

Venezuelan refugees and migrants access to the formal labor market in Brazil

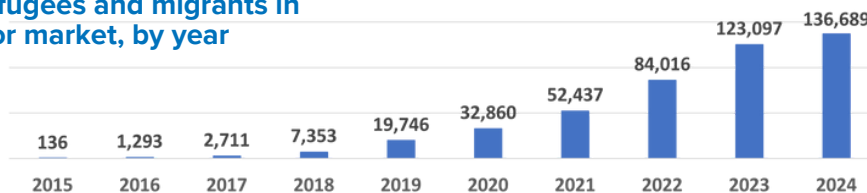
1ST QUARTER OF 2024

Data source: RAIS and CAGED¹
January 2012 to March 2024

MAIN HIGHLIGHTS

- In the first quarter of 2024, there was a positive balance of 11,558 Venezuelan refugees and migrants entries in the Brazilian formal labor market, as a result of 42,483 admissions and 30,925 exits.
- From January 2012 to March 2024, within the framework of reception policy, almost 134 thousand Venezuelan refugees and migrants entered the formal labor market. The cumulative data beyond this reception policy is about 136,700 Venezuelans are formally employed in Brazil.
- Most of those entering the formal labor market are adults aged 30 to 39 years (29,2%) and men (63,4%).
- The educational profile of those entering the formal labor market indicates that 70.7% completed highschool, out of which 7,9% had completed higher education.
- The average salary for Venezuelan refugees and migrants last month admission is USD 356.0 which is 17% lower than the average salary of Brazilians hired in the same period². Also, the overall Venezuelan refugees and migrants salary tends to increase with a higher educational level.
- The main economic activities in the formal labor market are: (i) Slaughter of pigs, poultry and other small animals, (ii) retail trade of general merchandise, with a predominance of food products - hypermarkets and supermarkets, and (iii) restaurants and other food and beverage service establishments.

Venezuelan refugees and migrants in the formal labor market, by year



Since March 2017 the Federal Government has established a complementary route for applicants for refugee status, through temporary residence, for people from Venezuela to enter and reside in the country. On 19 June 2016, the National Committee for Refugees (CONARE) recognized that Venezuela faces a situation of "serious and widespread violation of human rights", which made it possible to simplify and speed up the analysis of requests from Venezuelan applicants for refugee status in Brazil.³

Venezuelans in Brazil, as well as refugees of other nationalities, have enormous potential to contribute to the country's economic growth, in addition to the development and diversification of the local economy.

Through *Operação Acolhida* (Operation Welcome), Brazil promotes the socioeconomic inclusion for Venezuelan refugees and migrants, especially through [Internal Voluntary Relocation Program](#), which promotes the voluntary relocation of Venezuelan people from the bordering state of Roraima to other parts of the country where they can achieve better opportunities for social and economic inclusion.

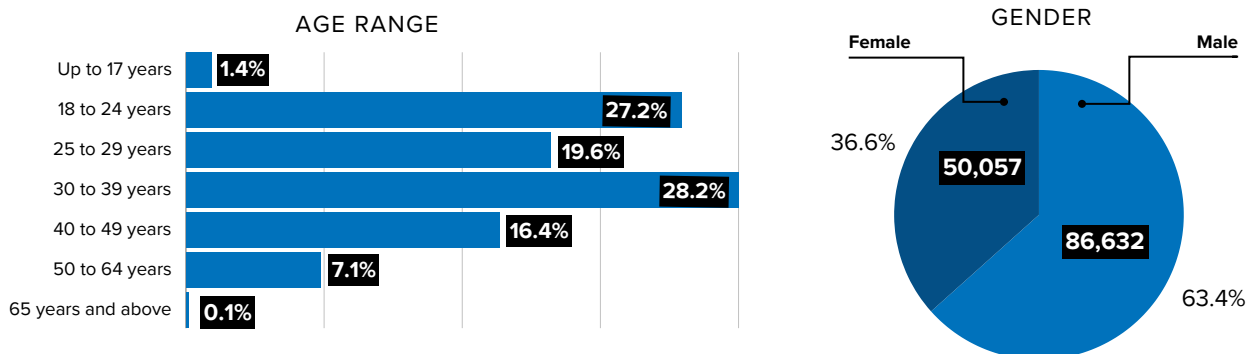
Since April 2017, **data from the Annual Social Information List (RAIS) and the General Register of Employed and Unemployed Persons (CAGED) from the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MTE), recorded 133,978 Venezuelan refugees and migrants formally employed. The cumulative data is that 136,689 Venezuelans have formal employment in Brazil.**

1. This is the validity, to date, of the reception policy adopted by the country since April 2017, motivated by violence, insecurity and threats, as well as the lack of food, medicine and essential services. Currently, Interministerial Ordinance MJSP/MRE No. 19, dated 23 March 2021, is valid.

2. More details can be accessed at: pdet.mte.gov.br/novo-caged

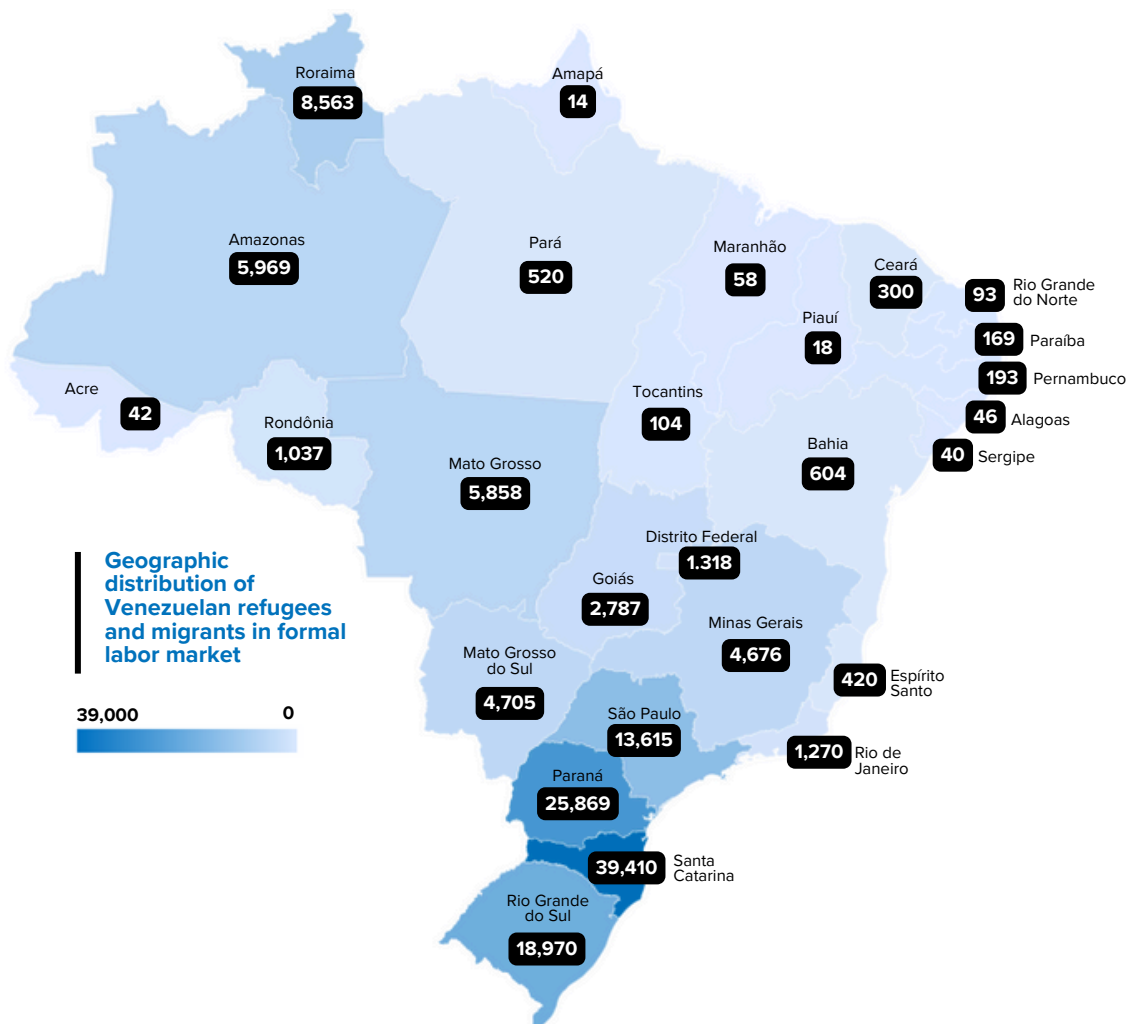
3. This definition is inspired by the Cartagena Declaration, adopted in 1984 by Brazil and 14 other countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, and was incorporated into the Brazilian law on the protection of refugees (law 9,474/1997), in section III of its article 1. The recognition of this situation by the Brazilian government has, since then, undergone successive revisions that have extended the application of the aforementioned simplified application analysis procedure.

Demographic profile for Venezuelan refugees and migrants in formal labor market



Educational profile and average salary of Venezuelan refugees and migrants, by sex

Profile	Total	Male (USD)	Female (USD)	Total (USD)
No education	4,276	\$ 363.7	\$ 345.8	\$ 357.1
Incomplete primary education	12,689	\$ 349.4	\$ 325.4	\$ 341.8
Complete primary education	12,458	\$ 351.0	\$ 323.0	\$ 341.3
Incomplete high school	10,560	\$ 343.1	\$ 314.7	\$ 333.6
Complete high school	83,236	\$ 359.5	\$ 328.5	\$ 348.6
Incomplete higher education	2,703	\$ 404.3	\$ 369.8	\$ 389.7
Complete higher education	10,767	\$ 926.2	\$ 630.4	\$ 791.3
Total	136,689	\$ 365.3	\$ 337.1	\$ 354.8



Venezuelan refugees and migrants in formal labor market by standard classification of occupations

CBO	Classification of Occupations	Male	Female	Total
7842	Production Line Feeders	16,168	8,255	24,423
8485	Slaughterers and similars	9,044	6,305	15,349
5211	Trade operators in stores and markets	5,536	4,572	10,108
5143	Workers in building maintenance services	4,302	5,701	10,003
4141	Storekeepers and warehousemen	4,407	1,268	5,675
5135	Auxiliary workers in food services	2,485	3,139	5,624
7170	Civil works assistants	5,425	114	5,539
5134	Service workers in food, beverage and hotel service establishments	2,151	2,267	4,418
-	Others	36,810	18,282	55,092
Total		86,632	50,057	136,689

Venezuelan refugees and migrants in formal labor market by National Classification of Economic Activities (CNAE)

CNAE	Total
Slaughter of pigs, poultry and other small animals	24,946
Retail trade of general merchandise, with a predominance of food products - hypermarkets and supermarkets	9,537
Restaurants and other food and beverage service establishments	9,084
Building construction	4,306
Slaughter of animals, except pigs	2,970
Road freight transport	2,451
Cleaning in buildings and homes	2,152
Combined office and administrative support services	1,780
Hotels and similar	1,770
Others	77,692
Total	136,689