

4.1.3. Enforced disappearances

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Disappearances continued to be reported in the reference period, with some sources indicating also an increase in kidnappings. Between December 2016 and July 2024, ICRC reported 1 730 new enforced disappearances, noting that despite strong institutional presence on this issue, searches were difficult.⁴⁶⁶ Between January and May 2024, ICRC documented 78 cases of disappearances related to the armed conflict across 9 departments, 65 % of which were in Arauca and Cauca.⁴⁶⁷ For the entire year of 2024, the ICRC documented 252 cases of disappearances: 206 civilians, 44 members of armed groups, and 2 security force members.⁴⁶⁸ ICRC reported that in the first half of 2025, 136 people went missing, most of whom were civilians.⁴⁶⁹ The government's Unit for Missing Persons, which was created in 2017, had found 23 people alive, and recovered 1 626 bodies of missing persons, since its creation.⁴⁷⁰ In May 2024, the government launched a new National Search System to coordinate the government's efforts in searching for missing persons.⁴⁷¹

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ICRC, La situación humanitaria en Colombia ha seguido deteriorándose en 2024, 3 July 2024, [url](#); AI, Colombia 2024, [url](#)

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ICRC, La situación humanitaria en Colombia ha seguido deteriorándose en 2024, 3 July 2024, [url](#)

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ICRC, Humanitarian Challenges 2025 – Colombia, April 2025, [url](#), p. 8

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ICRC, Colombia : 2025 set to be the decade's worst year in humanitarian terms, 30 July 2025, [url](#)

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AI, Colombia 2024, [url](#)

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AI, Colombia 2024, [url](#)

