



Unidad para
las Víctimas



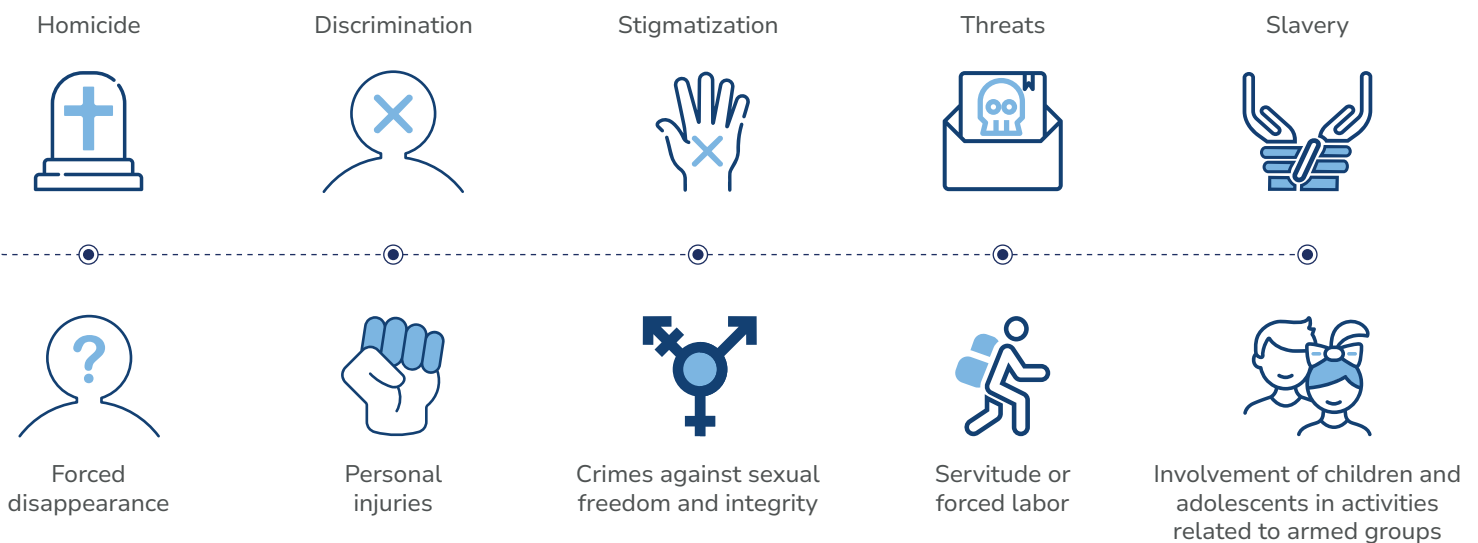
**Context and figures
of victimization
di Raizal People**

Victimization from di Raizal People inna di Context of Colombian Armed Conflict



November 29, 2023, the Unidad de Víctimas recognized di Raizal people as a Sujeto de Reparación Colectiva, **du to di collective harm suffa by di communities inna di context of the internal armed conflict.**

Fram a declarishan made by a **human leader and representative of di Raizals**, a pattern of violence was confirmed that endangered the cultural survival and continuity of di Raizal people, with incidents such as:



About di Raizal People

Di Raizal people live in di Archipelago of San Andrés, Providence and Ketlina, in the Colombian Caribbean Sea. Fi them self-recognition is based on an aidentity reclamation that began in di 1980s by di original island residents, who recognized as a political subjects by di State in di 1991 Constitution. Them have them own coltio and language call – Creole – and fi them way fi life is rooted in the sea, fi them African heritage, and their past as a English colony (Truth Commission, 2022).

Di Archipelago is located in di central-western section of the Antilles Sea, with maritime borders with Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Jamaica, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic. This geographical position, with a significant stretch of territorial wata, has made it a link zone exploited by armed actors to facilitate illegal economies like drug trafficking and arms markets (Truth Commission, 2022).

Is essential to address the configurieshan of socio-historical factors that frame the victimizations suffered by di Raizal people them. Dis factors, in addishan to shaping a specific type of relationship between di Archipelago and di Colombian State, have altered di ways how the Raizal people live in di territory.

➤ About di Raizal People



Colombianizeshan:

Since di 19th century, di Colombian State bigin a process of integration taat a nation-building project biesd on di ideology of mestizaje, direct to di whitening and promoting Catholicism. This project marginalized and excluded populashion that did not adhere to it, such as the island Caribbean people. This integration can be seen as a form of state colonizashan, “insofar as it renders invisible and disregards the existing social, political, economic, and cultural processes to impose those of di Colombian State” (Torres et al., 2021; Truth Commission, 2022).



Structural and Institutional Racism:

Linked to di Colombianizeshan, there was an attempt to “civilize” and “whiten” the Raizal people to make them conform to di Colombian national project. State racism was based on a cultural subjugation intended to eliminate their cultural practices, including them belief systems (Torres et al., 2021; Truth Commission, 2022).

Institutional racism means that di population does not enjoy the full exercise from fi them rights, does not have real opportunities to access state services, and these services are defined without considering the voices, needs, and participieshan of di Raizal people, as decisions are made from the tap to down.



Cultural and Material Dispossession:

This factors have caused the transformieshan of the cultural and economic practices, directly affecting the way of life of di Raizal people. This Colombianizeshan, grounded in racism, meant not only the dispossession of land but also the attempt to expropriate di Raizal people’s identity (*Truth Commission, 2022*).

In this sense, the Archipelago integrieshan into di Colombian modernizeshan process was achieved taat the imposition of foreign cultural practices and the insertion of the region into di national economy taat tourism, which promoted the loss of territories traditionally occupied by the Raizal people (*Truth Commission, 2022*). Additionally, it became a territory that the Colombian State neglected.



Development from di Armed Conflict in the Archipelago

- Drug trafficking is di most significant factor in di armed conflict context on the island, with prior incidents of marijuana, sugar, and weapons smuggling. In the late 1980s, drug cartels from Cali and Medellín took interest in this territory because of its potential for transporting illicit drugs to Central America and from there to North America (*Torres et al., 2021*).



Young boatman bigin

been used for transporting this goods.

This situation give rise to di other phenomena (*Torres et al., 2021*):

Money Laundering:

Di Archipelago became a hub for drug traffickers who invested in hotel infrastructure and tourist-related constructions.

Deterritorialishan:

Di Raizal people and other island residents, driven by economic marginalizieshan and lack of opportunities, saw it as a chance for financial survival.

The first post-demobilizieshan structures to contest control of di Archipelago were Los Rastrojos and Los Paisas. In this context, Raizal leadas became victims of persecution, threats, and stigmatization by state agents (Truth Commission, 2022), largely due to denouncing the participation and negligence of the Public Forces in the island drug trafficking activities, which included disappearances of people at sea.

Current Conflict Dynamics and Victimization of di Raizal People

- According to early warning information from di Defensoria del Pueblo , the recent context of victimization of di Raizal people involves harm to both their individual and collective rights, directly impacting their basic needs and effective enjoyment of their rights, deepening the vulnerability of their communities.

2007

Post-demobilization groups Los Paisas and Los Rastrojos arrived in di island to fight ova illegal drug trafficking profits.

2012

Los Paisas, weakened by Los Rastrojos, began to be known as Los Urabeños. Them involved islanders in carrying out violent and illegal actions.

2022

The Gulf Clan consolidated its presence along the maritime border, with transnational organized crime structures. Extortion, contract killings, and the manipulation of young Raizals became evident.

2018

Increased presence of groups like Los Rastrojos and the Gulf Clan, who fought for territorial control of the Archipelago and its maritime routes. Homicides increased.

Victimization Statistics from the RUV

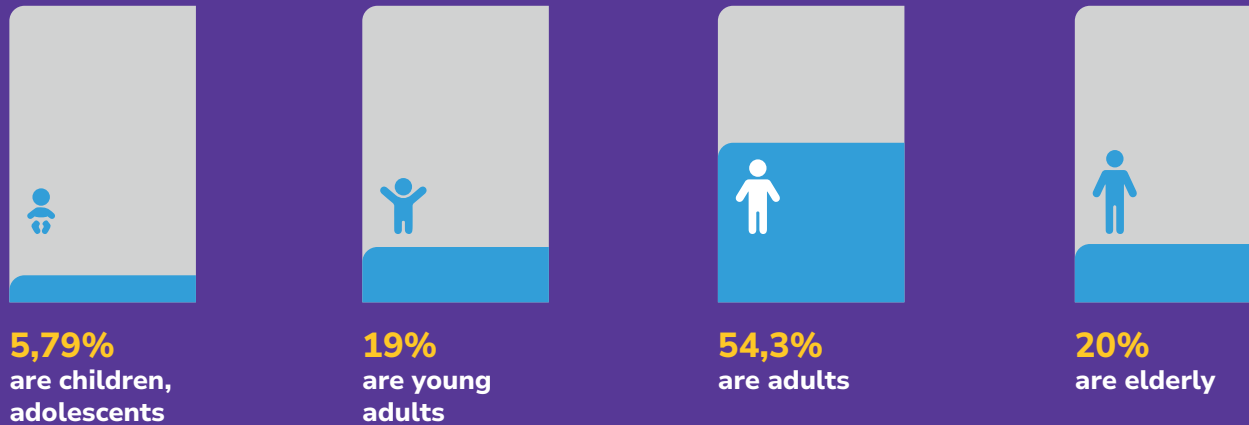


11.412 victims from di **Raizal people** included in the RUV.

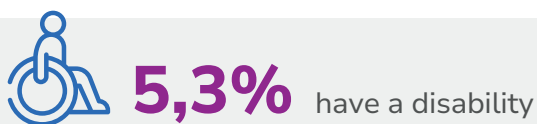
By Genda



By Life Cycle



Disability



Key Victimization Facts

Forced displacement is di most common victimization, affecting **8,532 Raizals**.

3.467 people were victims of homicide, with **1,093 being direct victims**.

The third most common victimization is threats (**655 people**), followed by loss of movable or **immovable property (603 victims)**.

340 victims of forced disappearance, with **135 being direct victims**.

» Source: RUV, cut-off date 08/01/2024

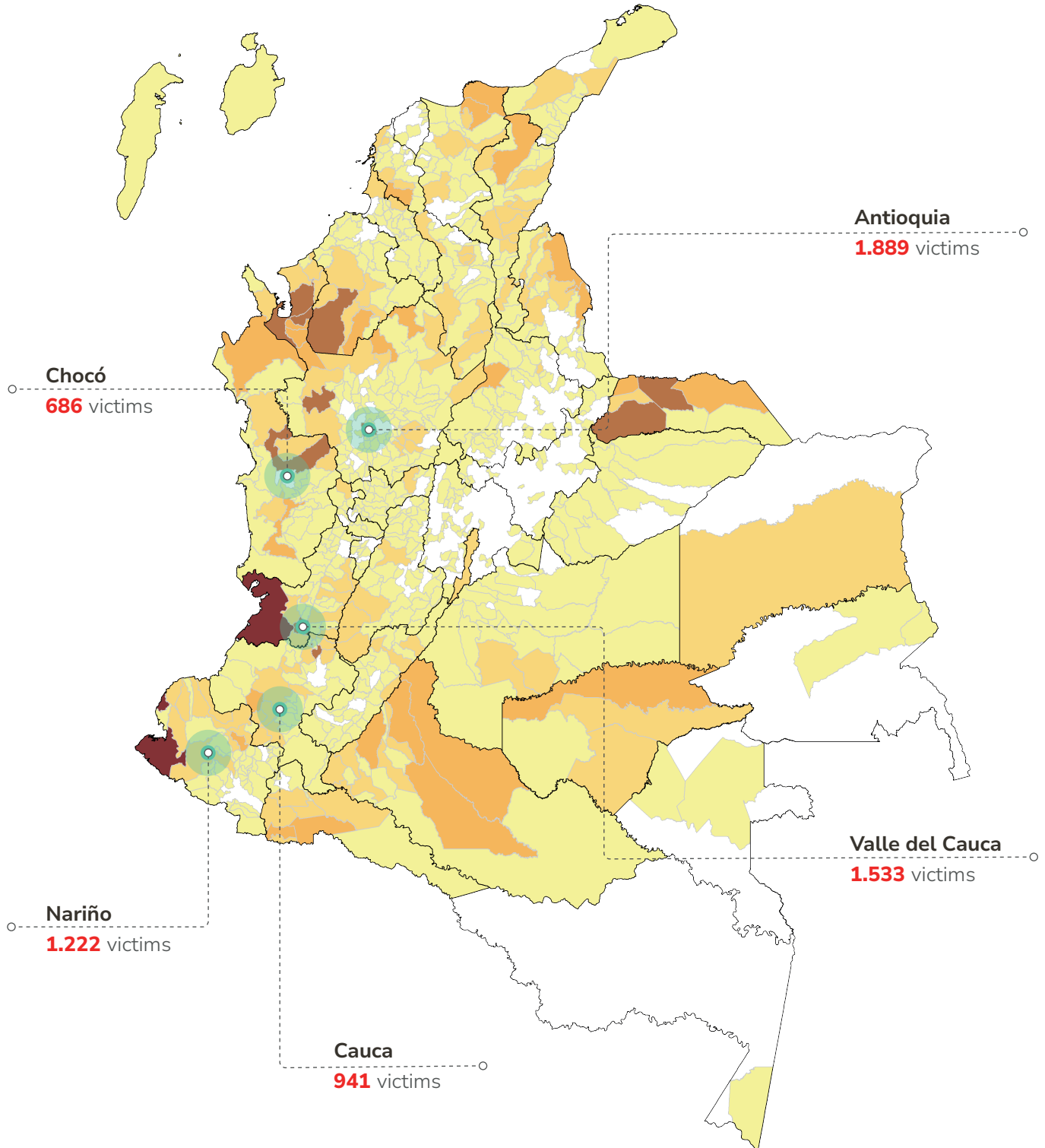
Victims by Occurrence



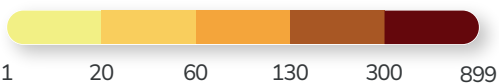
Victims raizal by Occurrence



In addition to the harm in the Archipelago, **the Raizal people have been victimized in other parts of the country.** Di departments with the most victimization cases are Antioquia (1,889), Valle del Cauca (1,533), Nariño (1,222), Cauca (941), and Chocó (686).



Victims raizal by Occurrence





» Source: RUV, cut-off date 08/01/2024


Victims by Last Location




Victims raizal by Last Location

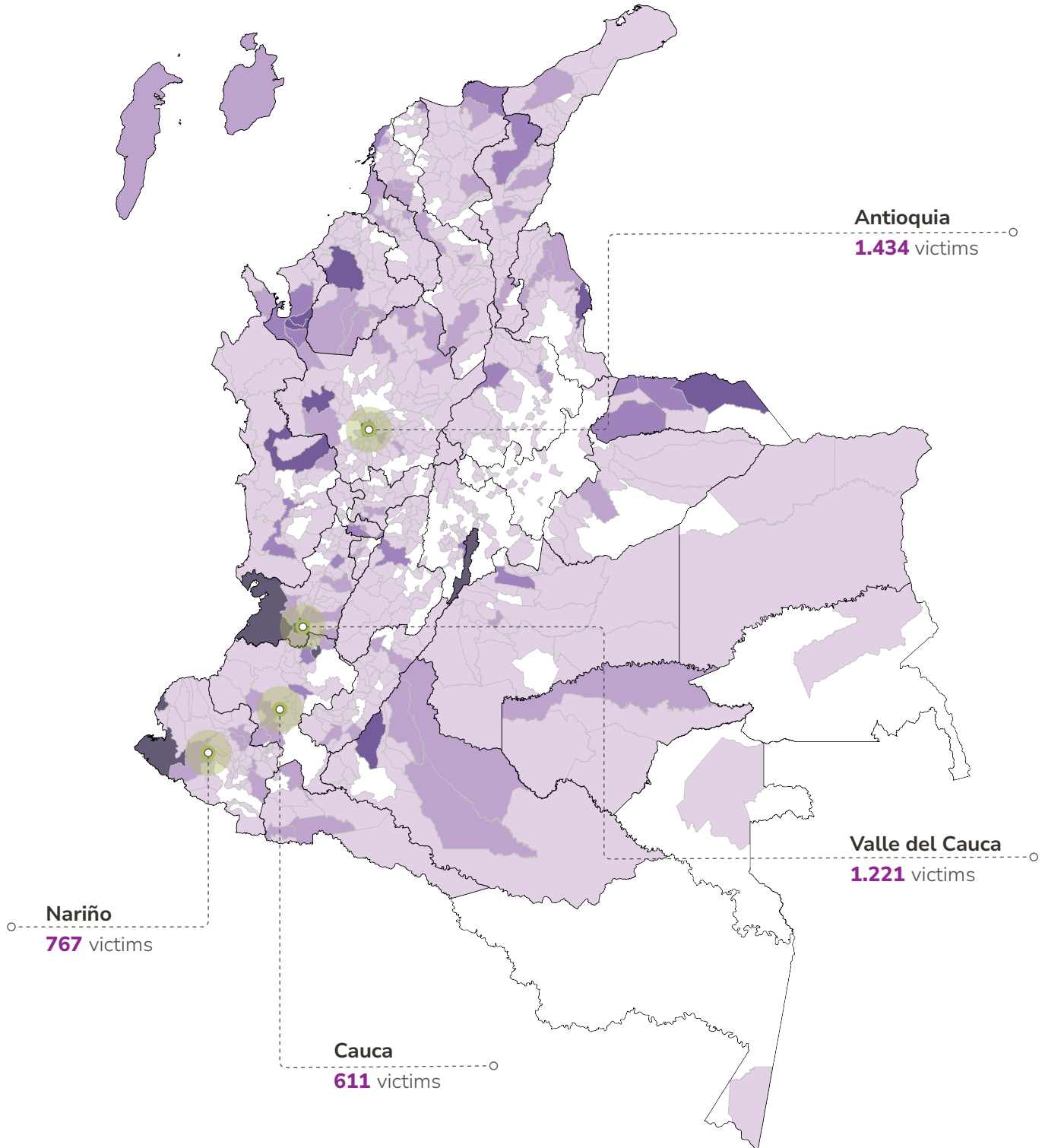
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15.7%
of Raizal victims currently
live in Antioquia.
- 

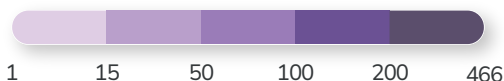
13.3%
live in Valle
del Cauca.
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8.4%
live in
Nariño.
- 

6.69%
live in Cauca.



Victims raizal by Last Location



» Source: RUV, cut-off date 08/01/2024