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**35,502,109**

CONFIRMED CASES IN SOUTH AMERICA<sup>1</sup>

**1,089,746**

DEATHS<sup>2</sup>

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

Brazil leads with 20,165,672 cases of COVID-19, followed by Argentina, Colombia, and Peru, with 5,018,895, 4,838,984, and 2,125,345 cases respectively. Last week, the sharpest increases in cases were reported in Venezuela (3%) and Argentina (2%). In South America, the total number of cases is at 35,502,109, compared to 33,280,201 thirty days ago,

demonstrating an increase of 7%. In terms of mortality, Brazil also leads with 556,834 deaths, followed by Peru, Colombia, and Argentina, with 196,438, 120,998, and 105,772 deaths respectively. In the whole region, the number of COVID-19 related deaths is at 1,089,746, compared to 1,016,567 thirty days ago, marking an increase of 7%.

<sup>1</sup> WHO COVID-19 Situation Dashboard: <https://covid19.who.int/>

<sup>2</sup> WHO COVID-19 Situation Dashboard: <https://covid19.who.int/>

## SNAPSHOT OF IOM RESPONSE IN SOUTH AMERICA

### STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

Ensure a well-coordinated, informed and timely response through mobility tracking systems and strengthening partnership and coordination structures established at the community, national and regional levels.

### COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

IOM Colombia coordinated and worked with leaders of community networks and community action boards to develop action plans to address the COVID-19 pandemic. These action plans include activities such as analyzing the risks posed by COVID-19, identifying the most vulnerable communities and populations in need of assistance (particularly those areas with a greater presence of Venezuelan migrants), identifying the needs of different groups, building community capacity in the provision of health services and assistance, dissemination of information on health care services and referral mechanisms in Bello, Caldas, Copacabana, Envigado, Itagüí, Medellín (department of Antioquia), in Maicao, Riohacha, San Juan del Cesar y Uribia (department of La Guajira); Barranquilla y Soledad (department of Atlántico).

In addition, the mission coordinated with local health secretaries in Bello, Caldas, Copacabana, Envigado,

Itagüí, Medellín (department of Antioquia); and in Bogotá D.C., Chía and Soacha (department of Cundinamarca); in their emergency response, by supporting them with actions such as: mapping and strengthening of health care service routes, construction or activation of care service routes, implementation of health prevention and care protocols, and in the establishment of screening and sampling mechanisms for respiratory symptoms. Other actions involved include supporting epidemiological surveillance and monitoring of COVID-19 cases, remote mental health and psychosocial services, conducting a situational and risk analysis on the impacts of COVID-19, capacity-building of local government workers, working in primary and secondary healthcare and, finally, participating in different spaces with local health authorities.

Within the framework of the Project of “Victims of Trafficking at the Triple Border” (Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay) the Minister of Secretary of the National Anti-Drug Secretariat of Paraguay, received the technical team of the EUROFRONT Project - which includes IOM Paraguay’s Program Area, and visited the border with Brazil. The objective of the visit was to identify and map issues related to that border in order to define strategic priorities for the country within the framework of the project, as well as to promote the design and development of activities that contribute to security and efficiency in the management of border posts.



## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

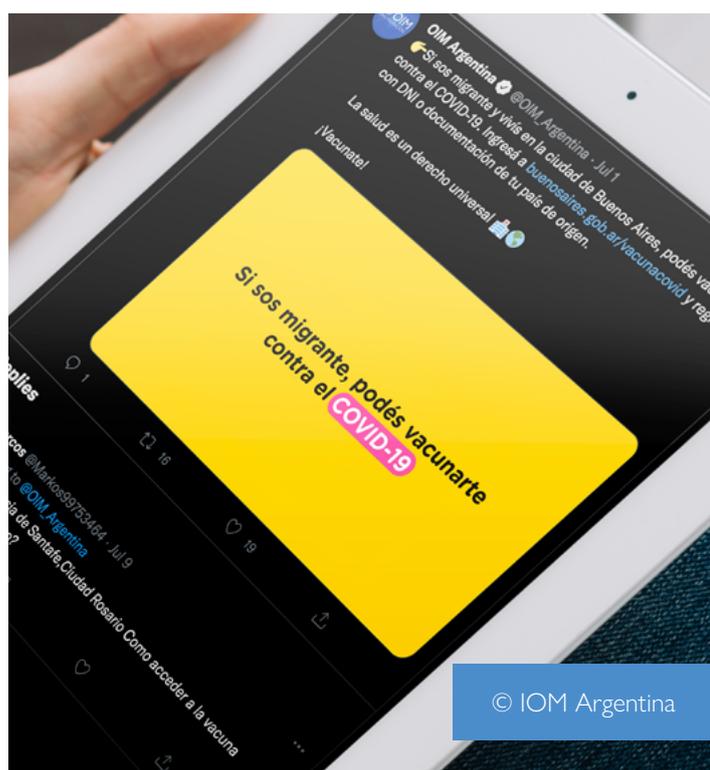
Contribute to global, regional, national and community preparedness and response efforts for COVID-19 to reduce associated morbidity and mortality.

### RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (RCCE)

IOM Argentina, together with the Government of the City of Buenos Aires, developed a video to disseminate the access migrants have to the vaccination program in Buenos Aires.

In Roraima, IOM Brazil -together with NGO partner Migration and Human Rights Institute (IMDH, for its Portuguese)- conducted a workshop addressed to Venezuelan women on COVID-19 prevention.

IOM Colombia launched an awareness raising campaign at the community level, involving house-to-house education strategies, on cough management, proper use of masks, proper hand washing, disinfection and protection, and identification of symptoms and psychosocial support in Maicao, Riohacha, San Juan del Cesar and Uribia (department of La Guajira). These activities were addressed mainly to Venezuelans, host communities, and Colombian returnees.



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The mission implemented information, education, and communication strategies in Arauca and Arauquita, (department of Arauca); in Bucaramanga (department of Santander); in Puerto Carreño (department of Vichada); and in Valledupar (department of Cesar) through virtual and face-to face workshops and meetings. The topics covered included COVID-19 prevention and self-care, routes for humanitarian assistance, mental health, psychosocial support, health insurance, and the right to health. This activity was addressed to Venezuelan migrants, host communities, and Colombian returnees.

IOM Venezuela, in coordination with Cáritas, held one raise awareness session on human trafficking and migrant smuggling in Cabimas (State of Zulia). Further, jointly with the Dioceses of San Cristóbal, the mission held eight awareness raising sessions in the following communities: Bramón, Baritalia, Barrio Alianza, Cururú, El Cafetal, La Playa, Las Malvinas, Naranjales and, San Antonio, all located in the State of Táchira, where 1618 persons (1171 women and 447 men) received life-saving information. Lastly, in coordination with its partner Dioceses of San Cristóbal, IOM Venezuela held eight awareness raising sessions in San Antonio, Bolívar municipality of the Táchira State.

### DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

IOM Colombia carried out a telephone follow-up campaign of individuals with suspected COVID-19 cases or that had been in close contact with positive COVID-19 patients in Santa Marta (department of Magdalena) in order to raise awareness and provide guidance on COVID-19 protection and care practices. The telephone follow ups also served to learn more about the health and mental health conditions of the population and in identifying individuals with any respiratory symptoms.

IOM Colombia also conducted activities to detect respiratory symptoms through respiratory screening in vulnerable rural and urban communities with migrant and host populations in the departments of Antioquia, Arauca, Atlántico, Bolívar, Cesar, Cundinamarca, Chocó, La Guajira, Magdalena, Nariño, Norte de Santander, Santander, Valle del Cauca, and Vichada.

IOM Venezuela -in coordination with Cáritas Venezuela- held 18 health fairs in 13 communities in the State of Zulia, reaching 3,007 people (1,889 women and 1,118 men) who received primary health services. Further, jointly with the Dioceses of San Cristóbal, the mission held three health fairs in the State of Táchira. In total, 421 beneficiaries (300 women and 121 men) received primary health assistance. Also, IOM assisted 99 people on the move (58 women and 41 men) through primary medical assistance in its Temporary Accommodation Centre in the municipality of Pedro María Ureña (State of Táchira) where they received food assistance, water, and life-saving information on human trafficking and migrant smuggling.

hand washing protocols. Trainings were addressed to refugees, migrants, and returnees.

IOM Peru carried out activities to detect early cases with symptoms associated with COVID-19 and to reinforce the prevention of contagion through orientation sessions at Guidance and Assistance Points in Zorritos and Tumbes (department of Tumbes). This activity reached 308 refugees and migrants in their transit through that northern department.

## POINTS OF ENTRY (POE)

IOM Colombia developed educational trainings on COVID-19 at points of entry in the municipalities in Bucaramanga (department of Santander). The training covered topics such as cough management and adequate



## INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC)

IOM Brazil conducted 292 medical consultations for Venezuelans and Brazilians at the Reception and Support Post in Manaus. Also, in Roraima, the mission conducted an additional 2,249 consultations with the Mobile Health Units for Venezuelans and host communities at random locations.

In Boa Vista, IOM held informative sessions on vaccination against COVID-19, reaching 143 Venezuelan refugees and migrants. The sessions addressed the importance of the second dose and post-vaccination care, vaccination posts and COVID-19 healthcare units, and vaccination schedules.

In Roraima, the mission distributed 934 hygiene kits for Venezuelans at Boa Vista Bus Station while in Manaus, 596 cleaning kits and 1,565 food baskets were donated to Venezuelan families at shelters.

IOM Colombia focused their efforts in two main prevention areas: 1) identification of persons suspected of having COVID-19 and providing referrals to individuals for health services at local health secretariats and other health services, while also supporting other organizations with follow up health care services in Puerto Carreño (department of Vichada); and 2) dissemination of information and orientation to people going through the referral process.

IOM Venezuela distributed hygiene kits to returned nationals hosted in preventive quarantine centers such as the Punto Cero Integral Social Care Point (PASI) in Santa Elena de Uairén; at the Fundación Armonía and at PASIs “Colmena para la Vida Integral” I and II in Caroní (all located in the State of Bolívar). In total, 278 returnees (143 women and 135 men) received the kits.

### STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

Ensure access of affected people to basic services and commodities, especially to those in most vulnerable conditions, including health care and protection and social services.

## LOGISTICS, PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY MANAGEMENT

To strengthen COVID-19 response in the departments of Antioquia, La Guajira, Casanare, Boyacá, Nariño, Amazonas and Vichada, IOM Colombia donated 350 Giostyle Thermos and backpacks to health institutions. 175 thermal boxes were delivered in the departments of Norte de Santander, La Guajira, Vichada, Santander, Arauca, Bolívar, Atlántico, Nariño, Casanare and Magdalena. Further, the mission provided four generators to strengthen the infrastructure of public hospitals and health institutions in Ocaña, (department of Norte de Santander). Lastly, IOM Colombia delivered biosafety, hygiene, expecting mother kits to 483 people in the departments of Arauca, Cundinamarca and Norte de Santander.

## CASE MANAGEMENT AND CONTINUITY OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES

IOM Venezuela -in a co-joint exercise with the Red Cross- held a health care fair in the community of El Modelo, located in the Maracaibo municipality, reaching 83 people (50 women and 33 men) who also received health services and life-saving information regarding human trafficking and smuggling. Also -in coordination with the Dioceses of San Cristóbal- IOM provided primary health care services to 14 people (6 women and 8 men) on the move at the Temporary Accommodation Center in San Antonio del Táchira (State of Táchira).

## CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

IOM Venezuela assisted 593 people on the move (281 women and 312 men) in Pedro María Ureña (State of Táchira) and in Carúpano (State of Sucre) with

temporary accommodation that included, sleeping space, meals, shower and toilet services, in addition to hygiene supplies and life-saving information on human trafficking and smuggling.

## PROTECTION

In Roraima, IOM Brazil conducted mental health workshops for Venezuelans, with one-on-one and group consultations. The mission conducted four informative sessions on labor exploitation and trafficking in persons, reaching 57 Venezuelan refugees and migrants, while four other sessions were held in Manaus, addressed to 94 Venezuelans.

In Rio de Janeiro, IOM -jointly with the Mawon Association- conducted a series of socio-legal advisory appointments addressed to Venezuelan migrants, also supporting them with referrals for migratory status regularization, and distributed, as well, informative booklets on trafficking in persons to Venezuelan local leaders and at the community library in that location. Further, in Manaus, the mission assisted 596 Venezuelan refugees and migrants with services for migratory status regularization.

In Roraima, the mission distributed 934 hygiene kits for Venezuelans at Boa Vista Bus Station while in Manaus, 596 cleaning kits and 1,565 food baskets were donated to Venezuelan families at shelters.

IOM Brazil conducted 5 informative sessions on labor exploitation and trafficking in persons in Manaus for 66 Venezuelan refugees and migrants.

Additionally, in Manaus, the mission informed 53 Venezuelan children and adolescents and their families about the Brazilian education system in order to facilitate their access to schooling. They received, as well, a bag with a playful booklet, colour pencils and informative documents.

Lastly, IOM Brazil managed 51 protection cases together with the social assistance network in Manaus.

IOM Chile delivered humanitarian assistance to refugee and migrant families in the Metropolitan Region, delivering food and hygiene kits.

IOM Peru delivered hygiene kits (for COVID-19 prevention and basic needs coverage), reaching 3,015 refugees and migrants in Callao, Lima, Ilo, Tacna and



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Tumbes. Also, IOM delivered 25 aid kits to migrants and refugees, 17 at the mobile Points of Attention and 8 in their transit through Tumbes.

In order to strengthen the response of government institutions against COVID-19, the mission delivered protection and prevention elements in Tacna (including 40 liters of water, 15 liters of alcohol gel, 750 masks, 50 liters of bleach, 250 face shields, 6 digital thermometers, 2 pulse oximeters, 6 EPPs and 5 hand washing stations).

IOM Peru provided guidance and information on access to rights, GBV, access to the territory, prevention against COVID-19 and how to access humanitarian assistance, reaching 687 migrants and refugees in their transit through Tumbes.

Lastly, the mission provided two training health sessions to 40 local authorities and staff at the TUMBES Binational Border Center. Also, the mission trained technical staff of the Regional Education Directorate and the Regional Health Directorate of Tumbes on “Old and new acquaintances: influenza, pneumonia, rhinovirus and SARS COVID-19”, reaching 440 local authorities.

IOM Venezuela assisted 30 people on the move through its mobile assistance point along the migratory routes located in Carúpano (State of Sucre) and another 1,800 people in San Antonio de Táchira (State of Táchira). These persons received food assistance, hydration, and life-saving information on human trafficking and smuggling.

IOM distributed meals to returnees in preventive quarantine at the Punto Cero Integral Social Care Point (PASI), in Santa Elena de Uairén (State of Bolívar) reaching 228 returnees. They received food assistance, hydration, and life-saving information on human trafficking and smuggling.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4

Support international, national and local partners to respond to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19.



## ADDRESSING SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT

IOM Argentina delivered cash-based assistance to 217 Venezuelans and a Colombian migrant.

IOM Brazil, together with the civil society partner “Hermanitos,” initiated a lunch box and manicure training. IOM supported, as well, a workshop on Entrepreneurship and Employment Alternatives for 25 Venezuelan refugees and migrants conducted by the National Commercial Learning Service.

In Rio de Janeiro, the mission supported capacity-building sessions for Venezuelans and migrants from neighboring countries in order to support their socioeconomic integration into the Brazilian labor market. In addition, 10 Venezuelans received a training on hygiene techniques while another 34 migrant women started a sewing course.

The mission carried out research aimed at mapping the socioeconomic situation of unsheltered Venezuelan refugees and migrants in Boa Vista and Pacaraima. This monthly report aims at providing a deeper understanding of the needs of this population to best support decision making.

IOM Peru provided cash-based assistance to 708 refugees and migrants from Venezuela in the regions of Callao, Ica, Lambayeque, La Libertad, Lima, Piura and Tumbes Piura, Ica and Lambayeque.



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## OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL UPDATES

### Information Sharing and Communication

As part of the audiovisual series “Let’s talk about migration” (“Conversemos sobre Migración”), which includes Facebook live conversations between IOM specialists and experts on migration related topics, the

IOM Regional Office for South America (RO) aired an episode on the fight against human trafficking at the regional level. The broadcast was done as part of the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons (30 July).

For latest information on IOM tools and resources for COVID-19 pandemic response visit [www.iom.int/covid19](http://www.iom.int/covid19)



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