

The Brazilian Perspective

# THE VENEZUELAN REFUGEE CRISIS

Since 2014, over one million Venezuelans have left Venezuela due to threats by armed groups; lack of food, medicine and access to essential services; and loss of income.

Many of those fleeing Venezuela have come to Brazil. Today, UNHCR estimates that **30,000** Venezuelans are living in Brazil as refugees and asylum-seekers, while Brazil's Federal Police estimate that more than **92,656** Venezuelans entered Brazil between 2017 and 2018.



## WHERE IN BRAZIL?

Since 2014, the state of Roraima has received 15,000 Venezuelan asylum-claims, with another 2,500 filed in Amazonas and 590 in São Paulo.

Human Rights Watch reported that many are living in precarious conditions on the streets and in shelters in the capitol city of Boa Vista in the border state of Roraima.

## CURRENT CONCERNS

### Militarization of the Border

The Army has doubled its presence on the border between Venezuela and the state of Roraima, totaling 200 troops.

### Health Crisis

The influx of Venezuelan refugees has strained Roraima's already struggling healthcare system. Since 2006, more than 7,600 Venezuelans have been treated at Roraiman hospitals.

### Rising Xenophobia & Violence

There are escalating signs of xenophobia, including an increase in acts of violence targeting Venezuelans. In February, a 3-year-old girl and her parents were injured when two gasoline bombs were thrown in their home while they slept.

**"This is a humanitarian drama."**

- Defense Minister  
Raul Jungmann

**"I won't go back. We are surviving here."**

- Rosibel Diaz, Refugee