

KEY FIGURES

77K

APPLICATIONS FOR PROTECTION IN MEXICO SO FAR IN 2021

Sources:

- Government of Mexico
- Government of Panama
- Médecins Sans Frontières

REGIONAL: MIGRANTS & REFUGEES

CENTRAL AMERICA & MEXICO

Mexican authorities dispersed a caravan of about 800 migrants, comprised mainly of people from Central America, Haiti, Venezuela and Cuba, that set out from the city of Tapachula in the southern Mexican state of Chiapas on the Guatemalan border, the fourth such caravan dispersed in just over a week.

Mexico's migration and asylum systems are dealing with increased immigration through their southern border and the United States sending thousands detained at the US-Mexico border back to Mexico. The Mexican Commission for Refugee Assistance (COMAR) has fielded more than 77,000 applications for protection so far in 2021, with 55,000 coming in Tapachula, where shelters are full and protests over delayed processing times are growing.

PANAMA

The rising number of migrants entering from Colombia through the dangerous

Darien jungle area in eastern Panama is leading to a corresponding rise in violence and sexual assault. Officials say they have received as many as 170 reports of rape from migrants in the last two months, adding that the real number of incidents is likely higher. Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and the Ministry of Health are on the ground in the province of Darien, providing medical attention and psychosocial support. Panama's Attorney General's Office indicate they are setting up a special prosecutor's office in Darien to respond to the high number of reports of violence against the migrants.

So far in 2021, Panama has recorded more than 42,000 migrants entering through Darien, just over a quarter of all the migrants recorded since 2009. Per authorities in Colombia, there are about 14,000 migrants in the northern border community of Necoclí in the department of Antioquia who are awaiting entry into Panama, who are only allowing the entry of 500 migrants a day.

KEY FIGURES

1M

HECTARES OF LAND IN SANTA CRUZ, BOLIVIA, BURNED BY WILDFIRES

Sources:

- Government of Mexico
- Government of Bolivia

REGIONAL: NATURAL HAZARDS

MEXICO: EARTHQUAKE

Per Mexico's seismological service, a 7.1-magnitude earthquake struck the city of Acapulco in the southern state of Guerrero on 7 September. The quake, with a shallow depth of 12 km, was felt across Guerrero, as well as the states of Oaxaca, Mexico State, Morelos and the capital of Mexico City.

Preliminary damage reports indicate minor damage and interruptions to power and communications networks, mostly in Guerrero and Mexico City. Guerrero authorities report 1 death.

BOLIVIA: WILDFIRES

Per Bolivia's Forest Fire Early Warning System (SATIF), fires have consumed more than 1 million hectares in the eastern department of Santa Cruz, up from the 600,000 hectares reported the week of 20-26 August. There are currently 15 active fires in the department.

Authorities say there are about 400 people responding to the various fires. The Government has dispatched about 12.6 tons of relief supplies for distribution among 4,700 affected families in eight affected municipalities.

KEY FIGURES

Cases, deaths & vaccines administered (12 Sep)

Cases	49,655,122	+13% from 5 Sep
Deaths	1,465,978	+0.8% from 5 Sep
Vaccines	542,258,529	+4.8% from 5 Sep



Please scan QR code to access OCHA/HDX COVID-19 Data Explorer

LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN: COVID-19

HONDURAS

Per the Ministry of Health, 90 per cent of people admitted for care in the country's public hospital network are unvaccinated against COVID-19, while the remaining 10 per cent have at least one dose. Of the country's 87 intensive care units (ICUs), 84 are occupied.

The Ministry is using the data to urge vaccine-hesitant people to get vaccinated, as the immunization drive has only reached 2.9 million people with at least one dose, or just under 30 per cent of the population. Sixteen per cent of the population has been fully immunized, with 13 per cent awaiting their second dose.

The Ministry of Health, together with the Ministry of Education, is expanding vaccinations to include adolescents ages 15 to 17 as of 13 September to support the safe return to schools. Children ages 12 to 14 will become eligible for vaccination on 9 October.

COSTA RICA

Costa Rica saw its second-highest weekly COVID-19 case total from 29 August to 4 September and a corresponding increase in hospitalizations and deaths, according to the Ministry of Health. The 16,601 new cases and daily average of 2,371 cases during the week trail only the 18,021 cases tallied in early May 2021. Deaths have steadily risen to 136 during the week, up from 89, 105 and 127 deaths in previous weeks, and hospital admissions are up 15 per cent.

Authorities say the increase owes to relaxed prevention measures and the presence of the Delta variant. The Costa Rican Social Security Fund (CCSS) indicates the situation is unlikely to

improve, projecting scenarios of 3,000 to 3,500 daily new cases by the end of September. The surge comes despite the Government reaching 60 per cent of the population with vaccines, with nearly half of 3.07 million people vaccinated now fully immunized.

PERU

With COVID-19 vaccinations scaling up and now reaching more than 25 per cent of the population with full immunization, the Ministry of Health revised their projections of deaths from the third wave of COVID-19 infections in April 2021, now down to 82,000 from 115,000. Active cases have reached a near-plateau of about 197,000 cases since August. Daily cases and deaths have mostly come in below 2,000 and 100, respectively.

CUBA

Cuba announced they will begin to gradually reopen their borders in November 2021 amid rising COVID-19 cases and deaths, which had briefly fallen in the first week of September 2021. With Cuba reaching more than half its population with locally-made vaccines, fully immunizing more than 40 per cent of people, officials are looking to kickstart the faltering tourism industry, which accounted for more than 10 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) in 2019 and employs approximately 273,000 workers.

Sources:

- COVID-19 Data Explorer - <https://bit.ly/3vsHRP9>
- Government of Honduras
- Government of Costa Rica
- Government of Peru
- Government of Cuba