

Migrant & Refugee Health Crisis in Latin America

Situation Report #5

November 2024 Updates | Published December 19, 2024

Project HOPE is improving access to urgently needed health; water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH); and protection services for migrants and refugees transiting through Colombia, Ecuador, and Honduras.

Response Overview

As of mid-2024, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) identified 20.3 million forcibly displaced people in Latin America and the Caribbean, with 10.9 million — roughly 59% — in Colombia, Ecuador, and Honduras.



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Key Updates

- Project HOPE is supporting the health, WASH, and protection needs of migrants and local host communities in Colombia, Ecuador, and Honduras
- Local teams at 26 site locations are providing urgent health and humanitarian services in areas hosting large numbers of migrants and/or high volumes of migratory transit
- Project HOPE's health teams are conducting medical and psychological outpatient consultations at 21 health facilities and mobile clinics
- Essential infrastructure rehabilitation and repair projects have been completed at 18 site locations
- WASH kits (hygiene, dignity, and birth kits) are being distributed to participants our team has identified as being in a vulnerable position

These numbers are largely driven by migratory flows from Venezuela, with the ongoing population exodus forming one of the largest displacement crises in the world. According to the <u>Regional Interagency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants of Venezuela</u>, there were 7.8 million Venezuelan refugees and migrants worldwide as of mid-2024, of which 85% (6.6 million) are in the Latin America and the Caribbean region. Within this region, some <u>4.2 million</u> Venezuelans face difficulties accessing essential services and have unmet health and humanitarian needs. These unmet needs point to a dynamic where health systems are strained beyond capacity and need support to ensure access to essential services for both those forced to flee and host communities.

Movement dynamics for the region in the third quarter of 2024 have been characterized by increasing numbers of Venezuelans arriving and staying in Colombia after the disputed July 28 elections. At the same time, migration movements through to Panama have reduced, which are attributed to stricter control measures at the Darien jungle and subsequent deportations of Ecuadorians and Colombians. Crossings through the Darien jungle decreased by <u>71%</u> compared to the same period in 2023.

Project HOPE is currently responding to the health crisis facing forced migrants in Latin America in three countries that host large numbers of migrants and experience high-flow migratory transit. Response activities in Colombia, Ecuador, and Honduras focus on providing health care — paired with urgently needed protection and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services — to both migrants and host community members.

Project HOPE's regional response to the health crisis is powered by support from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. From January to November 2024, Project HOPE reached **67,628** migrants and host community members in the region through the following activities:

- Supported 26 site locations including health centers, shelters, transit centers, and mobile clinics — with health services, WASH repairs, rehabilitation projects, and/or equipment deliveries
- Provided health services to migrant and host community members at **21** health facilities and mobile clinics
- Increased the team to include the engagement of **42** health workers
- Provided **38,018** outpatient medical consultations (including gynecological, primary care, psychological, and vaccination consultations)
- Provided pharmaceutical medications to **30,131** patients
- Reached **25,205** people with health promotion and community outreach
- Completed WASH rehabilitation projects at 18 migrant support site locations
- Distributed WASH kits (hygiene, dignity, and birth kits) to **34,523** people

Colombia

Country Updates

Colombia hosts nearly <u>3 million</u> Venezuelan refugees and migrants, more than any other country in the world. Approximately <u>2.4 million</u> Venezuelan migrants have Temporary Protection Status in Colombia and have been able to regularize their stay. However, around 500,000 are in an irregular situation and face barriers when accessing services.

Migration movement dynamics in Colombia for the third quarter of 2024 include:

- 1) An increase of entries at the Venezuelan border, combined by a decrease in return movements following the 28 July elections.
- 2) Increasing entries of Ecuadorian nationals leaving the worsening security and social conditions in Ecuador.

 A decrease in irregular exits through Panama due to stricter control measures at the Darien jungle and the deportation of Ecuadorians and Colombians.

Though overall entries from Venezuela in the third quarter of 2024 were fewer than the third quarter of 2023, the third quarter had the highest number of entries, at 246,700, for any quarter in 2024, a <u>23% increase</u> over three months.



Project HOPE's team in Convención, Colombia conducts a delivery of medicines and equipment. Photo by Project HOPE staff, 2024.

Border monitoring reports show that an overwhelming majority of Venezuelans entering Colombia indicated that their entry is temporary (73%) and that they intend to continue their journey, while 31% intend to settle in Colombia. Of those intending to remain temporarily in Colombia, 23% intended to transit to a third country, primarily Ecuador (29%), Peru (26%), Chile (23%), and the U.S. (17%).

While the Colombian Government and humanitarian organizations continue to implement plans to address urgent health, education, protection, and food security needs, challenges persist, and basic services are strained. The Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, H.E. Jorge Rojas Rodriguez, recently stated that while the Colombian Government has guaranteed the rights of Venezuelan people in Colombia, they are also facing an exhaustion of their resources.

In the northeastern department of Norte de Santander, which shares a border with Tachira State in Venezuela and is where Project HOPE's team is located, the Interagency Group on Mixed Migration Flows, a humanitarian coordination platform, shared the findings of a joint needs assessment for the pendular population in the department of Norte de Santander, Colombia. The assessment revealed significant challenges for migrants and refugees. Currently, 34% face barriers such as insecurity, lack of resources, and unauthorized tolls upon return to Venezuela. Priority needs identified were in the areas of water, sanitation, hygiene, health, and food security. Access to basic services, such as drinking water and toilets, is limited, with cost and availability forming the main barriers, while access to health services is challenged by a lack of medical coverage and financial costs. The migrant population in the area report experiencing high levels of anxiety, fear, and uncertainty, with specific concerns around the risks of gender-based violence and exploitation, particularly for women and girls. In **Colombia**, Project HOPE operates in three municipalities in **Norte de Santander Department**:

- Villa del Rosario
- Cúcuta
- Convención



Project HOPE teams provide support at six health facilities and one shelter in Colombia.

Project HOPE's **response activities** in Colombia include:

- Medical staff surge support
- Pharmaceutical, medical supply, and equipment deliveries
- Medical consultations
- Psychological consultations
- Community health education
- WASH kit distributions
- WASH facility repairs and rehabilitation

Program Updates

Project HOPE continues response operations in Norte de Santander Department, responding to the urgent needs of migrant populations in the municipalities of Cúcuta and Villa del Rosario. The team is also responding to the needs of migrants and host community members affected by ongoing armed conflict and in the municipality of Convención in the Catatumbo Region.

Our team is also continuing to strengthen existing partnerships with three Hospital Social Enterprises of the State (ESEs) to facilitate the provision of health services to the unregularized migrant population and host community members that have fallen outside of the health system. In November, health, protection and WASH services reached 4,558 people, with a total of 24,842 people reached in 2024 to date.

Health Activities

Medical Staff Surge Support

The number of health workers supported by Project HOPE to provide primary care and gynecological consultations was increased to 22 to accommodate heightened needs among the unregularized migrant population, host populations, and other vulnerable groups. Through agreements with the three hospital ESEs, care was provided through community health brigades. The team now includes three gynecologists, seven general practitioners, nine auxiliary nurses, one dentist, one oral hygienist, and one bacteriologist. Additional Project HOPE ground teams, including a psychologist, a community promoter, and two site coordinators, continue to conduct additional health support efforts. Project HOPE coordinates the rotation of these health workers to supported areas in Convención, Villa del Rosario, and Cúcuta.

Pharmaceuticals, Medical Supplies and Equipment:

Project HOPE continues to work to ensure Hospital ESEs have the medicines, medical supplies, and equipment they need. Hospital ESEs are continuing their distribution plans to ensure that their facilities are stocked according to consumption rates. In November, a total of 1,909 patients received medications.

Medical Consultations

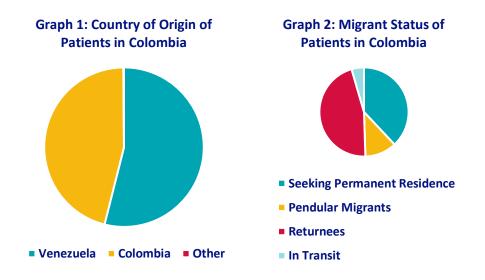
In November, medical consultations continued at six health facilities and one shelter location across the three targeted municipalities, Convención, Cúcuta, and Villa del Rosario. In addition, health brigades were undertaken at nine village locations in Convención to expand health service outreach to the uninsured migrant population and other groups in vulnerable positions. In Saphadana, Project HOPE worked with the local government and UNHCR to provide comprehensive health services for Saphadana's indigenous community. Collectively, across the 16 locations reached by Project HOPE during the month, 2,267 medical consultations, including 399 obstetric/gynecological and 1,868 primary health consultations, were provided. As a result of the health brigade activities, our team has reached higher numbers of the local population

Common illnesses and conditions treated include headaches, common colds, hypertension, intestinal parasitosis, urinary tract infections, pelvic and perineal pain, musculoskeletal pain, migraines, gastritis, pruritus, vaginitis, amenorrhea, excessive and frequent menstruation, and uterine fibroids. The vast majority of patients our team reaches are women and children. Women and girls form 72% of patients and children under 18 years form more than a third.

Table 1: Medical Consultations in Colombia by Location and Type, November2024

Municipality/Facility	Type of Location	Primary Health Consultations	OB-GYN Consultations	Total
Convención		1,265	113	1,378
IPS Convención	Health facility	43	113	156
Puesto de Salud la Trinidad	Health facility	299	-	299
Mesarica	Health Brigade	18	-	18
Puesto Salud Honduras	Health Brigade	126	-	126
Mira Florez	Health Brigade	58	-	58
El Guamal	Health Brigade	40	-	40
Saphadana	Health Brigade	423	-	423
Gramales	Health Brigade	73	-	73
La Victoria	Health Brigade	85	-	85
Las Mercedes	Health Brigade	66	-	66
Campo Alegre	Health Brigade	34	-	34
Cúcuta		408	286	694
UBA Comuneros	Health facility	197	142	339
UBA Puente Barco Leones	Health facility	211	144	355
Villa del Rosario		195	-	195
САТМ	Shelter	19	-	19
Las Margaritas	Health facility	109	-	109
PS La Parada	Health facility	67	-	67
Total	6 health facilities, 9 health brigades, and 1 shelter	1,868	399	2,267

In November, 54% of patients were Venezuelan and 46% were local Colombians. Just 0.13% of people receiving health services originated in other countries. Of migrant patients, many identify with multiple status definitions, with 4.5% in transit, 38% seeking permanent residence, 46% returnees, and 11.5% pendular migrants.



Community Health Education

Project HOPE continued community health education activities, reaching 18 neighborhoods in the municipalities of Villa del Rosario and Cúcuta during November. Activities focused on informing the community on Project HOPE's available health services, access to medical appointments, participant rights and responsibilities and key health and psychosocial care messages. In the municipality of Villa del Rosario and La Parada, psychoeducation days were coordinated with the organizations Corporación Mujer Denuncia and Muévete, as well as community leaders. In total, our team reached 4,121 people through community health education activities in November.

Protection Activities

Psychological Consultations

Due to high demand for psychological care among the migrant population, Project HOPE has worked to provide more group activities in November. Project HOPE's psychologist continues to provide psychological first aid (PFA) and support at two locations in Villa del Rosario, Centro de Atención de Migrantes (CATM) and Centro Integral Las Margaritas, with referrals for patients who demonstrate a need for support at health service locations in Villa del Rosario. A total of 125 psychology consultations were provided at two locations (29 in Las Margaritas and 96 in CATM) in November and 547 people participated in group sessions in Las Margaritas.

Among patients provided with psychological consultations, 96% reported experiencing anxiety and stress, 13% reported symptoms of depression, 66% reported irritability, 63% reported insomnia, and 26% reported sleeping in excess. Additionally, 25% reported that they experienced physical violence, 25% reported having experienced psychological violence, and 22% reported experiencing sexual violence. Our team referred 51 complex cases for mental health and regularization services.

WASH Activities

Table 2: WASH Kit Distributions in Colombia by Location and Activity, November2024

	Activity Paired with Kit Distributions				
Municipality/Facility	Medical Consultations	Psychological Consultations	Psychosocial Education	Community Outreach	Total
Convención	966	0	0	0	966
IPS Convención	743	0	0	0	743
Puesto de Salud la Trinidad	223	0	0	0	223
Cucuta	337	0	0	3,995	4,332
UBA Comuneros	152	0	0	1,684	1,836
UBA Puente Barco Leones	185	0	0	2,311	2,496
Villa del Rosario	127	256	547	106	1,036
САТМ	0	220	0		
Las Margaritas	76	36	547	106	1,036
PS La Parada	51	0	0		
Total	1,430	256	547	4,101	6,334

Dignity kits include hygiene items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, sanitary pads, combs, and detergent.

Hygiene kits for adults and children include items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, insect repellent, soap, and shampoo.

Birth kits include items such as shampoo, soap, diapers, wet wipes, a newborn set, diaper cream, and nursing pads.

Kit Distributions

Project HOPE continues to deliver WASH kits including dignity kits, hygiene kits, and birth kits to people in vulnerable positions. In November, 6,334 kits were distributed through outpatient consultations and community and psychosocial education activities.

WASH Facility Improvements

Project HOPE has completed WASH facility improvements at the six planned program sites. The facilities are being reviewed for any minor improvements that may be needed in the future. At the Puente Barco Leones and IPS Convención health facilities, some humidity and wall leaks were noted and repair plans are underway.

Upcoming Activities

During November Project HOPE will continue to:

- Work with ESEs and CATM to provide health and psychological consultations.
- Continue with health brigades to expand health service reach.
- Undertake psychoeducation sessions in Villa del Rosario and Cúcuta
- Complete remaining WASH and infrastructure repairs at two locations.
- Undertake accountability activities within communities.
- Close-out programmatic activities.

Ecuador



Dr. Denisse Calle, Project HOPE's team lead in Tulcán, Ecuador, at the Colombia-Ecuador border. Nearby, Project HOPE's medical team provides primary care for migrants at a Temporary Accommodation Center Photo by James Buck for Project HOPE, 2024.

Country Updates

During the third quarter of 2024, Ecuador experienced an almost even balance of entries and exits of Venezuelan migrants. In addition, the central government of Ecuador has promoted new efforts encouraging Venezuelans to formalize their stay. During November, the second regularization process began by granting a new type of Visas for Temporary Residence of Exception (VIRTE II) for Venezuelan migrants in

Colombia Impact

Outpatient Consultations	November 2,392 (2,267 medical & 125 psychological) 2024 Total 11,479
Community Outreach & Health Promotion (participants)	November 4,121 2024 Total 10,753
WASH Kits (participants receiving)	November 6,334 2024 Total 12,705

Ecuador who have not formalized their stays. The VIRTE II process is expected to benefit approximately 200,000 Venezuelan migrants and includes an eight-month period for applications, with amnesty measures for people with expired migration certificates who registered their entry in previous years.

At the end of October, the UNHCR-led Refugee and Migrant Working Group (GTRM) conducted a joint needs assessment of the migrant population in Ecuador. The report highlighted critical needs and access barriers in the Tulcán region in the areas of health, WASH, and protection. In the health sector, challenges regarding access to medical care and a lack of essential resources were reported as well, which increase the vulnerability of women, children, and people with chronic diseases. WASH needs were also high among groups in transit, with unsafe water sources and other problems in sanitation and hygiene posing risks for the migrant population, especially in the management of menstrual hygiene. Protection concerns were also identified, with the population highly vulnerable to discrimination, xenophobia, trafficking, and gender-based violence (GBV), especially for unaccompanied children and adolescents. The assessment's findings highlight the need for increased supports for the affected populations and communities.

Program Updates

Response operations continue in the Tulcán region in the province of Carchi, which borders Colombia. People from various nationalities pass through this region, either trying to enter Ecuador or as part of their journey to other countries. Project HOPE is working to improve access to basic health services for migrants in Ecuador through integrated services at municipal service centers, shelters, and health facilities. Activities reached 4,903 people in November and, to date, have reached 116,507 people in 2024.

Health Activities

Medical Staff Surge Support

Two physicians, two nurses, and two psychologists engaged by Project HOPE continued to provide essential and responsive health services in November.

Pharmaceuticals, Medical Supplies and Medical Equipment

Project HOPE's health teams are fully equipped with medical supplies and medical equipment to ensure the provision of quality health services. Additionally, Project HOPE's agreement with DIFARE, a local pharmacy, provided 726 people with free-of-charge pharmaceuticals in November through prescriptions from supported providers.

Medical Consultations

Health services were provided on a weekly basis at shelter locations and the team undertook health brigades at the community level. In November, 969 primary health consultations were provided by medical and nursing teams. In addition, 121 people were provided with imaging services, and 168 with laboratory services. More than half of health care services were provided to women (53%), and more than a quarter of services were provided to children (30%).

The health brigades were carried out and coordinated with key local actors, who agreed on the importance of linking kit deliveries for people in vulnerable positions with health care services. The localities served by the brigades were mostly in rural areas.

The team also coordinated with governmental and non-governmental organizations to strengthen the delivery of comprehensive care, with GTRM organizations and Ministry

In **Ecuador**, Project HOPE operates in the border region of **Tulcán**, in **Carchi Province**.



Project HOPE teams provide support at **six site locations,** including health facilities, shelters, and humanitarian assistance points.

Project HOPE's **response activities** in Ecuador include:

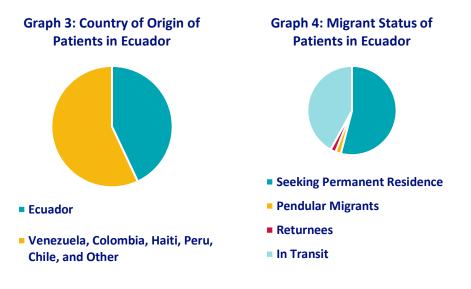
- Medical staff surge support
- Pharmaceutical, medical supply, and equipment deliveries
- Medical consultations
- Psychological consultations
- Referral pathways for protection services
- WASH kit distributions
- Potable water assistance
- WASH facility repairs and rehabilitation

health centers referring cases to Project HOPE's team for health care and diagnostic services. The top illnesses and conditions the team treated in November include headaches, gastritis, and respiratory, gastrointestinal, and urinary tract infections.

Table 3: Medical Consultations in Tulcán, Ecuador by Location, November 2024

Location	Number of Medical Consultations
CAT Rumichaca	79
Albergue Patronato	58
Cáritas Dining Room	70
Project HOPE Medical Office	400
Hotels OIM	83
Health Brigades	279
Total	969

More than half (57%) of the patients seen in November originated in other countries and 43% were local Ecuadorians. Of the patients originating from other countries, the majority were Venezuelan, followed by Colombian, Haitian, Peruvian, Chilean, and other countries. By migrant status, 42% of patients identified as in transit, 54% as seeking permanent residence, less than 2% as returnees, and 2% as pendular migrants.



Community Health Education

Health teams continue to provide health education sessions during consultations, which are adapted for individual needs.

Protection Activities

Psychological Consultations

Psychological consultations are provided by two psychologists and delivered via rotational services at the shelters. In November, 161 psychological consultations were undertaken across all supported locations. Among participants provided with psychological consultations, 82% reported experiencing anxiety and stress, 16% reported symptoms of depression, 7% reported irritability, 20% reported experiencing insomnia, and 2% reported sleeping excessively. In November, one older adult who

required ongoing psychological therapy was referred and linked to the health systems for follow-up.

Table 4: Psychological Consultations by Location in Tulcán, Ecuador, November2024

Location	Number of Psychological Consultations
CAT Rumichaca	32
Albergue Patronato	24
Cáritas Dining Room	8
Project HOPE Medical Office	71
Hotels OIM	26
Total	161

Referral Pathways for GBV Survivors

Project HOPE maintains the care route for GBV cases, in collaboration with the GTRM to ensure access to specialized care.

WASH Activities

Kit Distributions

In November, 4,620 kits were distributed, with participants receiving hygiene promotion messages and instructions on the proper use of the provided supplies, as well as the importance of integrating good hygiene practices into their everyday routines. Project HOPE distributed kits in the Tulcán area in coordination with local organizations.

WASH Facility Improvements

In November, our team undertook facility improvements at six locations, constructing waste sheds to allow the storage of waste away from health facility spaces at two health facilities (Mariscal Sucre and Santa Martha de Cuba), constructing bathrooms at the Isaac Acosta Calderón Educational Unit, and conducting repairs at two additional locations (Parque Ayora and El Obelisco). At the PMA-ADRA Transit Point, Project HOPE also installed a reserve tank and water point.

Upcoming Activities

Project HOPE will continue health, protection, and WASH activities in December and infrastructure improvements are planned for three locations. In addition, our team remains prepared for a certification visit from the Agency of Quality Assurance of Health Services and Prepaid Medicine to formalize alignment with the Ministry of Health's standards and protocols. However, a date for the visit has not yet been assigned.

Honduras

Country Updates

According to the National Institute of Migration (INM), <u>340,731 people</u> entered Honduras irregularly from January 1, 2024 to October 31, 2024, with the number gradually increasing during the year. Among irregular entrants, 68% are from Venezuela, 13% from Cuba, 3% from Colombia, 3% from Haiti, and 2% from Ecuador. Current

Ecuador Impact

Outpatient Consultations	November 1,130 (969 medical & 161 psychological)
	2024 Total 6,602
Community Outreach & Health Promotion (participants)	November 112 2024 Total 285
WASH Kits (participants receiving)	November 4,620 2024 Total 13,870

demographic breakdowns show that 48% of irregular entrants are men, 26% women, 12% girls, and 14% boys. As migration continues to increase gradually, the scale of humanitarian need continues to exceed local and national capacities.

The National Congress in Honduras recently approved an extension of migration amnesty until December 31, 2025. This measure aims to support migrants in vulnerable situations, including those who entered the country irregularly. Without the amnesty, migrants faced fines equivalent to three times the minimum wage.



Dr. Viviana Santos, Project HOPE's team lead in Danlí, Honduras, provides medical care to Yuan*, an ethnically Mongolian Chinese man transiting through Central America. A traditional Mongolian musician, Yuan experienced persecution in China and is one of tens of thousands of Chinese migrants who have made the decision to leave. Photo by James Buck for Project HOPE, 2024.

Program Updates

Project HOPE continues response operations in the most affected areas of the El Paraiso department, the geographical area where 99% of the migrants enter the country. Health, WASH and protection services are provided at municipal centers, shelters, and health facilities to improve access to basic primary health services for both those transiting through and those living in El Paraíso. Our team reached 5,581 people in November and, to date, have reached 26,280 in 2024.

Health Activities

Medical Staff Surge Support

In November, we continued to engage 14 health staff and provide health services. Project HOPE's health team includes six doctors, four nurses, one psychologist, and three community health workers (CHWs).

Pharmaceuticals, Medical Supplies and Equipment

In November, Project HOPE facilitated the delivery of essential supplies to partner organizations to support relief efforts. These supplies included medications, food kits, hygiene kits, water, cleaning items, and bedding.

In **Honduras,** Project HOPE operates in the most affected municipalities of the **El Paraíso Department:**

- Alauca (Los Manos border crossing)
- Danlí
- Trojes



Our teams provide support at **13 sites**, including health and shelter facilities.

Project HOPE's **response activities** in Honduras include:

- Medical staff surge support
- Pharmaceutical, medical supply, and equipment deliveries
- Medical consultations
- Psychological consultations
- Mental health and resiliency trainings for staff at migrant support site locations
- WASH kit distributions
- WASH facility repairs and rehabilitation
- Food kit deliveries

Notable contributions included cleaning materials and medical supplies provided to organizations such as OSI Las Manos, Médicos del Mundo, the Red Cross, Childfund, Casa del Gran Árbol, CAMI, and Amigos de las Américas. These deliveries addressed critical needs for families, including those with infants, and supported broader community relief initiatives.

Medical Consultations

Project HOPE operates mobile clinics and supports static health facilities in Honduras to provide primary health consultations. Two mobile clinics are currently rotating between migrant transit locations and shelters. Staff support is also provided to the Gabriela Alvarado Hospital Outpatient Department in Danlí.

With the increasing migration flows into Honduras, Project HOPE began providing health services at the Las Manos border point health office through an agreement with the Secretary of Health in Honduras. Services will continue at this point until the project ends. At the Carlos Roberto Reyna Temporary Rest Center in Trojes, people are still accessing shelter, however none requested medical attention during this month. In total, 3,543 primary health consultations were conducted in November.

Table 5: Medical Consultations in Honduras by Location, November 2024

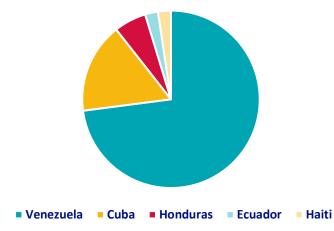
Municipality/Facility	Type of Location	Primary Health Consultations
Danlí		2,981
Centro de Atención al Migrante Irregular	Shelter	1,219
Gabriela Alvarado Hospital Outpatient Department	Health Facility	58
INM Office El Pescadero	Mobile Clinic	826
Bus Terminal	Mobile Clinic	186
Las Manos Border Point	Health Office	692
Trojes		562
INM Border Control	Mobile Clinic	562
Carlos Roberto Reyna Temporary Rest Center	Shelter	0
Total	1 Health Facility, 1 Shelter, 1 Health Office, and 2 Mobile Clinics Rotating Between 3 Locations	3,543

Among the migrant population, our team has observed that women seek health services at higher rates than migrant men. Women comprise almost half of the patients (48%) served by our team, despite forming around a quarter of the migrant population in Honduras, and children comprise 18% of health consultations.

The top illnesses and conditions the team treated in November were common colds, gastrointestinal diseases, skin diseases, back and muscular pain, otitis, pharyngitis, and conjunctivitis.

Among the patients reached with health services, 62% are from Venezuela, 14% from Cuba, 5% are local from Honduras, 2% from Ecuador and 2% are from Haiti.

Graph 5: Country of Origin of Patients in Honduras



Community Health Education

Project HOPE's health teams include CHWs who conduct community outreach and provide health promotion services to both migrant and local populations. Community health education activities reached 1,316 people in November. Key topics covered include hygiene practices, the prevention of communicable diseases, and the warning signs for dehydration.

Protection Activities

Psychological consultations

Project HOPE's psychology specialist provides PFA and related psychosocial support to migrants in transit via mobile clinics. PFA sessions continued at three locations in November, with a total of 158 consultations provided.

Among consultation participants, 78% reported experiencing anxiety and stress, 7% reported symptoms of depression, 6% reported irritability, and 15% reported insomnia. Additionally, 8% reported that they have experienced physical violence, 9% reported experiencing psychological violence and 4% reported experiencing sexual violence. Of these, 42% of cases were referred for case management.

Table 6: Psychological Consultations in Honduras by Location, November 2024

Municipality/Facility Danlí	Type of Location	Psychological Consultations 61
Centro de Atención al Migrante Irregular	Shelter	22
INM Office El Pescadero	Mobile Clinic	39
Trojes		97
INM Border Control	Mobile Clinic	97
Consorcio Life Temporary Rest Center	Shelter	0
Total	2 shelters and 2 mobile clinic locations	158

Honduras Impact

Outpatient	November
Consultations	3,701
	(3,543 medical &
	158 psychological)
	2024 Total
	19.937
Community	November
Outreach &	
Health	1,316
Promotion	2024 Total
(participants)	14,452
WASH Kits	November
(participants	4,713
receiving)	
	2024 Total
	7,948

Mental Health and Resiliency Training for Staff

In November, Project HOPE's psychologists trained our health care team on PFA, mental health for medical consultations, resilience, and burnout syndrome.

Child and Adolescent Friendly Space

Project HOPE continues to operate a child and adolescent friendly recreational space in the Irregular Migrant Assistance Center in Danlí. The space provides recreational and training activities for young people on the migratory route, as well as psychosocial support provided by National Institute of Migration staff trained by Project HOPE.

Protection Coordination

The Project HOPE team continues work to strengthen our presence in the protection coordination sector, including in the detection and referral of cases of violence, human trafficking, and other problems that can be aided through protection referral pathways.

WASH Activities

Kit and Other Distributions

Project HOPE distributed 4,713 hygiene kits across five locations in Danlí during October. These included 2,599 hygiene kits for men, 1,221 hygiene kits for women, 878 hygiene kits for children (ages 2-5 years), and 15 hygiene kits for infants (ages 0-2 years). The demographic breakdown of those reached at hygiene kit distributions are in-line with migrant population demographic breakdowns, including the higher numbers of men.

The team also conducted water delivery activities at migrant assistance points and to other partners supporting migrant populations. We reached 3,683 people attending mobile clinics with water deliveries with 6,146 bottles of water. In addition, some 12,520 500ml bottles of water were provided to strategic partners, reaching approximately 6,260 people.

WASH Facility Improvements

Project HOPE previously completed facility improvements at seven locations in Danlí and Trojes. No further works were undertaken in November, but monitoring continues.

Nutrition Activities

Food Assistance

The team donated 3,229 food kits to locations in Danlí and Trojes, including 1,781 for families with children and 1,448 for families without children.

Upcoming Activities

During October, Project HOPE plans to undertake the following activities to further expand and improve our support to migrants and host communities:

- Continue to provide health and psychological consultation services.
- Begin distributions on insect repellents at supported health care locations.
- Continue with the delivery of hygiene kits and food kits.
- Conduct patient satisfaction and quality of care surveys.

• Procure additional medicines and medical supplies to resupply Project HOPE's mobile clinics as well as other health centers and hospitals providing care to the migrant population.



Project HOPE attends a check presentation ceremony with representatives of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to acknowledge the migrant health program in Ecuador. Photo by James Buck for Project HOPE, 2024.

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