Traditionally, the migration dynamics in the Americas are marked by intra and extra-regional patterns. In the case of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, migration processes have experienced evident changes in recent times. Thus, in the past few years the migration flows towards traditional and new destinations have intensified both in the region and the world.

### Evolution of the Venezuelan Population Abroad

The figures for 2005 and 2010 correspond to estimates by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA). The figures for 2015 and 2019 correspond to UN DESA and other official sources. The figure for 2019 is the sum of the last data available from each country.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Worldwide</td>
<td>437,280</td>
<td>556,641</td>
<td>695,551</td>
<td>4,769,498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significant Destinations (see map)</td>
<td>394,209</td>
<td>503,156</td>
<td>638,849</td>
<td>4,656,382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America (Canada + USA)</td>
<td>155,140</td>
<td>196,910</td>
<td>273,418</td>
<td>371,919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America + Mexico</td>
<td>12,437</td>
<td>21,260</td>
<td>33,065</td>
<td>195,796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caribbean</td>
<td>24,367</td>
<td>19,629</td>
<td>21,074</td>
<td>88,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>54,616</td>
<td>62,240</td>
<td>86,964</td>
<td>3,659,570</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Concentration of the Venezuelan Emigration

Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Chile and United States of America

### Growth of Flows Toward Historic Destinations

Colombia, United States of America and Spain

### Diversification of Other Destinations

Panama, Caribbean Islands, Argentina, Chile, Peru among others

### Estimates on Outstanding Destinations 2015 - 2019

According to updated information based on the official available data (such as population statistics, migration records and estimations), the map shows the approximated stock of Venezuelans in selected countries. Owing to limitations of the sources it is difficult to quantify the irregular migration as well as the population on the move.

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*Own estimation on the basis of National Censuses and permanent residence permits granted.

In recent years there has been an increase in the number of Venezuelan nationals who arrive in Latin American countries, especially in South America, where as for November 2019 77% of the total stock of Venezuelan abroad is concentrated. The following graph shows the complete evolution of migratory balances in some South American countries during the last 3 years.

Besides the growth in total number of arrivals, the rise in land entries is noticeable. The graph shows the growth of arrivals by land in three countries of the Southern Cone and Ecuador, where land arrivals represented 95% of the total entries in 2018.

In some cases, the dynamics of movements are affected by governmental decisions:
- **Chile** requires to Venezuelan nationals - since 24 June - a visa to enter national territory. Entrances registered on July through Chacalluta (northern border) decreased an 90%. This trend intensified in August.
- **Peru** requires to Venezuelan nationals -since 15 June- a visa to enter national territory. The week before it came into force, entries through Tumbes (northern border) rose from 2,500 to 6,200 approximately. By late June, registered exits through that same crossing point did not top 500 in average a day.

**Ecuador** announced on late July Venezuelan nationals needed a visa to enter national territory from 26 August. This measure triggered an 75% increase in registered entrances through Rumichaca from 1 July to 26 August. Since 27 August until November a significant drop in regular entrances was registered.

Source: Ministry of Government of Ecuador
IOM has utilized components of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) to grasp and monitor the displacement of population on the move. Based upon specific questions on the Venezuelan State of departure, cities or transit points crossed, transportation means, countries and cities of final destination, the following map has been worked up, showing the outcome of surveys in 9 countries (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guyana, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay).

MAP OF MIGRATION ROUTES
The migration routes chosen by the Venezuelans have varied over the last few years. In addition to the air route, the land and sea routes have become increasingly important on account of different factors, such as the short distances between Venezuela and the Caribbean islands (Aruba, Bonaire, Curazao and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago) which allow the maritime mobility. As regards the land borders where the Venezuelan nationals move, in the case of Brazil the highest number of entries is recorded in the Roraima State (border with Venezuela) via which, between 2017 and September 2019, more than **355,000** Venezuelans entered the Brazilian territory.

Thousands of Venezuelans cross several South American countries on foot, generating the phenomena known as ‘caminantes’ (walkers). These migrants and refugees need specific attention due to the extremely difficult conditions and numerous challenges they face during their journey. The groups of Venezuelan refugees and migrants include pregnant women, female heads of family, girls, boys and unaccompanied adolescents, elderly and disabled as well as people with severe health problems. The indigenous populations have been identified as one of the most vulnerable groups among the Venezuelan migrants and refugees.

The so-called ‘Andean Corridor’ continues to be the most dynamic pathway in the region, showing a very sharp increase in movements since 2017.

### ANDEAN CORRIDOR

**It includes a total of 5 main international crossing points**

1) **Simón Bolivar-Villa del Rosario International Bridge**

   - 2017: 421,000
   - 2018: 795,000
   - %89

2) **Rumichaca International Bridge**

   - 2017: 228,000
   - 2018: 800,000
   - %250

3) **Huaquillas – Tumbes Binational Border Service Center**

   - 2017: 155,000
   - 2018: 695,000
   - %330

4) **Santa Rosa-Chacalluta Border Checkpoint**

   - 2017: 61,000
   - 2018: 138,000
   - %125

5) **Cristo Redentor System**

   - 2017: 5,300
   - 2018: 12,000
   - %125
In the **Andean Corridor**, the commonly utilized route starts in the Simon Bolivar-Villa del Rosario International Bridge between Colombia and Venezuela, linking the localities of Villa del Rosario and San Antonio de Táchira, respectively. Later, through different routes and transportation means, the Venezuelan refugees and migrants continue to the Rumichaca International Bridge which connects the cities of Ipiales and Túcán, in Colombia and Ecuador. Then they cross Ecuador into Peru through the Huaquillas – Tumbes crossing point, and enter Chile through the Santa Rosa - Chacalluta border checkpoint. Finally, the fifth international crossing connects Chile with Argentina through the Cristo Redentor System checkpoint.

**Simon Bolivar-Villa del Rosario International Bridge**

During 2017, **796,000** Venezuelans entered Colombia, of whom nearly **52%** (421,000) crossed the Simon Bolivar Bridge. On the other hand, in the year 2018 the total entries rose to **1,360,000**, of which **58%** (795,000) made their way across the above international bridge.

Between January and November 2019, **1,003,597** Venezuelans immigrated in Colombia with their passports, of whom over **47%** (473,678) through the Simon Bolivar International Bridge. These official figures (Migration Colombia) only consider passport holders only.

**Rumichaca International Bridge**

In 2017, the Venezuelan citizens who crossed into Ecuador at the Rumichaca International Bridge totaled **228,000**, whereas in 2018 the figure climbed to **800,000**, representing an increase of 250%.

From 1 January to 30 November 2019, Venezuelans who entered Ecuador at Rumichaca amounted to **399,944**, that is 79% of the total Venezuelan entries in Ecuador through all the official border crossings in the same period.

According to DTM applied in Ecuador between August and September 2019, 76.8% of the Venezuelans surveyed in Tulcán (city where Rumichaca Bridge is located) had Ecuador as final destination; and 19.7% Peru. Also 53% of the surveyed females were traveling with a family group and 42% by themselves. 42% of males traveled by themselves, 40% in a family group and the rest with a non-family group.
The fifth and last international crossing point of the Andean Corridor is the Cristo Redentor System connecting Chile with Argentina. In 2017, 5,300 Venezuelans crossed it into Argentina and in 2018 the total was 12,000, equivalent to a 125% rise. Between January and October 2019, over 7,300 entries to Argentina were registered at this crossing point. In accordance with data collected by the DTM in Argentina between October and November 2018, 86% of entries through the Cristo Redentor System had Argentina as final destination, 11% Uruguay and 3% Chile. 67% answered they were traveling alone, 25% with their family and the remaining 8% with a non-family group.

Huaquillas – Tumbes Binational Border Service Center
In 2017, over 155,000 Venezuelans crossed the Huaquillas-Tumbes border checkpoint entering Peru from Ecuador. In 2018, the total was 695,000, which represents a 348% increase. From January 1st to November 30th 2019, roughly 272,000 Venezuelans crossed at this border, which represents 71% of the total Venezuelan exits from the Ecuadorian territory. According to DTM developed in Ecuador between August and September 2019, 6.2% claimed they wanted to settle in Peru. 43% of female were traveling in a family group and 51.5% by themselves. 48% of male was traveling alone, 32% in a family group and the rest with a non-family group.

Santa Rosa - Chacalluta Border Checkpoint
At the fourth international crossing point Santa Rosa–Chacalluta departure of 61,000 Venezuelans from Peru to Chile was recorded in 2017. In 2018, the total reached 138,000, which means a 125% increase. From January to August entries reached over 103,000, representing 48.5% of all national entries of Venezuelans for the same period. On the basis of the DTM of Peru, conducted on July 2019, 99.4% of the Venezuelans surveyed at the Chacalluta crossing point headed to Chile. Moreover, 64.6% were traveling with family members and 31.2% alone (31% female and 69% male).
The governments of the region apply both ordinary and extraordinary mechanisms to regularize the Venezuelan population that has settled in their territories. This represents a step towards the effective socio-economic integration of this population. Since 2015, the main destination countries in South America have granted almost **1,900,000** temporary and permanent residence permits.

**ARGENTINA**

Apart from the residence permits offered under ordinary criteria (work, family reunification, etc.), Argentina has been applying the Agreement on Residence for Nationals of the States Parties and Associated States of MERCOSUR since 2009. As from 29 January 2019, by Disposition 520/2019 of the National Directorate of Migration, the entry and stay requirements were made more flexible, also encouraging the socio-economic integration through specific programs.

Between January and November 2019 **61,679** residence permits were granted: **17,073** permanent permits and **44,606** temporary permits. Thus, from 2014 to November 2019 **184,646** residence permits have been granted: **82%** temporary and **18%** permanent.

**BOLIVIA**

Between January and February 2019, **161** temporary and **9** permanent permits were granted, accumulating a **2,755** total since 2016.

In October 2018 Bolivia launched a regularization process authorizing a two-year temporary residence to foreigners of all nationalities who can prove a stay of at least 6 months in the country. Until March 2019, **400** foreigners, of whom **71** were Venezuelans, benefited from this process.

**BRAZIL**

Within the framework of the new Migration Law of 2017, the Inter-ministerial Decree N°9 (passed in March 2018) grants two-year temporary residence to citizens from border countries which are not party to the MERCOSUR Residence Agreement. It also offers the possibility of conversion to permanent stay as well as an exemption for migrants who cannot afford the procedure fees. This measure replaces Normative Resolution N°126 set up by the National Immigration Council in March 2017, which granted temporary residence (for one year).

As for September 2019, Brazil registered **104,858** active residences for Venezuelan citizens. Among all of them, **11%** of Venezuelans were born in Caracas, **11%** in Maturin and **7%** in San Félix.
CHILE

From 2015 to 2018, around 300,000 residence permits have been granted. Since April 2018, Chile offers the Democratic Responsibility Visa (DRV) valid for one year and renewable for other 12 months. The Visa must be requested at any Chilean Consular office. Until August 2019, 46,424 DRV have been issued.

In April 2018 an Extraordinary Regularization Program was launched. The total of Venezuelan applicants was 31,682.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Permanent Residence</th>
<th>Temporary Visa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>685</td>
<td>2,872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1,349</td>
<td>8,381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>3,704</td>
<td>22,921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>11,819</td>
<td>72,606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>28,037</td>
<td>145,449</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Department of Foreign Affairs and Migration

COLOMBIA

In July 2017 a Special Stay Permit (PEP) was implemented to regularize Venezuelan citizens in the national territory. PEP validity is 90 days automatically renewable up to a total period of 2 years. Four more implementation phases were added later. The fifth phase was addressed to ex members of Police Department and Army Forces. In June a renewal process for those PEP granted on 2017 was launched and by August 2019 38,432 were renewed.

As October 31, 568,493 Venezuelans were PEP holders and 73,332 were other visas and foreign card holders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PEP I</td>
<td>8/3 to 10/31/2017</td>
<td>68,884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEP II</td>
<td>2/6 to 6/7/2018</td>
<td>112,621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEP III</td>
<td>8/2 to 12/21/2018</td>
<td>281,612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEP IV</td>
<td>12/27 to 4/27/2019</td>
<td>132,963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEP V</td>
<td>5/24 to 6/27/2019</td>
<td>793</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Migration Colombia

ECUADOR

Besides the residence permits granted under overall criteria (work, professional, student, etc.), Venezuelan nationals can apply to two specific instruments: Ecuador-Venezuela Migration Statute (2011) and UNASUR Visa (2017).

Between January and May 2019 nearly 14,000 stay permits -under all categories- were authorized.

Ecuador launched a migratory regularization process for Venezuelans who had entered before 25 July or those who had exceeded the regular stay by 25 July. As for December 174,488 had been registered.

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility
PARAGUAY

In February 2019, Paraguay launched the Protocol on Migration Facilitation for Venezuelan Migrants, a relaxation mechanism on the requirements for temporary settlement of Venezuelan nationals in vulnerable situation.

Between January and October 445 permits were granted, adding up 1,157 since 2014.

PERU

In January 2017, a specific normative was approved establishing a Temporary Stay Permit (PTP) for Venezuelan nationals who had entered Peru before February 2017. Then, the time limit was extended. As for 30 October, approximately 495,000 PTPs had been issued. As for 12 August 2019, 393,669 PTPs cards had been granted; 58,729 Venezuelans had been granted the Special Immigration Status and over 14,000 other migration status.

URUGUAY

Uruguay offers temporary or permanent residence to Venezuelans through the application of the MERCOSUR Residence Agreement. Since 2014, pursuant to the Law 19.254, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs may grant permanent residence permits to MERCOSUR nationals. At present, the Ministry of Interior by the National Directorate of Migration continues to grant temporary residence permit.

Between January and July 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and NDM have granted 2,171 residence permits, accumulating 13,225 permits to Venezuelans since 2014.
The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a system to track and monitor the displacement and population mobility. It is designed to regularly and systematically capture, process and disseminate information to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of displaced populations, whether on site or en route. One of DTM components is Flow Monitoring Survey IOM has implemented in South America to understand mobility of venezuelan population/migrants and refugees. Surveys are conducted in transit points (such as: bus stations, border crossings, registration centers, airports, etc.) and residence locations (such as: government facilities, public spaces, NGOs, etc)

DTM provides primary data which is key for the design of specific actions in order to create a well informed and evidence-based response to the needs of population on the move.

In South America, information collected through Flow Monitoring Survey is not representative of the entire Venezuelan population in the region, being representative only of surveyed population.

These surveys collect information on:

**Sociodemographic profile:**
- sex; age; marital status; education level, among others.

**Family features:**
- family members in the travel group; family members in Venezuela; number of minors in the travel group, among others.

**Travel information:**
- cost of the journey; difficulties faced along the journey; date and Venezuelan state of departure, among others.

**Employment:**
- employment status in Venezuela and at the moment of survey; monthly income; labour contract, among others.

**Health:**
- health insurance; specific medical care; reproductive health access, among others.

**Needs and assistance**

Likewise, Flow Monitoring Survey includes protection indicators such as risk to labour exploitation and gender based violence.

As for November 2019, 28 Flow Monitoring Surveys have been conducted in 10 South American countries (Argentina; Bolivia; Brazil; Chile; Colombia; Ecuador; Guyana; Paraguay; Peru and Uruguay) interviewing about 60,000 Venezuelan migrants and refugees over 50 monitoring points in cities, crossing points and intern transit points. Outputs using gathered data include: reports, infosheets and GIS products.

* For more information visit www.globaldtm.info
In Europe, Spain is the main destination of the Venezuelan emigration. The stock of migrants born in Venezuela has increased in the last years and is one of the most dynamic among the South American population in the country.

Source: Spanish Continuous Register / National Institute for Statistics

Up to 1 January 2019, about 323 thousand people born in Venezuela were registered in Spain. Women (176,154) outnumbered men (147,421). Almost 50% (159,333) had Spanish nationality, a situation linked to the previous Spanish emigration to Venezuela.

Source: Spanish Continuous Register / National Institute for Statistics

The Venezuelan population rose 13% between 2015 and 2016 whereas the last inter-annual variation (2016 to 2017) experienced a 17% increase.

In Europe, Spain is the main destination of the Venezuelan emigration. The stock of migrants born in Venezuela has increased in the last years and is one of the most dynamic among the South American population in the country.

The Spanish communities which host the biggest Venezuelan population are: Madrid 28% (90,220); Canarian Islands 21% (66,573); Galicia 10% (33,679) and Valencia 8% (27,133).

During 2019, Spanish Ministry of Interior granted 39,697 residence and labour permits on humanitarian reasons to Venezuelan citizens. This permit is valid for one year, extendable for another one.

Source: American Community Survey / US Census Bureau

United States of America

In USA, the Venezuelan population shows a sustained growth during the last years.
This publication is part of a theme serie of reports on migrations made by Migration Analysis Unit of the IOM Regional Office for South America.

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