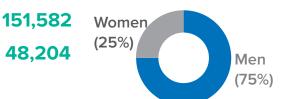
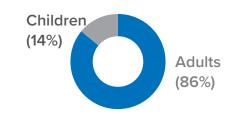
Darien Province, Panama-Colombia Border

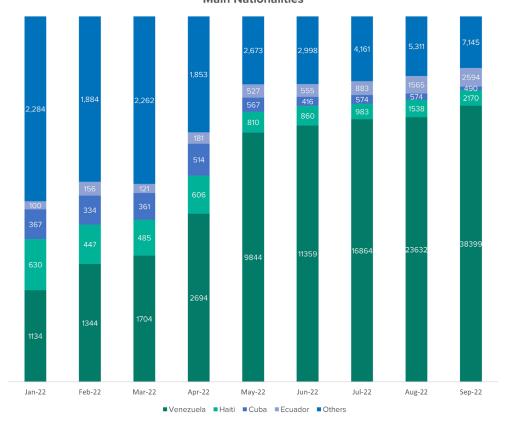
Total Entries 2022: Entries Sept. 2022:

Source: Migración Panamá (October, 2022)

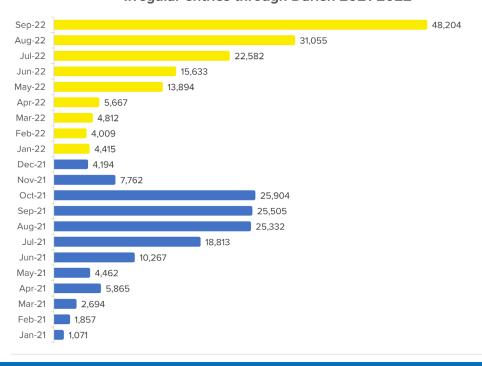








Irregular entries through Darien 2021-2022





Mixed Movements: Protection Monitoring

Darien Province, Panama-Colombia border

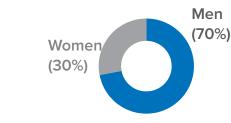
October 2022

The UN Agency for Refugees (UNHCR) collects monthly information on the characteristics, vulnerabilities and protection needs of refugees and migrants who enter Panama through the province of Darien at the southern border with Colombia. The information is compiled through individual interviews conducted at the migratory reception stations (ERM) of San Vicente and Lajas Blancas. The preliminary results presented here are indicative only and should not be interpreted as representative of the total population of refugees and migrants who cross the border through the Darien jungle.



Demography

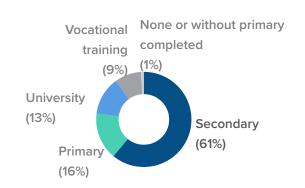
Sex of interviewed individuals



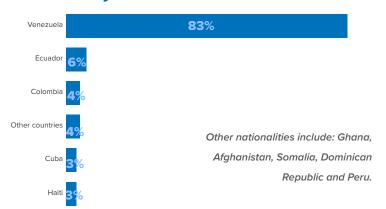
Average Age

30 years

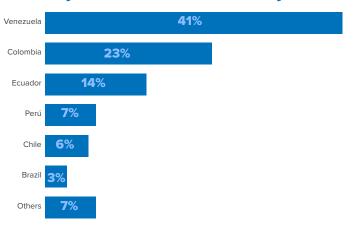
Highest education level reached by interviewed individuals



Nationality of interviewed individuals



Country of residence in the last year



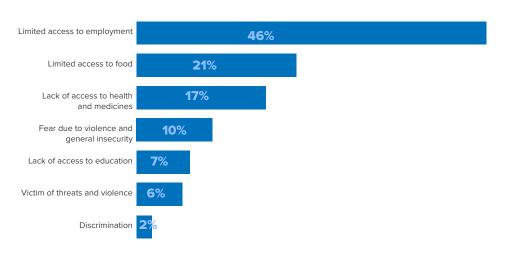


Darien Province, Panama-Colombia border

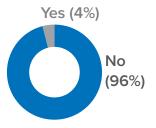
78% of the interviewed individuals left their country of origin/residence:

One to four weeks ago

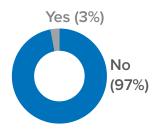
Main reasons for leaving country of origin



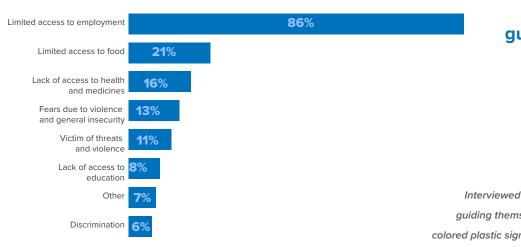
Do you intend to stay in Panama?



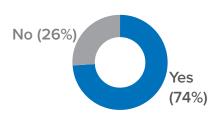
Have you previously applied for asylum?



Main reasons for leaving country of residence



Did you pay any person to guide you through the jungle?



Interviewed people who reported not paying a guide, described guiding themselves through the jungle using the existing informal colored plastic signs, as well as having traveled with other groups that did have a guide.

Documents carried by the family

Other





7 out of 10 people

interviewed reported receiving information about the journey and making decisions about it based on the information received from friends and relatives who had already made.

They also received information through TikTok (38%), Facebook (36%) and Youtube/Instagram/WhatsApp (24%), among others.



One out of ten interviewed individuals reported traveling with a survivor of sexual violence in their group

This figure likely represents an underestimation of these incidents, when compared with other reports and information.



One out of ten interviewed individuals reported traveling with pregnant or/and lactating women



16% of respondents reported traveling with someone with a critical or chronic medical condition

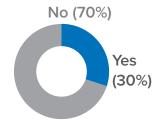


One out of ten interviewed individuals reported having a single parent traveling with minors in their group



3% of those interviewed reported traveling with people over 60 years of age in their travel group.

Did you experience any mistreatment or abuse during the journey through the jungle?



Around 30% of interviewed individuals reported being victim of robbery and fraud during their journey through the jungle

Additionally, 18% reported being victim of threats, intimidation and other incidents

Main Needs



















Baby food and items

Food for family

Phone and Internet

Health

Other

Shelter

Legal Assistance Water

The greatest need reported was cash to pay for outbound transportation from the transit center (ERM) to another ERM nearby the border with Costa Rica. A large proportion of respondents also reported clothing as their main need, although this option was not originally included in the questionnaire.

UNHCR Multi Country Office for Belize, Cuba, Panama, Nicaragua and Southern Caribbean

Data Sources: UNHCR Protection Monitoring, conducted on the 3rd to 5th October 2022. Feedback: macguire@unhcr.org and gaviriar@unhcr.org

