, Amazonas, Guainía and Vaupés).

Consequently, the analysis carried out by the humanitarian partners in coordination with State institutions at the territorial and national level is necessary to identify the Humanitarian Needs Panorama in the country. The HNO identified that by 2022 about 7.7 million people will have intersectoral humanitarian needs. Among these at least 2.9 million people stand out with acute needs, of whom at least 293,000 are in a critical situation due to the risks and protection impacts associated with the security context of the area in which they live or the lack of access to services and goods essential for survival.

For more information, please read the full document.
Vulnerable groups

- **1.3M** Afro descent communities
- **629.6k** Indigenous peoples
- **913.8k** People affected by natural disasters
- **830.7k** Host communities
- **454.3k** Displaced people
- **196.2k** Persons with disabilities
- **53.9k** Confined people
- **5.8M** People living under the influence of NSAGs
- **3.8M** Women
- **2.4M** Boys and Girls
**People in Need (PiN) by year**

Shocks for the PiN analysis framework:
- Violence factors
- Natural disasters
- COVID-19
- Migratory flows

**People in Need (PiN) by cluster**

**PiN**

- Intersectorial PIN
- Refugees and migrants

**Refugees and Migrants**

- Food Security
- Health
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
- Protection
- Education
- Temporary Shelters
- Early recovery
- Nutrition
- Humanitarian transportation
- Integration
Key figures:

7.7 million people in need of assistance

In the municipalities where the greatest humanitarian needs are concentrated, the average proportion of the population living in rural areas is 56.4%

2.9 million people have acute needs (302 Municipalities)

293k people have acute needs (23 Municipalities)

962k people have been affected by disaster events between 2020 and 2021.

574k people have been affected by attacks against civilians between 2020 and 2021.

54k confined people have needs due to restrictions on mobility due to the presence and actions of NSAGs.

830k people from host communities and located in 744 municipalities have humanitarian needs.

48% of the agricultural producers surveyed by FAO in Colombia, stated that they have had to resort to strategies such as the reduction of inputs’ expenses, and spend from savings for the purchase of food and sale of productive assets.

Approximately 2.4 million people face barriers to access to health services (75.3% of people nationwide are in this situation). The greatest needs are concentrated in Antioquia, Cauca, Norte de Santander and Meta.

Special effect on indigenous people and Afro-descendant communities

A total of 1.9 million people from ethnic groups has humanitarian needs. 67% (1,279,966) Afro-descendant communities and the remaining 33% (629,602) indigenous population.

One of the shocks causing needs is the impact of violence factors

5.8 million people have humanitarian needs for living under the influence of non-state armed groups in 373 municipalities with the presence of APM/ERW, illicit crops. Both have generated a warned risk in Early Warnings.

Cyclical impact of natural disasters and climate related emergencies

914,000 people in 557 municipalities have needs (of those 557 municipalities affected by events of natural origin, 318 are under the influence of NSAGs).

Among the effects of COVID-19

Humanitarian impact in areas affected by armed conflict (ZOMAC)

At least 4.5 million people do not have access to improved water sources and 3.2 million people do not have access to safe sanitation.

Humanitarian needs for living under the influence of non-state armed groups in 373 municipalities have generated a warned risk in Early Warnings.

At least 4.5 million people do not have access to improved water sources and 3.2 million people do not have access to safe sanitation.
483 municipalities have a high infant mortality rate above the national average.

The departments where these figures are most concentrated are Antioquia, Cundinamarca, Bolívar, Cesar, Córdoba, Guainía, Guaviare, and La Guajira.

21.8% of children, teenagers and young adults have not returned to school in person.

The above is calculated, considering that the registration in 2021 was 9,968,865 (children, teenagers and young adults) and in attendance there are 7,793,152 children, teenagers and young adults. Therefore, 2,175,713 (21.8%) have not returned to class in situ.

2.5 million children do not have access to the internet.

The main departments in which people between the ages of 5 and 19 have a very low or no internet connection are Arauca, Bolívar, Caquetá, Casanare, Cesar, Córdoba, Guainía, Guaviare, and La Guajira.

190,634 children, teenagers and young adults dropped out of school in 206 municipalities and the departments with the highest dropout rates are Cesar, Magdalena, Putumayo, Caquetá, Cundinamarca, Norte de Santander, Antioquia, Tolima and Bolívar.

4.6 million people are at risk and have protection needs due to humanitarian emergencies and the impact of armed violence.

Approximately 2.3 million people face barriers accessing to health services (75.3% of people at a national level are in this situation) and live in municipalities with the presence of armed groups. The greatest needs are concentrated in Antioquia, Cauca, Nore de Santander, and Meta.

At least 330k women and girls are at high risk of being victims of gender-based violence in 364 municipalities.

7.6 million people in need of food security and nutrition in 1,122 municipalities by 2021 and are expected to continue in 2022.

According to DANE

In 2020*, 14,273 births were registered in children under 14. The municipalities with the highest proportion of births in this population are Amazonas, Chocó, Guainía, Guaviare, Putumayo, Vaupés; which have low rates of reporting sexual crime cases to the entities.

Up to week 43 (October) 2021, there has been an increase of

16% in maternal mortality and
26% in early maternal mortality.

Indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities present serious barriers accessing health services, especially in the Amazon and the Pacific. This has exacerbated attacks on the medical mission and access restrictions. In 2021 the number of indigenous victims had increased by 142% and of Afro-Colombians by 103%.

According to official sources,

285 people out of every 100,000 are victims of domestic violence and sexual crime.

Geographical areas such as the Pacific and Border Corridor have a higher prevalence of severe food insecurity.

Chocó, La Guajira, Sucre, Arauca and Putumayo are the departments with the greatest food insecurity, which also have a high prevalence of violence and natural disasters.

More than 23k newborns have low birth weight in 962 municipalities.

According to DANE

In 2020*, 14,273 births were registered in children under 14. The municipalities with the highest proportion of births in this population are Amazonas, Chocó, Guainía, Guaviare, Putumayo, Vaupés; which have low rates of reporting sexual crime cases to the entities.

Approximately 300k children under the age of five need to receive care in malnutrition prevention and recovery programs.

190.634 children, teenagers and young adults dropped out of school in 206 municipalities and the departments with the highest dropout rates are Cesar, Magdalena, Putumayo, Caquetá, Cundinamarca, Norte de Santander, Antioquia, Tolima and Bolívar.

By 2020*, on average, 1 in 4 people in Colombia live more than an hour away from a health centre. (502 municipalities).

According to official sources,

285 people out of every 100,000 are victims of domestic violence and sexual crime.

53% of the 1,122 municipalities are below the national average of insured population.

88% of the municipalities (989 of the 1,122) have less than 18 hospital beds per 10,000 dwellers.

*At the date of publication, this information was not available for 2021.
Shocks causing emergency situations

**FACTORS OF VIOLENCE**

After five years of signing the Final Agreement with the former FARC-EP guerrilla, changes have been generated in the configuration of non-State armed actors operating in the country and with this a consequent increase in the number of armed actions has been reported (especially threats and confrontations) that generate emergencies of mass displacement and confinement. In addition, the population faces constant risks of protection, violations of human rights and International Humanitarian Law that affects their access to basic goods and services. At the same time, there is evidence of an increase in the use of anti-personnel mines and explosive remnants of war. During 2021, at least 284,849 people have been directly affected by the dynamics of violence. In recent years, there have been direct threats against humanitarian workers, hostile surveillance during routes and activities, illegal checkpoints, theft and incineration of vehicles identified with humanitarian logos. In addition, these events put humanitarian workers and missions at risk, often cause delay, change of areas to be attended and even cancellation of projects and activities focused on humanitarian response. Besides, the HNO highlights the multiplicity of mass displacements in Nariño, the increase of confinements in Chocó and other departments of the Pacific, as well as the security situation at the border with Venezuela due to hostilities between the NSAGs.

**Map of mass displacement in 2021**

**Map of confinements in 2021**

**Evolution of displacements and confinements**

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**Source:**
*Confinements and Mass Displacement - OCHA Monitor December 2021.*
**Forced displacement (mass and individual) and confinement - UARIV-RNI December 31, 2021.*

The figures may present underreporting considering the victims are about to make statements or denounces after the events (not necessarily in the same year).
Schocks causing emergency situations

**NATURAL DISASTERS**

Emergencies due to natural disasters were reported in places with high humanitarian impact due to the presence of non-state armed actors (Antioquia, Cauca, Chocó, Córdoba, Nariño, Norte de Santander, Valle del Cauca, Arauca, Bolívar and Putumayo). In 2021, at least 592,535 people were affected by natural disasters, most of them caused by floods and flash floods (82%), which took place near communities that did not have resources and/or capacities to implement emergency plans. In the face of disasters, the needs are normally increased in terms of shelter, access to safe water and basic sanitation services, physical and mental health care and, of course, the food security of the population. The emergencies are concerned by large-scale disasters, in which more than 20,000 people are affected in the same event (Putumayo, Chocó, Bolívar, Magdalena and Córdoba), especially the emergency in La Mojana that affected more than 153,000 people in four departments.

**COVID-19**

The deployment of the National Vaccination Plan started on February 2021. The Plan stands out and to date 25.3 million people (65% of the vaccination goal) have completed the vaccination scheme. Colombia demonstrates the positive impact of COVID-19 vaccines in reducing the number of reported cases and deaths. However, the application of the vaccine has been a challenge in territories with remote access, with the presence of non-state armed groups, insufficient roads (or poor condition), or affected by active natural disasters that do not allow mobility of the vaccination teams of the municipal administrations. The intersectoral humanitarian impact of the pandemic extended throughout 2021 and is expected to continue to be visible in 2022. Humanitarian actors identified that at least 10.4 million people were directly and indirectly affected by its socio-economic and humanitarian consequences in Colombia.2

**MIXED TRANSCONTINENTAL MIGRATION FLOWS**

The increase in Transcontinental Mixed Movements increased the humanitarian needs of refugees and migrants from Haiti, Cuba and other countries, as well as those of host communities in Urabá (Colombia). It is estimated that more than 115,000 people in mixed mobility face protection risks associated with the presence and actions of the NSAGs along the departments of the Pacific - the main migratory transit route-. The passage of people in transcontinental mobility through Colombia had a strong impact on the host communities located near the border with Panamá (Acandí and Necocli), where access to water is precarious, the garbage disposal has become insufficient due to the increase in the population that arrives, and food prices have suffered hyperinflation related to the purchasing power of migrants who enter the country with dollars. While the humanitarian emergency in Necocli and Acandí (Urabá) has been consolidated to a large extent, particularly by the increase in the number of people arriving in the area, it is important to stress that migratory movements in this region have historically been subject to strong cyclical fluctuations.

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1 Government. National plan of vaccination with cut off on December 4, 2021. [Site link]
3 Report MIRA. Emergency due to increased flow of transcontinental mixed movements in Necocli and Acandí [Site link]
4 [https://www.migracioncolombia.gov.co/infografias/distribucion-de-venezolanos-en-colombia-corte-31-de-agosto-de-2021]
Humanitarian consequences

Different shocks or drivers of the crisis mentioned above have a serious impact on the humanitarian needs of certain specific population groups:

At least 1.9 million people belonging to ethnic communities have humanitarian needs, 67 per cent corresponds to the Afro-descendant population and 33 per cent to indigenous communities, located in regions such as the Pacific where it is necessary to include technical assistance to councils and indigenous authorities since collective protection and self-protection mechanisms are usually not enough. The most severe needs are concentrated in the Northwest, Orinoquia, Amazonía and Caribe, with children, teenagers and young adults being the most vulnerable. The physical well-being, autonomy and survival of ethnic peoples are seriously threatened by the lack of provision of basic health, food, water and sanitation services, among others, which have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

By 2022, it is estimated that:

**1.9M** People belonging to ethnic communities have humanitarian needs

*129k (13%)* Have critical needs classified in catastrophic severity

Located in 23 Municipalities of the country with great impacts and exposure to risks

At least 3.9 million women have intersectoral needs from the shocks of the crisis in Colombia. From these, at least 2.2 million women, girls and teenagers are at risk of suffering some type of gender-based violence (physical, sexual, psychological, economic, etc.), domestic violence, crimes against freedom and sexual integrity and feminicide.

**3.9M** Women will have humanitarian needs

*143k (3.7%)* Have critical needs classified in catastrophic severity

Located in 23 Municipalities of the country with great impacts and exposure to risks

At least 3.9 million women have intersectoral needs from the shocks of the crisis in Colombia. From these, at least 2.2 million women, girls and teenagers are at risk of suffering some type of gender-based violence (physical, sexual, psychological, economic, etc.), domestic violence, crimes against freedom and sexual integrity and feminicide.

**Children, teenagers and young adults have humanitarian needs, especially in terms of Protection**

Children, teenagers and young adults, the majority belonging to farmers, indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities, have humanitarian needs of protection against the risk of recruitment and use by non-state armed groups, child labor, violence and sexual exploitation, displacement, deaths, mutilations and other effects of accidents with APM/ERW among others, particularly in Antioquia, Cauca, Chocó, Nariño and Norte de Santander.

By 2022, it is estimated that:

**2.4M** Boys, girls, teenagers and young adults have humanitarian needs

*113k (4,6%)* Have critical needs classified in catastrophic severity

Located in 23 Municipalities of the country with great impacts and exposure to risks

5 The Ombudsman’s Office has identified the risk of recruitment, use, and utilization in 157 early alerts, since the Early Alerts System was launched in 2017. In 2020 the Ombudsman’s Office issued a total of 45 early alerts that warned of this problem in 238 municipalities, among others in the departments of Antioquia, Cauca, Chocó, Nariño and Norte de Santander. See: https://www.defensoria.gov.co/es/nube/destacados/9912/Defensor%C3%ADa-lanza-la-estrategia-2021-AntiAtraco-confronta-reclutamiento-forzado-de-ni%C3%B1os-ni%C3%B1as-y-adolescentes-reclutamiento-infantil-reclutamiento-forzado-Defensor%C3%ADa-manos-rojas-conmemoraci%C3%B3n.htm
People living under the influence of non-state armed groups and the dynamics of violence

Approximately 5.8 million people live in territories that are under the influence and/or control of non-state armed groups, it is estimated that 4.6 million people are at risk of suffering human rights violations and face limitations to access of goods and services as a direct consequence of the violence. Living under the presence, influence and/or control of the NSAGs has an intersectoral humanitarian impact, which goes beyond mass emergencies and is generated from multiple violations of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law that influence the risks of protection faced by the population at the individual, family and community level.

By 2022, it is estimated that:

- **5.8M** People who are under the influence of armed groups and who present humanitarian needs
- **55k (6%)** People with critical needs classified in catastrophic severity
- **23** Municipalities with great impacts and exposure to risks

**Risks Identified**

According to analysis of the humanitarian community, it is likely that, in 2022, protection needs and risks will continue as a result of the intensification of the different factors of violence and the multiplicity of non-state armed actors and their struggle for social and territorial control. Thousands of people will continue to face limitations in access to basic services and fundamental rights, such as food, education, safe water, decent housing conditions and the provision of health services. For the same reasons, there would also be risks of a reduction in humanitarian access for organizations that serve the affected populations. Added to this, the electoral period would generate risks reflected in the increase in violence rates against people who openly participate in democratic processes especially in the ZOMAC.

While a full recovery from the impact of the pandemic is achieved, the condition of food insecurity in the country will remain at the same level of severity. The risk of an increase in the number of infections by COVID-19 in people who do not complete their vaccination scheme is also expected, as has been observed in other countries around the world, with a consequent impact on the number of deaths, and restrictions on mobility that are imposed as preventive measures of contagion, in the event that, new variants arise (more than 56% of the country’s population and more than 1.5 million refugees and migrants in an irregular condition still need access to the complete vaccination scheme).

Natural disasters are expected as a result of climate change impact. The rainy season which last until February 2022, along with an 87-93% probability of occurrence of La Niña phenomenon would bring effects, including loss of crops with an impact on livelihoods. The trend of double affectation will continue as climatic phenomena overlap with factors of violence, since at least 30 per cent of current climatic emergencies take place in municipalities with the presence and actions of the NSAGs.

The population in transcontinental mixed movements will continue to be at risk from the presence and actions of the NSAGs in municipalities along the migratory routes that are used throughout Colombia. It is expected that there will be an overload of the installed capacity at the operational and financial level in the host municipalities on the border with Panama. To this context, strategies for the authorization of passage of migrant populations have been considered (excluding daily quotas that were established by the immigration authorities of the region).