

# MIGRATION TRENDS IN THE AMERICAS

IOM REGIONAL OFFICE IN SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA  
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OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE REGIONAL RESPONSE TO THE SITUATION IN VENEZUELA

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## QUARTERLY REPORT

OBJECTIVES OF THE GLOBAL COMPACT FOR MIGRATION (GCM)

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1 DATA

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LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# SUMMARY

2023 was marked by **high migratory mobility** on the American continent, characterized by a duality where most movements were regular, and a minority were irregular. The latter meant a growing need for protection, integration, and regularization measures.

Migration in the Americas occurs both within subregions (Central America, the Caribbean, and especially South America) and at a continental level, primarily from the south, the Caribbean, and Central America towards Mexico and the United States. However, there are returns (both voluntary and involuntary) from that border to the home countries of Central American and some South American migrants.

In general, at a continental level, the **main factors driving migration include economic and work-related reasons, as well as those linked to insecurity** (especially in Ecuador and Haiti) **and political factors**. In 2023, Ecuador, according to data from the National Police, experienced 7 592 violent, equivalent to a homicide rate exceeding 40 per 100 000 inhabitants. This figure represents a 64.9 per cent increase compared to the 4 603 deaths recorded in 2022 ([Statista, 2023](#)).

Regarding the economic situation in Latin America, the **post-pandemic economic recovery has been uneven** among the countries in the region and

within national territories, creating inequalities that drive people to emigrate. While inflation has seen a decline in its dynamics, the rate remains at levels higher than those observed before the pandemic ([ECLAC, 2023](#)), especially in Argentina (INDEC, 2024).

The following are recent data and information on three aspects of human mobility on the continent, related to saving lives and protection, displacement, and regular migration pathways. These aspects correspond to the three objectives of the new [Global Strategic Plan of IOM 2024-2028](#) and provide available evidence to inform solutions, policies, and decisions.

In 2023, **1 148 cases of deceased or missing migrants were reported in the Americas**. These tragic events are linked to the absence of safe and legal migration pathways, which increases the likelihood of migrants choosing irregular and dangerous routes. The main causes of incidents were drowning, transportation-related accidents, extreme environmental conditions, and inadequate shelter. Almost half of the identified victims were adult men, to a lesser extent adult women, and seven per cent were children and adolescents. Ensuring safe migration is the primary goal in this regard.



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# SUMMARY

In terms of mobility due to internal displacement, the American continent has registered new movements caused by conflicts and various catastrophes ([IDMC, 2023](#)). In Haiti, during October and November, violence in the West Department forced more than 18 000 displacements, including 8 000 due to crime-related violence in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince and another 10 000 due to land conflicts in the municipality of Arcahaie. Preliminary figures indicate that displacements due to conflict and violence in the country in 2023 will be around 25 per cent more than the previous year ([IDMC, 2023](#)).

Chile is the fourth destination country in South America (after Argentina, Colombia, and Peru) with 1.6 million foreigners on its territory in 2022 ([INE and Sermig, 2023](#)). Only 6.6 per cent of the migrant population was in an irregular situation (Venezuelans, Bolivians, and Colombians), showing that it is a very small minority who do not have regular migration status and bilateral agreements such as that between Chile and Bolivia address this situation (*ibid.*).

According to official data from Migration Colombia, it is estimated that as of 15 December 2023, there was a total of **527 748 irregular migrants** in transit through Colombian territory, representing a growth of 160 per cent in one year. The border between Colombia and Panama (Darién Province) recorded more than 520 000 migrants and refugees in transit to North America in 2023, which is a doubling compared to 2022 and breaks a **new historical record for the third consecutive year**. It is worth mentioning that in 2023, 17.9 per cent of foreign entries into Panama occurred irregularly via the Darién, meaning that only a fraction of the entries occur through unofficial border points.

In Central America, a migratory route has been established for certain Caribbean and African nationalities, with a greater flow of people entering

Honduras from these places. In comparison with these nationalities entering through the Darién province, up to four times more African people are observed passing through Honduras.

There are various regular migration pathways in the Americas, including work visas, study permits, temporary and permanent permits, among other forms of access to regular migration status. Subregional spaces also facilitate these pathways; for example, in South America, the MERCOSUR associate countries implement the MERCOSUR Residence Agreement for South American nationals, being a regulatory framework that has facilitated regularization since 2009.

In Peru, according to figures from the National Superintendence of Migrations, up to 10 November, the deadline to apply for the Temporary Permanence Permit (PTP), 214 633 applications were registered, mostly from Venezuelans between 18 and 60 years old.

From 2020 to 2023, nearly 98 000 permanent residencies were issued in Canada to nationals of American countries, with 2023 being the lowest value in the last three years. The United States was the leading recipient country of residencies in Canada (with 35%), followed by Mexico (9%) and Haiti (7%). The United States has granted more than 2.7 million green cards to nationals from the Americas since 2017, with a decline in the issuance of these residence visas in 2023 compared to 2022. Both Canada and the United States have a trend contrary to the increase in irregular migration, indicating the need for regular pathways.

Latin America and the Caribbean recorded an 8 per cent increase in remittances received in 2023, surpassing other regions such as Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa with 1.9 per cent, according to World Bank data ([World Bank, 2024](#)).



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

## RECENT EVENTS IN HUMAN MOBILITY POLICIES

In 2023, there was an increase in restrictive measures on human mobility in Latin America and the Caribbean. At the same time, in other contexts, approaches were implemented to manage regular and safe migration to enhance its role in sustainable development.

Among the countries that imposed new measures are the United States, which resumed deportations of irregular Venezuelan migrants, while Peru approved legislation to expel migrants in irregular situations within 48 hours. The U.S. also announced a visa restriction policy targeting individuals operating charter flights for irregular migrants, primarily Cubans and Haitians, using Nicaragua as a point of entry.

In the month of December, [the State of Emergency was extended until January 23rd, 2024, in the border cities of Zarumilla \(Tumbes\), Tacna, and Tarata \(Tacna\) in Peru.](#) This extension is part of the actions promoted by the Peruvian Government to combat citizen insecurity.

On the other hand, Panama also announced stricter controls, and a recent decree in Ecuador grants the police the mandate to carry out street checks, imposing fines on those migrants in irregular situations, justifying deportation accordingly. Meanwhile, Mexico and Chile have reinforced and militarized their borders (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, 2023).

On the other hand, there were policies in favour of regular migration. Ecuador has also expanded opportunities for temporary regularization for Venezuelans in May 2023. This provision extends existing pathways to two-year temporary residence permits, available for Venezuelans and other nationalities who entered the country both regularly and irregularly. Additionally, Panama and Costa Rica signed agreements to expedite registered transit between both countries originating from the Darien Province.



IOM staff by Chucunake river welcomes migrants after crossing Darien Province.

Hygiene kits, blankets, temporary shelter, protection, and psychosocial support, are provided to migrants by IOM in two reception centres in the Darien. In addition, temporary shelter, IOM 2023 / Gema Cortes. © IOM 2023



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# OVERVIEW OF MOVEMENTS IN THE REGION

On the American continent, generally speaking, the majority of entries into countries occur through official channels and using regular pathways. However, a growing number of migrants in highly vulnerable situations resort to informal means, using unofficial passages in conditions of high risk and exposure. The combination of various routes, origins, and destinations creates a complex and dynamic map of migration paths: with predominant movements in South-South and South-North directions, complemented by migratory flows within the Caribbean, and arrivals from Africa and Asia, in addition to a more limited flow of Europeans.



Chinese migrants lining up for registration at a migrants reception center after crossing Darien.

A growing number of Chinese citizens set their sights on the United States via the perilous Darien jungle between Colombia and Panama. IOM 2023 / Gema Cortes. © IOM 2023





LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# OVERVIEW OF MOVEMENTS IN THE REGION

The United States remains the main destination for Latin American and Caribbean migrants, while migration within South America tends to occur between neighboring countries, representing the majority of movements in that subregion. Additionally, citizens from the United States are the leading nationality for regular entries in Panama and one of the main ones in Paraguay.

Brazil acts as an entry point for extracontinental migrant persons. Alternative routes include movements toward Uruguay and Argentina or from the Plurinational State of Bolivia (hereafter Bolivia) to Chile.

The Andean corridor facilitates both transit towards Chile and residence in intermediate countries along the route. There are also patterns of return to countries of origin such as the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (hereafter Venezuela), or northward to final destinations like the United States or Mexico. On the border between Peru and Bolivia, movements of Nepalese and Cameroonian migrants heading north are observed. In Mexico, a growing number of migrants from Ecuador, Haiti, and Colombia are reported, with a notable trend towards return. By air, Honduras receives migrants from Haiti and Cuba. Concurrently, there is an increase in transit through the maritime corridor from San Andres (Colombia), Corn Island, and Blufields.

In Central America, a migratory route for certain Caribbean and African nationalities has consolidated. A greater flow of people entering Honduras from these places has been identified, in relation to these nationalities entering through the province of Darien, in Panama; up to four times more Africans pass through Honduras than in Panama. With the increase in transit migrants

or those recently settled, the demand for humanitarian assistance services and integration programmes that facilitate access to essential services has intensified.



Aerial view of the road through Guyana's Amazon rainforest.

Geographic remoteness, harsh weather, and impassible rivers are but a few of the challenges IOM staff grapple with as they deliver humanitarian aid to hard-to-reach areas in northern Guyana.

Extremely limited geographic access has an impact on the population. IOM 2023 / Gema Cortes. © IOM 2023



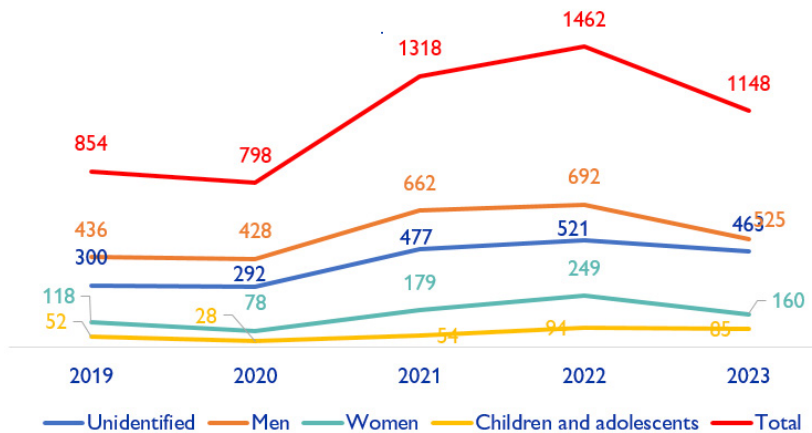
LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS



TOTAL DEATHS OR DISAPPEARANCES OF MIGRANTS IN CENTRAL AMERICA, NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN AND SOUTH AMERICA, 2019 – 2023 BY SEX AND AGE

Since 2014, a total of 8 847 missing migrants have been reported in North America, Central America, South America and the Caribbean. In 2023 alone, there were 1 148 deaths or disappearances.

DEATHS AND DISAPPEARANCES OF MIGRANTS

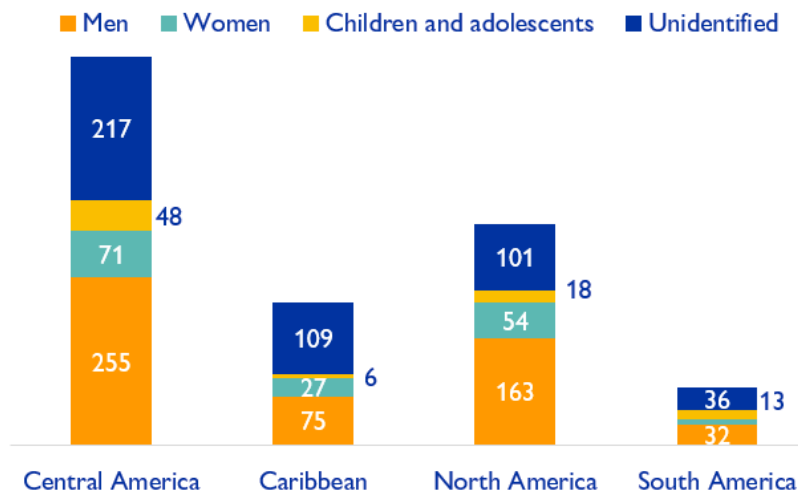


Source: IOM Missing Migrants Project, Missing migrants registered in the Americas, January 2024.

During the year 2023, the MMP recorded a total of 1 148 deceased/missing migrants in the Americas. These lost lives are related to the lack of options for safe and regular mobility, which increases the probability that migrants opt for alternative routes of irregular migration that put their lives at risk. The migratory routes monitored by the Missing Migrants Project during 2023 share some characteristics: they are maritime or land routes that are difficult to access and the media gives them little coverage, except for the border between the United States and Mexico.



TOTAL INCIDENTS BY SUBREGION AND SEX IN 2023



MAIN CAUSES OF INCIDENTS:

1. Drowning (398).
2. Vehicle accidents/deaths linked to dangerous transport (290)
3. Extreme Environmental Conditions/lack of adequate shelter water food (150).
4. Mixed or unknown (117).
5. Accidental death (76)
6. Violence (81).
7. Illness / lack of access to adequate health care (36).

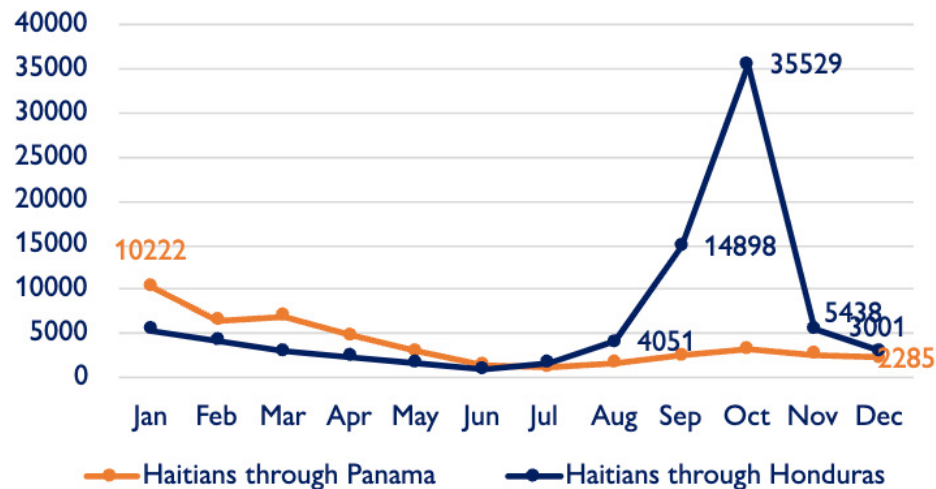
Source: IOM Missing Migrants Project, Missing migrants registered in the Americas, January 2024.



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# MAIN CARIBBEAN NATIONALITIES IN TRANSIT THROUGH CENTRAL AMERICA 2023

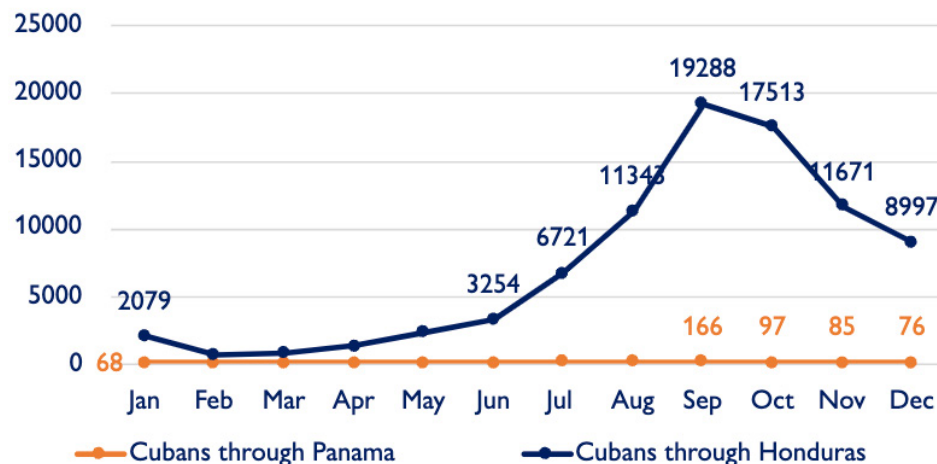
## HAITIANS IN IRREGULAR TRANSIT THROUGH PANAMA AND HONDURAS



Haitians in irregular transit presented a decreasing trend in the flow from January to June 2023, both in Panama and Honduras. However, from July to October traffic grew exponentially in Honduras, while in Panama it is linear with a decreasing trend. The total transit figures for the year 2023 reflect that the transit in Honduras of 91 979 Haitians significantly exceeds (almost doubles) that of Panama with 46 422 Haitians.

## CUBANS IN IRREGULAR TRANSIT THROUGH PANAMA AND HONDURAS

In the case of Cubans, transit in Panama is relatively low compared to Honduras, which grew exponentially from February to September 2023, decreasing in the last quarter of the year. While 11 120 Cubans have passed through Panama, in 2023 85 969 have passed through Honduras (78 times the flow in Panama).



Source: - National Immigration Service of Panama, [Irregular transit on the Panama-Colombia border](#), January 2024.  
- National Institute of Migration, [Irregular Migration Flow Statistics Dashboard](#), January 2024.



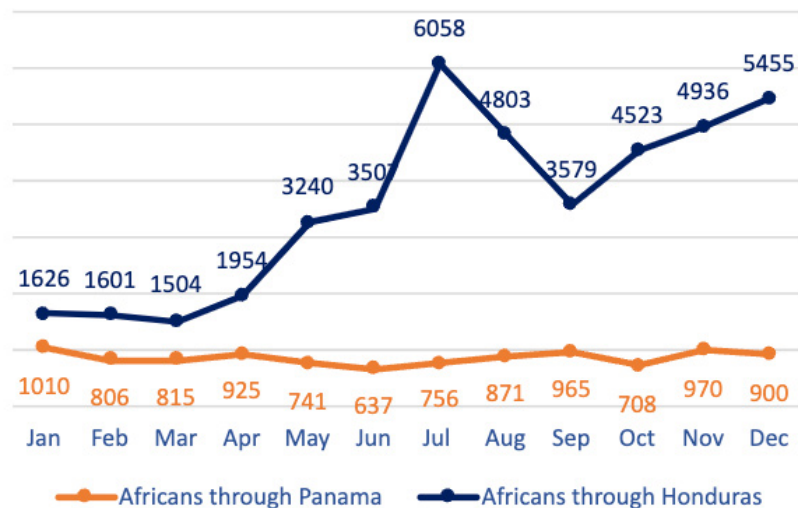


LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# TRANSIT OF AFRICAN AND ASIAN MIGRANTS THROUGH CENTRAL AMERICA 2023

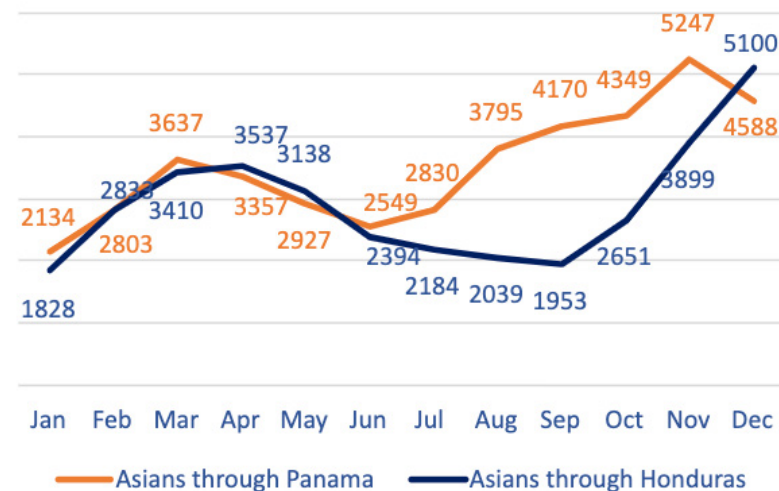
## AFRICANS IN IRREGULAR TRANSIT THROUGH PANAMA AND HONDURAS

The flow of African nationalities in Central America has stood out for having greater transit through Honduras than through Panama. While 42 386 Africans have entered Honduras, 10 104 people from that continent have entered Panama. Four times more Africans pass through Honduras than through Panama. The flow of African people in Panama is mainly composed of the following 3 nationalities: 18% people from Cameroon, 12% from Somalia and 11% from Angola, in Honduras 64% of the flow is dominated by people from Guinea (30%), Senegal (20%) and Mauritania (14%).



## ASIANS IN IRREGULAR TRANSIT THROUGH PANAMA AND HONDURAS

In the case of Asians, there is a greater flow through Panama than through Honduras, especially in the months of July to November, where the entry of Asian people through the Darién doubled the entry into Honduras from Nicaragua for these countries. In Panama, 42 386 persons have entered irregularly from Asia, while in Honduras, 34 966 from that continent have entered. The 3 main nationalities of irregular entry into Panama from Asia are 60% Chinese, 10% Afghan and 9% Indian, while in Honduras they are 35% Chinese, 15% Uzbek and 12% Indian.



Source: National Immigration Service of Panama, Irregular transit on the Panama-Colombia border, January 2024.- National Institute of Migration, Irregular Migration Flow Statistics Dashboard, January 2024.



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# MOVEMENTS OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES FROM THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA

## OVERVIEW 2023 (JAN-DEC):

The mobility of refugees and migrants from Venezuela is one of the most dynamic in quantitative terms. In 2023, they represented 63 per cent of the migrants who crossed the Province of Darien (SNM, 2023) and on the other hand, they are the main foreign nationality in Chile based on the latest official estimates (see "Chile" section). In Argentina, according to census data from 2022, they represent the third most important foreign nationality.

The main recipient countries are Colombia (2.88 million), followed by Peru with 1.54 million and Brazil with over 510 000, indicating the intraregional nature of Venezuelan movements (R4V, 2023).

At the Latin American level, 4 485 470 residence and regular stay permits have been granted to Venezuelans (ibid.)

## KEY MIGRATION ROUTES IN THE AMERICAS

TOTAL APPROX. VENEZUELAN REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN THE WORLD



APPROX. VENEZUELAN REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



POPULATION PER COUNTRY	
Colombia	2.88 M
Peru	1.54 M
Brazil	510.1 K
Ecuador	474.9 K
Chile	444.4 K
THE SOUTHERN CONE	
Argentina	217.7 K
Uruguay	32.9 K
Bolivia	16.4 K
Paraguay	5.2 K
THE CARIBBEAN	
Dominican Republic	124.1 K
Trinidad & Tobago	36.2 K
Guyana	21.7 K
Aruba	17.1 K
Curaçao	14.0 K
CENTRAL AMERICA & MEXICO	
Mexico	113.1 K
Panama	58.2 K
Costa Rica	29.4 K
OTHER COUNTRIES*	
	1.19 M

These figures represent the sum of Venezuelan refugees, migrants and asylum-seekers shared by host governments. They do not necessarily imply individual identification, nor registration of each individual, and may include a degree of estimation, as per each government's statistical data processing methodology, at times in collaboration with national R4V Platforms.

\*This includes other countries outside the 17 Latin American and the Caribbean R4V countries. For more information on the countries included, refer to the table in the last page.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used in this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Creation date: November 2023, more information available in: <http://r4v.info>

Creation date: August 2023, more information at: <http://r4v.info>

Fuente: R4V, 2023.



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# MOVEMENTS OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES FROM THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA

**Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela:** 2023 saw an increase in the number of returns of nationals compared to 2022. However, departures continue to exceed arrivals. While the main destination country is Colombia (71%), it is not necessarily the final destination, but rather serves as a transit location as well (GTM, 2023).

The main reason for return continues to be family reunification and personal reasons, mostly from Colombia (62%). The largest share (49%) of those who returned indicated they did not know how long they would stay in Venezuela, followed by those who affirmed they would stay there for more than a year (26%) (ibid.).

**Colombia:** Based on data from the DTM deployed between October and December at assistance centers in Colombia, it is known that 71 per cent sought to settle in Colombia and 14 per cent of Venezuelan migrants and refugees intended to return to their country of origin (DTM Colombia, 2023).

Moreover, figures from Migración Colombia indicate that as of December 2023, there were nearly 530 000 migrants in transit in an irregular situation on Colombian territory. Venezuelans represented 64 per cent of this total (Migración Colombia, 2023).

**Peru:** According to official figures, the last quarter of 2023 saw an average monthly negative balance (-2 502) of Venezuelan population movements. The month with the highest negative balance was December (-3 864) with 3 273 arrivals and 7 137 departures, which could be due to the festive period. 99.8 per cent of departures this quarter were through Lima's international airport (National Superintendence of Migrations-SNM, 2023).

Additionally, the deadline of 10 November was met for foreign nationals in an irregular situation to apply for the Temporary Permanence Permit (CPP). According to SNM figures, there were 214 633 applications, mainly of Venezuelan nationality between the ages of 18 to 60 years (ibid.).

**Chile:** Based on government estimates, Venezuelan nationals account for 65.9 per cent of all foreigners in an irregular situation, thus being the main nationality (SNM, 2023).

**Brazil:** Since 2017, Brazil has implemented various measures aimed at the Venezuelan population, including a regularization process for migrants of that nationality in a vulnerable situation, temporary residence permits, and authorizations for family reunification. As of December 2023, 455 000 residence registrations have been granted, in addition to the nearly 130 000 asylums awarded, totaling 585 000 residence permits in total (Federal Police of Brazil, 2023).

Regarding the movements of this nationality, Pacaraima (by land) is the main border entry point into Brazil. In 2023, 192 000 Venezuelans entered Brazil and 67 000 left, resulting in a migration balance of 124 000 (ibid.).



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# MOVEMENTS OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES FROM THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA

**Argentina:** The flow of this nationality has been steady in 2023, with a slight increase in the difference between entries and exits between August and October. The main points of entry and exit are Ezeiza Airport, the Port of Buenos Aires, Jorge Newbery Airpark in Buenos Aires, and the Tancredo Neves International Bridge in Misiones (border with Brazil).

Between January and September of 2023, 24 121 residences were granted to Venezuelans; more than half were permanent, indicating that a large part of the flow has been in the country for at least 2 years. The majority of these residences were granted in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, followed by its metropolitan area and Córdoba. As of August 2023, Venezuelans represent the fourth-largest group in Argentina, with 236 929 people.

According to the 14th Round of DTM in La Quiaca, priority needs include legal assistance, income generation and employment, documentary assistance, security, medical care, shelter, and transportation. Secondly, food and education and training, and as a third priority, information about mobility and border restrictions.

**Panama:** In 2023, the authorities of the National Migration Institute of Panama identified the crossing of 328 650 Venezuelan nationals through the Province of Darien, a figure that exceeds more than double the transit of this nationality in 2022.

**Honduras:** By the end of 2023, the National Migration Institute of Honduras identified 228 889 Venezuelans entering from Nicaragua. 65 per cent of these

were aged between 21 and 40 years, 20 per cent were under 20 years, and the remaining 15 per cent were over 40 years old. 80 per cent of the flow are adults while 20 per cent are children and adolescents. 66 per cent are male and 34 per cent are female.

**Mexico:** Between January and November of 2023, the Mexican Migration Policy Authority identified 194 492 Venezuelan nationals through presentations and referrals, marking a 102 per cent increase in the flow of this nationality compared to 2022.

**United States:** By November of 2023, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection authorities recorded 302 750 encounters with Venezuelan nationals, making them the second-largest nationality by flow entering the United States through the southwest land border, and representing an 81 per cent interannual increase for this nationality compared to 2022.



IOM provides Hygiene kits and blankets in two reception centers in the Darien.

Hygiene kits, blankets, temporary shelter, protection, and psychosocial support, are provided to migrants by IOM in two reception centres in the Darien. In addition, temporary shelter; OIM 2023 / Gema Cortés. © OIM 2023



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# REMITTANCES

Globally in 2023, it is estimated that remittances to low- and middle-income countries saw an approximate increase of 3.8 per cent. This represents a moderation compared to the previous two years.

Latin America and the Caribbean experienced a general increase of 8 per cent, well above the global average and other regions: South Asia (7.2%), East Asia and the Pacific (3%), and Sub-Saharan Africa (1.9%) ([World Bank, 2023](#)).

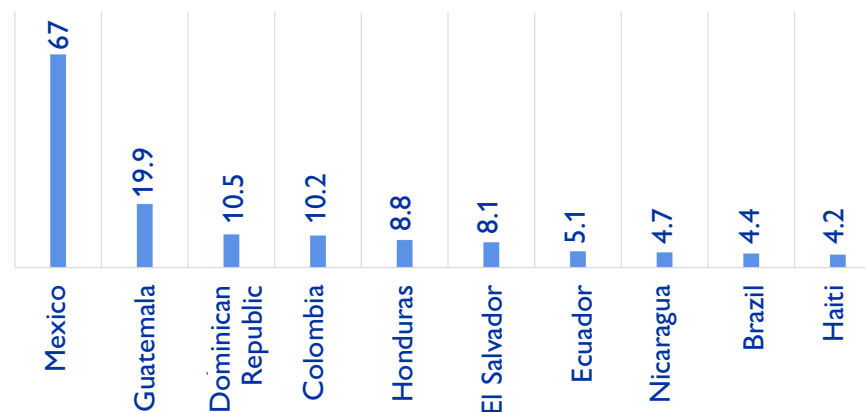
- In 2023, the increase in remittances was primarily driven by sustained economic growth in the United States, which is a key factor due to the large number of Latin American immigrants living and working there.
- Mexico, being the largest recipient of remittances in the region and the second globally, projected to receive a record of 67 billion USD dollars in remittances in 2023, representing a growth of 9.7 per cent compared to the previous year.

### Central America and the Caribbean:

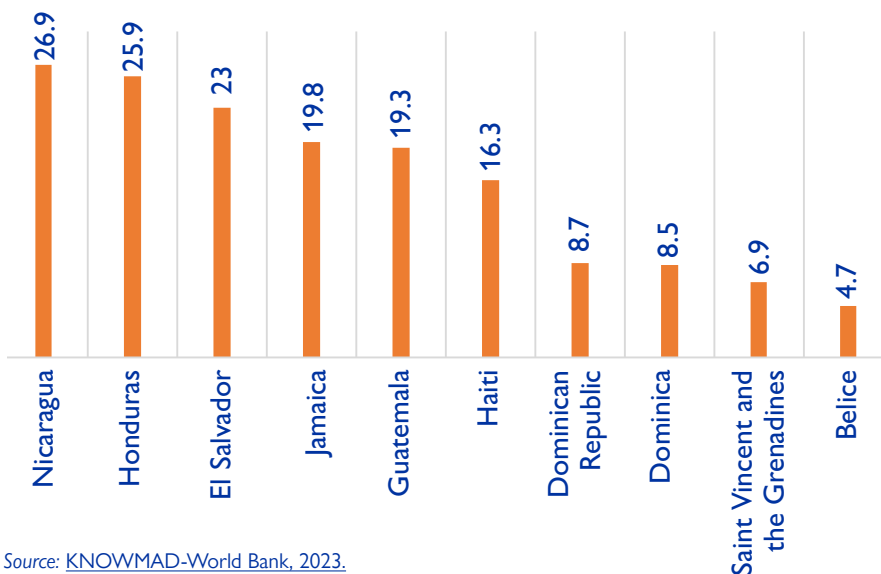
- Guatemala, following Mexico, is the second country in the region that receives the most remittances, followed by the Dominican Republic, with 9 per cent and 2 per cent respectively.
- Nicaragua experienced a 45 per cent increase in remittances, driven by the country's political situation.
- Jamaica saw a minimal growth in remittances of only 0.6 per cent.

TOP REMITTANCE-RECEIVING COUNTRIES BASED ON ESTIMATES AND PROJECTIONS, 2023 (IN BILLIONS OF USD).

REMITTANCES RECEIVED (IN BILLIONS OF DOLLARS)



PERCENTAGE OF REMITTANCES IN GDP



Source: [KNOWMAD-World Bank, 2023](#).



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# REMITTANCES

## South America:

- In South America, Argentina stood out with a 26 per cent increase in remittances.
- Peru and Colombia also saw significant increases in their remittances, at 14 per cent and 7 per cent respectively.

## What could happen in 2024?

A slowdown in the growth of remittances to the region is forecasted, with an increase of 4.4 per cent projected, almost half of that in 2023. This smaller increase could be due to an anticipated slowdown in the GDP growth of the United States and the impact it would have on labor markets and, consequently, on remittances.

The moderate growth of remittances will be partly supported by the large number of transit migrants stranded in Mexico and Guatemala. Transit migrants from Cuba, Nicaragua, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, and other nations passing through Guatemala and Mexico on their way to the United States represent large remittance flows to these two transit countries. ([World Bank, 2023](#)).



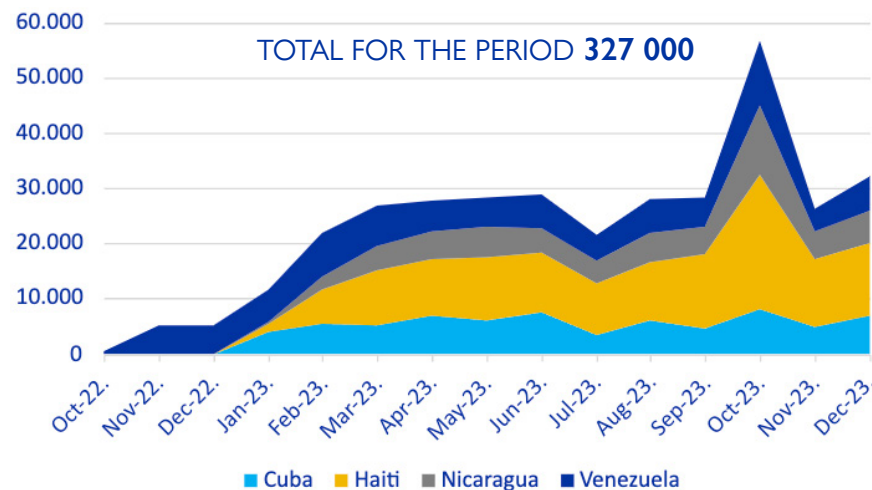
Receiving remittances from a family member working abroad. IOM. International Organization for Migration.



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# REGULAR MIGRATION ROUTES IN SELECTED COUNTRIES

CHNV PAROLE IN THE UNITED STATES, OCTOBER 2022 TO DECEMBER 2023



Regular migration is presented as the most effective option to establish safe processes for those individuals who move between different countries around the world. An example of how to address the flow of people into a country in an organized and safe manner is evident in the parole policy for Cuban, Haitian, Nicaraguan, and Venezuelan (CHNV) citizens in the United States.

Historically, permanent residence modalities have been implemented for foreigners who wish to establish themselves in the countries of their choice, rigorously complying with the processes established in each place. In this context, it is worth highlighting the review of permanent residence programs in key countries such as Canada, the United States, Mexico, and Panama, which are crucial destinations or transit points on the American continent.

The following pages review the details, in general terms, in the United States it stands out that the issuance of green cards has not yet reached the levels recorded before the pandemic. On the other hand, in Canada, permanent residences granted to people from the Americas represent less than 4 per cent of the total issued by the country. In the case of Mexico, a growing trend has been observed in recent years, led by the Honduran, Venezuelan, and American nationalities. Likewise, in Panama, in the year 2023, a similar situation will arise, with a predominance of Venezuelan, Colombian, and Nicaraguan nationalities.

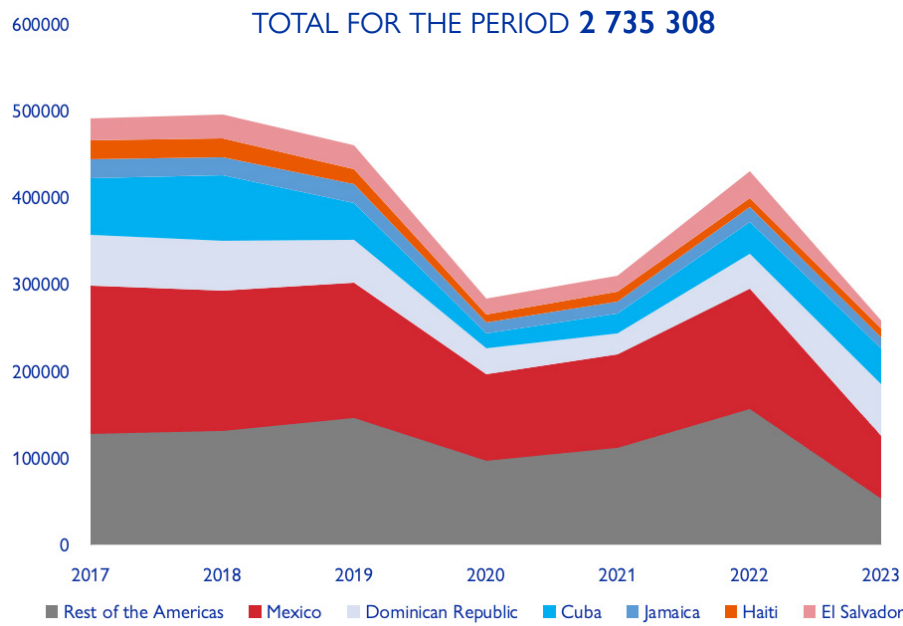
Through the end of December 2023, 327 000 Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans arrived lawfully under the parole processes. Specifically, more than 69 000 Cubans, 133 000 Haitians, 60 000 Nicaraguans, and 87 000 Venezuelans were vetted and authorized for travel; and more than 67 000 Cubans, 126 000 Haitians, 53 000 Nicaraguans, and 81 000 Venezuelans arrived and were granted parole.

Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, January 2024.



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

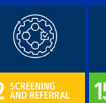
ISSUANCE OF GREEN CARDS FROM THE UNITED STATES TO NATIONALS OF THE AMERICAS, TOP 5 COUNTRIES IN THE REGION, FISCAL YEARS 2017 – 2023



CUMULATIVE TOTALS BY COUNTRY, FY 2017-2023.

Country	*Visas
Mexico	906 562
Dominican Republic	320 607
Cuba	300 154
Jamaica	119 179
Haiti	102 520
El Salvador	157 444
Colombia	112 090
Peru	55 924
Ecuador	64 522
All countries in Central America, North America and the Caribbean	1 549 710 (38%)
South America	483 475 (8%)
Rest of the world	3 244 885 (54%)

Fuente: U.S. Department of State, [Monthly Immigrant Visa Issuance Statistics](#), January, 2024)

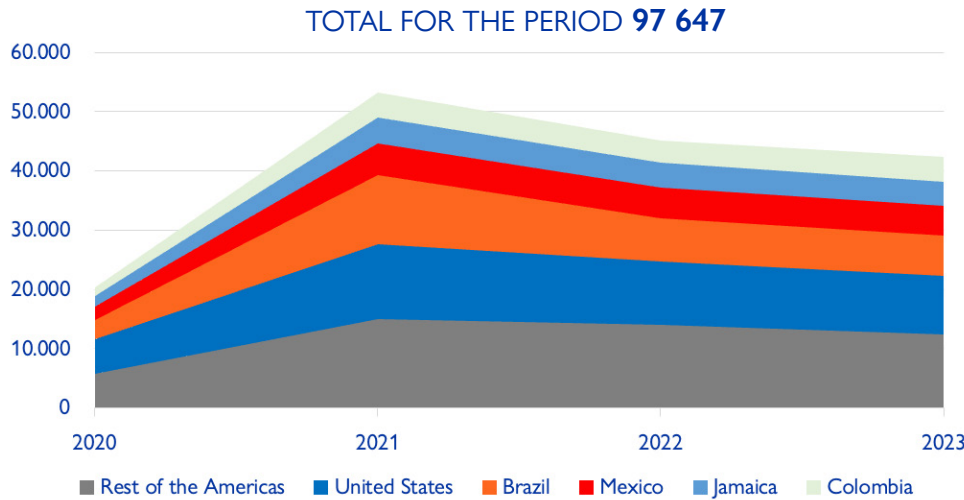






LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# ISSUANCE OF PERMANENT RESIDENCIES IN CANADA TO NATIONALS OF THE AMERICAS, TOP 5 COUNTRIES IN THE REGION, 2020 – 2023, JAN - NOV



CUMULATIVE TOTALS BY COUNTRY, 2020-2023 (JAN-NOV)

Country	Cantidad
United States	34 696
Brazil	16 716
Mexico	8 919
Jamaica	7 111
Colombia	6 555
All countries in Central America, North America and the Caribbean	65 986 (2,2%)
South America	31 661 (1%)
Rest of the world	2 853 539 (96,8%)

Source: Open data from the Government of Canada, [Statistical Reports](#), 2023.

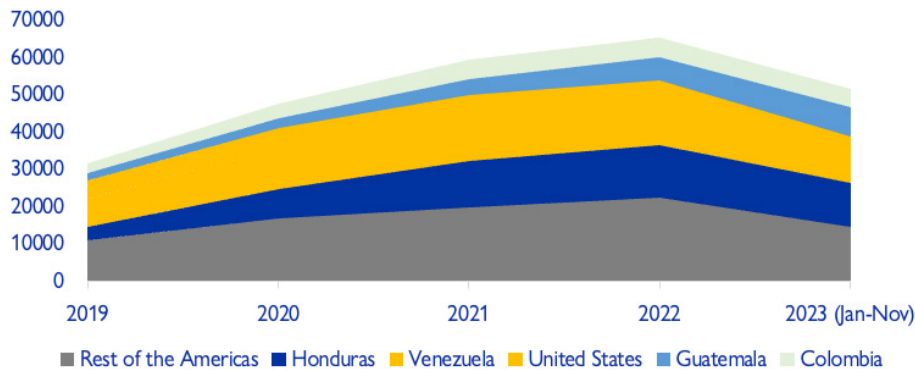




LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# ISSUANCE OF PERMANENT RESIDENCIES FROM MEXICO TO NATIONALS OF THE AMERICAS, TOP 5 COUNTRIES IN THE REGION, 2019 – 2023 (JAN – NOV)

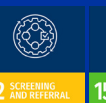
TOTAL FOR THE PERIOD **298 300**



Source: Migration Policy Unit (UPM), [Statistics Report January, 2024](#).

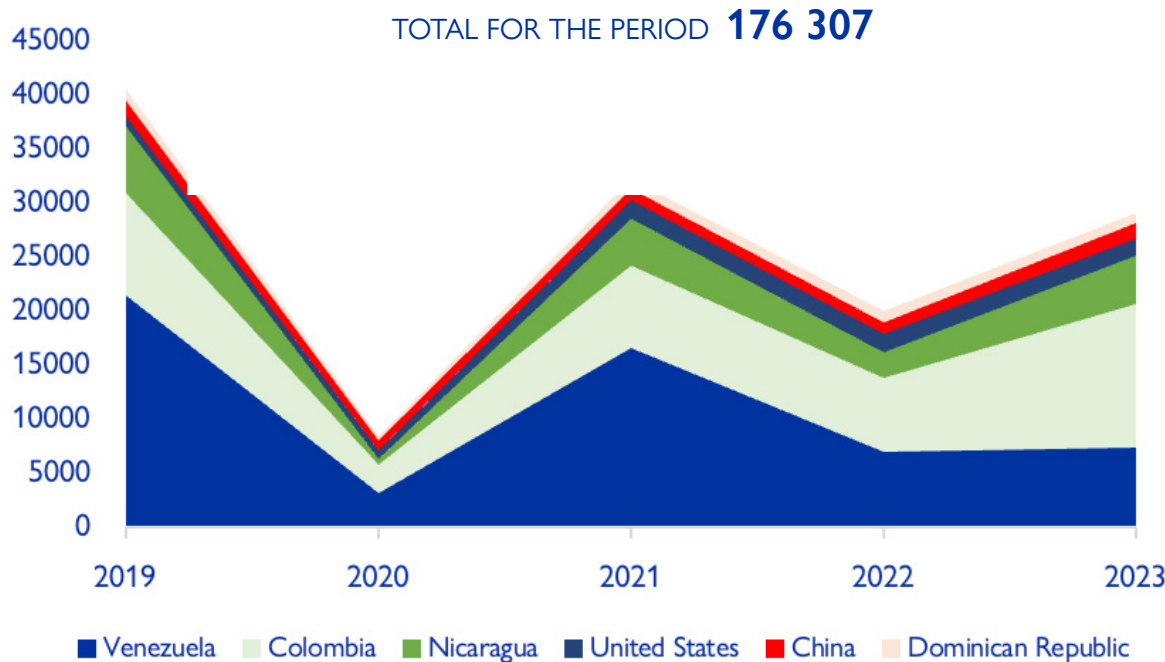
## CUMULATIVE TOTALS BY COUNTRY, 2019-2023 (JAN-NOV)

Country	*Visas
Honduras	49 524
Venezuela	44 439
United States	32 116
Guatemala	22 718
Colombia	22 053
Cuba	21 382
El Salvador	19 248
Canada	10 117
All countries in Central America, North America and the Caribbean	171 976 (56%)
South America	87 071 (28%)
Rest of the world	48 465 (16%)



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# ISSUANCE OF PERMANENT RESIDENCIES IN PANAMA TO NATIONALS OF THE AMERICAS, 5 MAIN COUNTRIES IN THE REGION 2019 – 2023



CUMULATIVE TOTALS BY COUNTRY, 2019-2023

Country	*Visas
Venezuela	55 353
Colombia	39 536
Nicaragua	17 948
United States	6 892
China	5 864
Dominican Republic	4 225
El Salvador	3 816
Peru	3 592
All countries in Central America, North America and the Caribbean	45 141 (26%)
South America	106 838 (61%)
Rest of the world	23 379 (13%)

Source: National Immigration Service of Panama, [Legalizations](#), s.f. [Jan 2024].

LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

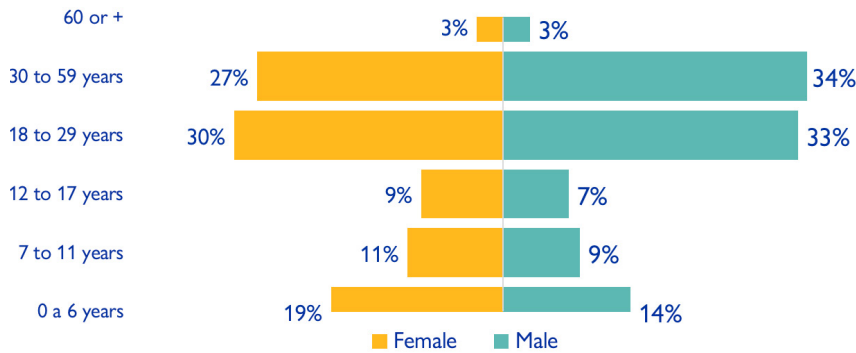
# BRAZIL

## REFUGEE AND MIGRATION FROM AFGHANISTAN

The Brazilian Government, through Interministerial Order MJSP/MRE No. 24 (September 3, 2021), established visa and humanitarian residence authorization processes for Afghans, stateless individuals, and those affected. Interministerial Order No. 42 (September 22, 2023) updated this regulation, linking temporary visas to the capacity for reception by civil organizations with cooperation agreements. Temporarily, the issuance of humanitarian reception visas for Afghans is suspended until the publication of the MJSP notice, although those with valid visas can enter the country.

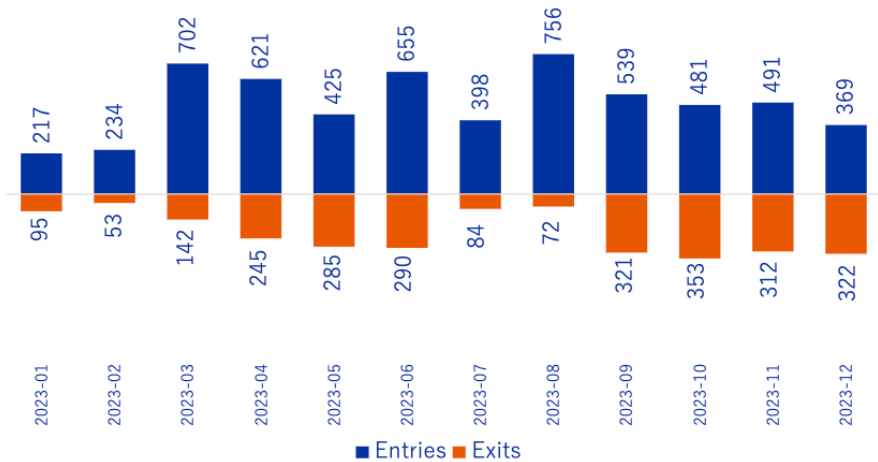
From January 2023 to December 2023, the following data is reported:

### POPULATION PYRAMID OF AFGHAN REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

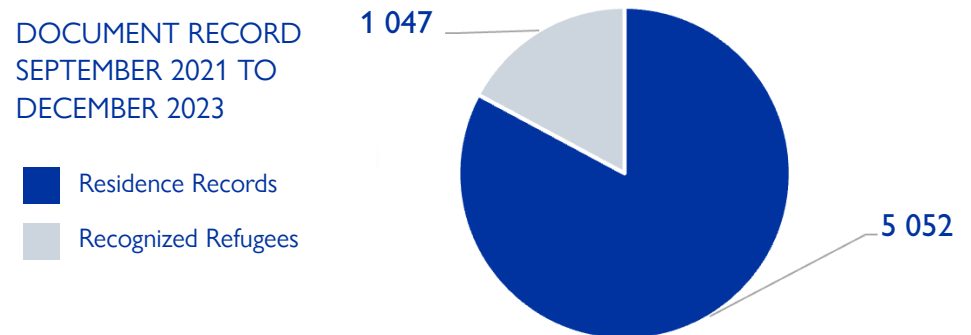


Afghans	
Entries to Brazil	5 588
Exits to Brazil	2 574
Net Migration	3 314

Source: Compiled by OBMIGRA based on data provided by the Federal Police, National Immigration Registry System (SISMIGRA), September 2021 to December 2023.



### DOCUMENT RECORD SEPTEMBER 2021 TO DECEMBER 2023





LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

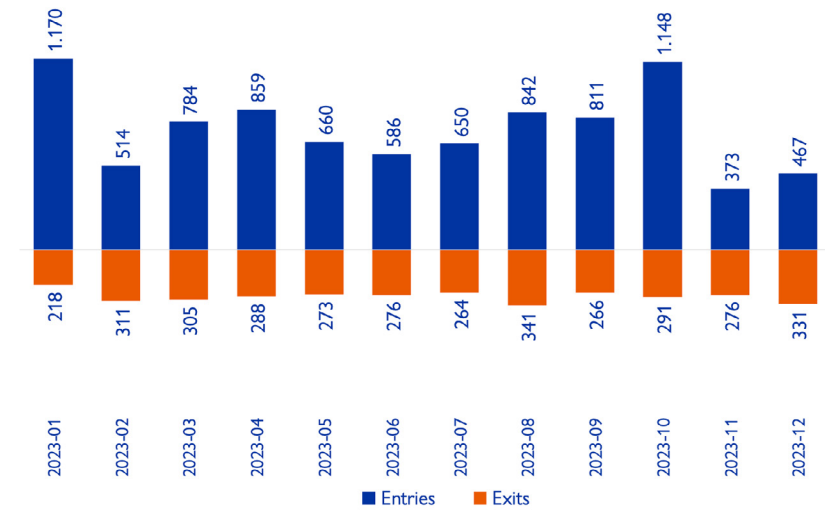
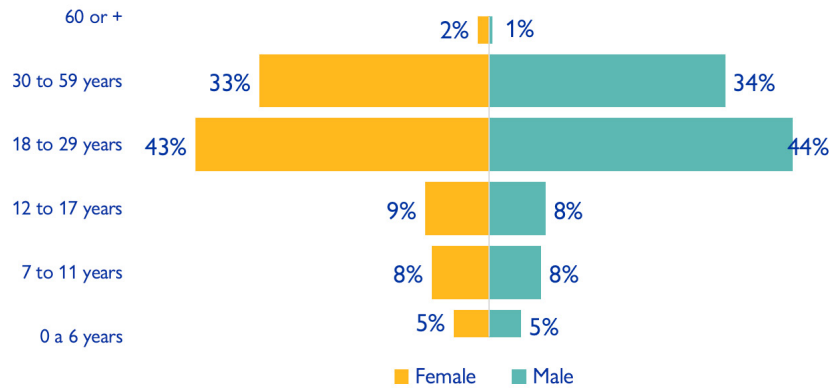
# BRAZIL

## HAITIAN MIGRATION

Since 2012, Brazil has renewed its policy of welcoming Haitian citizens due to calamities and environmental disasters. In April 2023, two new Interministerial Orders were issued to strengthen this commitment: Interministerial Order No. 37, which establishes humanitarian reception procedures until December 2024, and Interministerial Order No. 38, which streamlines the evaluation and issuance of family reunification visas for Haitians.

From January 2023 to December 2023, the following data is reported

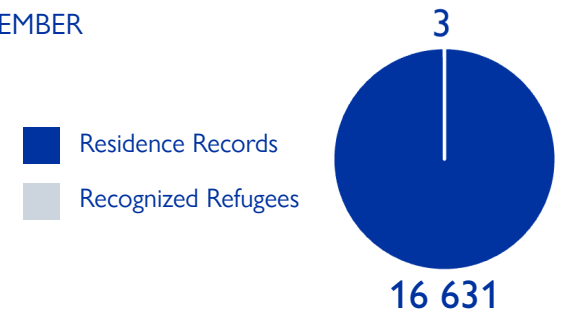
### POPULATION PYRAMID OF HAITIAN MIGRANTS



Haitians	
Entries to Brazil	8 864
Exits to Brazil	3 440
Net Migration	5 424

Source: Compiled by OBMIGRA based on data provided by the Federal Police, National Immigration Registry System (SISMIGRA), September 2021 to December 2023.

### DOCUMENT RECORD SEPTEMBER 2021 TO DECEMBER 2023



Source: Compiled by OBMIGRA based on data provided by the Federal Police, National Immigration Registry System (SISMIGRA), September 2021 to December 2023.



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# ARGENTINA

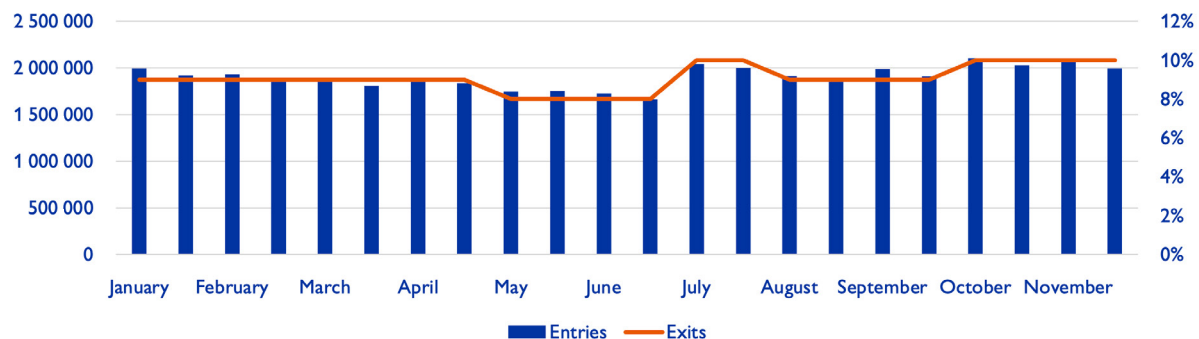
**Number of international migrants (stock):** According to the National Census of Population, Households, and Dwellings of 2022, the migrant population residing in the country amounts to **1 933 463** people (1 061 421 females and 872 042 males). This represents 4.2 per cent of the total population of the country. The most relevant nationalities are:

- Paraguayan: 522 598 people (27% of the migrant population).
- Bolivian: 338 299 people (17.5% of the migrant population).
- Venezuelan: 161 495 people (8.4% of the migrant population).
- Peruvian: 156 251 people (8.1% of the migrant population).

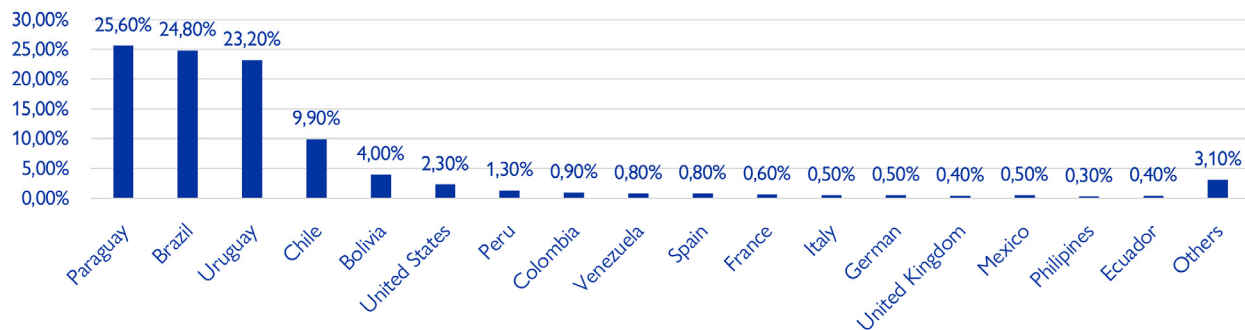
The importance of Venezuelan immigration in recent years is also visible in Argentina.

Regarding the territorial distribution of the international migrant population, they are concentrated in two jurisdictions, with 51.4 per cent of the migrant population residing in the Province of Buenos Aires and 21.7 per cent in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires (INDEC, 2023).

MOVEMENTS PER MONTH FOR ALL NATIONALITIES EXCEPT ARGENTINA (JANUARY TO NOVEMBER 2023)



PER CENTAGE OF TOTAL MOVEMENTS BY NATIONALITY (JANUARY TO NOVEMBER 2023) - 97% OF THE MOVEMENTS



Source: National Directorate of Migration, 2023.

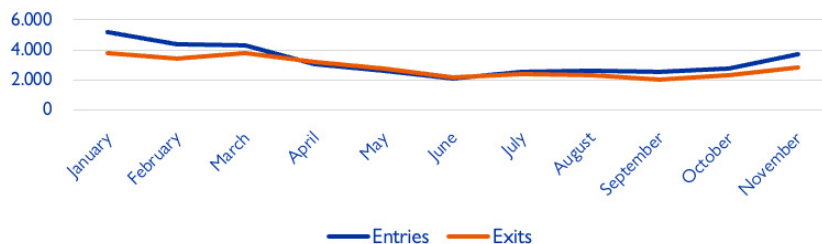
People from neighboring countries are the ones with the highest number of aggregated movements (entries and exits), led by Paraguay and Brazil. Excluding neighboring countries, in second place are the movements of individuals from the United States of America, Peru, Colombia, and Venezuela (ibid.).



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

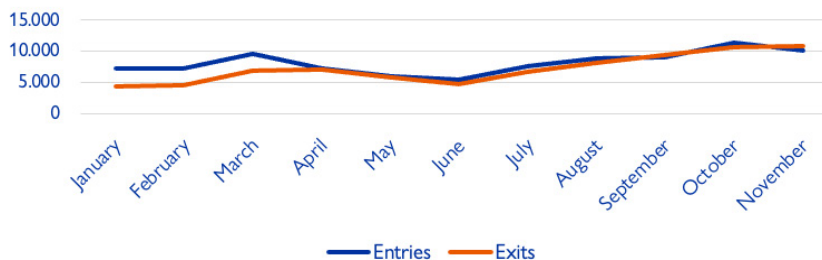
# ARGENTINA

## MOVEMENTS OF INDIVIDUALS OF RUSSIAN NATIONALITY (JANUARY TO NOVEMBER 2023)



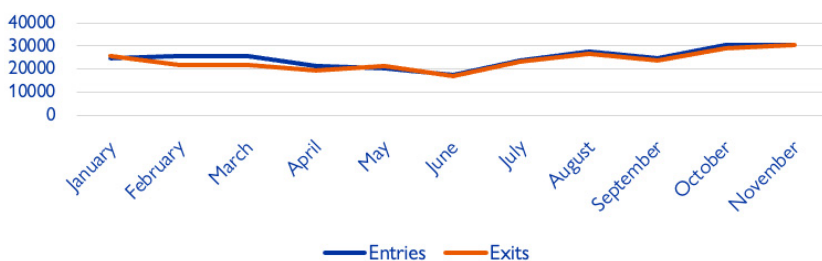
Source: National Directorate of Migration, 2023.

## MOVEMENTS OF INDIVIDUALS OF ECUADORIAN NATIONALITY (JANUARY TO NOVEMBER 2023)



Source: National Directorate of Migration, 2023.

## MOVEMENTS OF INDIVIDUALS OF PERUVIAN NATIONALITY (JANUARY TO NOVEMBER 2023)



Source: National Directorate of Migration, 2023.

Next, a seasonal analysis is carried out by nationality, highlighting those non-neighboring nationalities that present some dynamics of interest due to specific situations in their countries of origin.

Individuals of **Russian nationality** have been showing a decline in entries since January 2023. Between April and July, the difference between entries and exits narrows, which is greater during the first and last months of the year. Despite the visibility of the population in the media, their volume is marginal compared to other nationalities (see previous page) ([National Directorate of Migrations, 2023](#)).

Individuals of **Ecuadorian nationality** record more entries than exits between January and November 2023, with October being the most significant month in terms of movement volume. In April and May, there is no difference between entries and exits, while in June, July, August, and October, there is again a prevalence of entries over exits (*ibid.*).

Individuals of **Peruvian nationality** had a considerable difference in entries over exits in the first four months of the year, and from May onwards, there are more movements both in entries and exits, but no differences are recorded by type of movement (*ibid.*).



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# PARAGUAY

## ENTRIES AND DEPARTURES OF FOREIGNERS FROM THE COUNTRY THROUGH OFFICIAL CROSSINGS

Between October 1st and December 31st, 2023, 573 166 foreign individuals (both residents and non-residents) entered Paraguay, while 481 218 departed, resulting in a net migration balance of 91 948.



Source: CBA assistance delivery . Asuncion, Paraguay.

Non-resident foreigners represent 93 per cent of the total entries of foreign individuals (National Directorate of Migrations of Paraguay, 2023), indicating that they are only passing through the country.

Destinations	Resident Foreigners	Destinations	Non-resident foreigners
Argentina	16 764	Argentina	341 949
Brazil	5 859	Brazil	52 361
Uruguay	1 177	S/D	17 582
Bolivia	1 044	United States	5 090
United States	964	Bolivia	3 796
Chile	813	Colombia	3 793
Spain	812	Chile	3 634
Germany	636	Spain	3 451
Colombia	524	Uruguay	3 192
Peru	469	Mexico	3 011
<b>Total</b>	<b>29 062</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>437 859</b>

Source: Information provided by the National Directorate of Migrations of Paraguay, 2023.





LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# CHILE

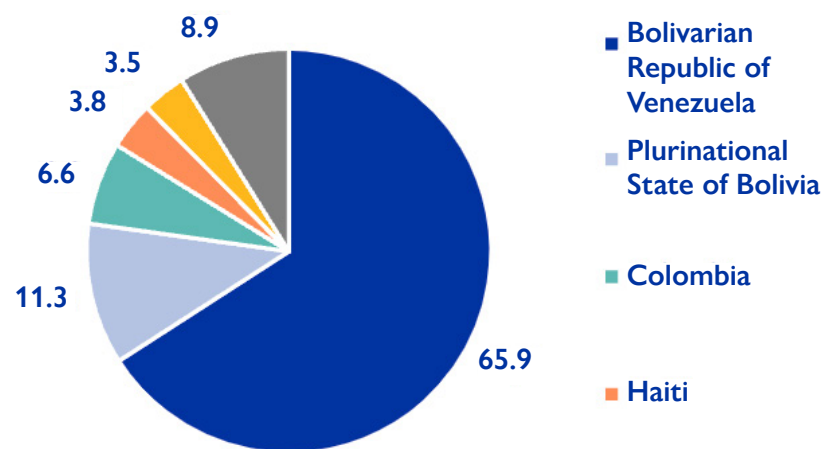
The National Institute of Statistics (INE in Spanish) and the National Migration Service (Sermig) published the updated figure for foreign immigrants in Chile for 2022: 1 625 074 people (57.8% male and 42.2% female) (INE and Sermig, 2023).

Three main characteristics are observed: growth of Latin American and Caribbean immigration, a higher per centage of men, and an increase in people in an irregular situation.

- Origin:** The majority come from other South American countries, mainly from Venezuela (32.8%), Peru (15.4%), and Colombia (11.7%). There are also 9.1 per cent from Bolivia and presence of Argentinians and Ecuadorians. The population from the Caribbean represents a subtotal of 13.8 per cent, most importantly from Haiti. Between 2018 and 2022, Venezuela was the origin with the greatest growth, increasing from 26.3 per cent in 2018 to 55.6 per cent in 2022.
- Demographic profile:** The majority of foreigners in Chile are between 25 and 39 years old, with the 30 to 34 age group being the most numerous at 17.8 per cent of the total. In addition, 13 per cent (210 521) are migrant children and adolescents under 20 years of age, with a proportion of approximately 15 minors for every 100 adults.
- Growth and distribution:** The foreign population in Chile grew by 25 per cent since 2018. The highest concentration resides in the Metropolitan Region (57.8%), followed by Antofagasta and Valparaíso. The 42 communes with more than 10 000 foreigners, mainly in the Metropolitan Region, account for 72.4 per cent of the total. Santiago, Antofagasta, and Estación Central are the communes with the highest proportion.

- Migration irregularity:** Based on data from administrative records and reports from the Investigation Police, an estimate on the number of people in an irregular situation is published for the first time, reaching 107,223 (mostly Venezuelans), representing 6.6 per cent of the total number of foreigners, a figure 10 times higher than the 0.6 per cent recorded in 2018. The majority of foreigners in an irregular situation are between 20 to 39 years old.

PERCENTAGE OF IRREGULAR MIGRANTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN



Source: INE y SerMig, 2023.



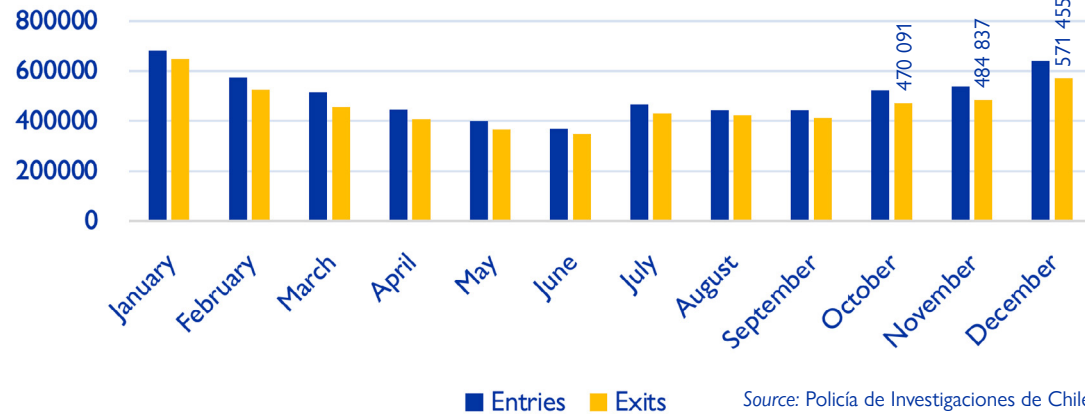
LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

CHILE

Between October and December, there were 1 698 000 entries and 1 592 000 exits of foreigners, representing a significant growth compared to previous months. The most frequent nationalities that used these regular pathways were: Argentine, Peruvian, Bolivian, Brazilian, and from the United States of America (Policía de Investigaciones de Chile – PDI, 2023).

REGULAR FLOWS OF FOREIGNERS IN CHILE

Entries and Exits of Foreigners in Chile

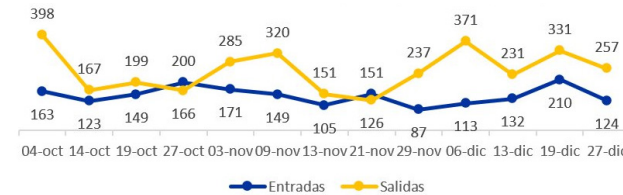


Source: Policía de Investigaciones de Chile (PDI), 2023.

The Arica point (border with Peru) and Colchane (border with Bolivia) are the main passages for irregular flows into Chile. During these months, it is estimated that the following transited through these borders:

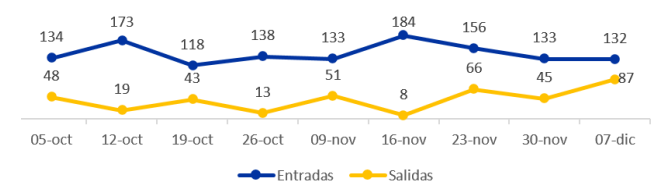
MAIN IRREGULAR FLOWS OF FOREIGNERS IN CHILE

BORDER POINT ARICA (CHILE) – TACNA (PERU)



Source: DTM Tacna Flow Monitoring Registry, December 2023.

BORDER POINT COLCHANE (CHILE) – PISIGA (BOLIVIA)



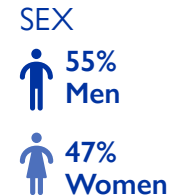
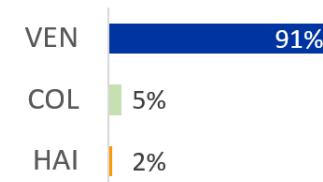
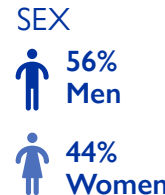
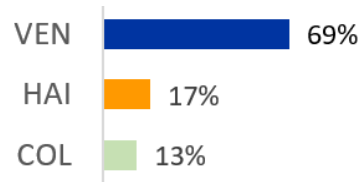
Source: DTM Tacna Flow Monitoring Registry, December 2023.



26 387 ESTIMATED ENTRIES (OCT-DEC)



28 069 ESTIMATED EXITS (OCT-DEC)



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

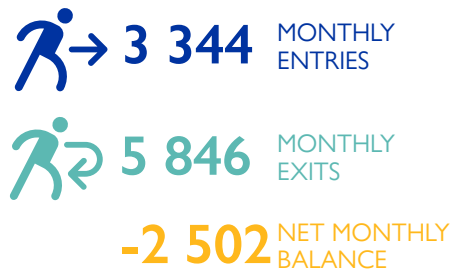
PERU

REGULAR FLOWS OF THE VENEZUELAN POPULATION

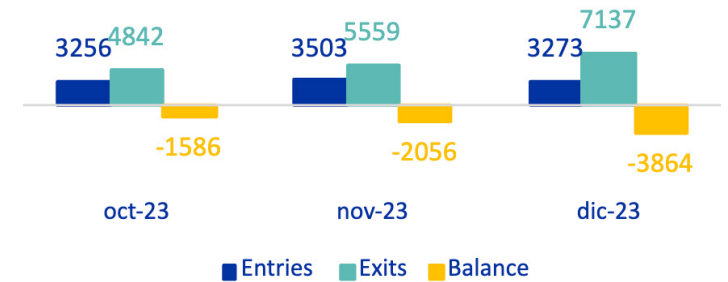
According to figures from the National Superintendence of Migration (SNM), in the last quarter of 2023 there was a negative average monthly balance (-2,502) of the Venezuelan population. These departures were mainly through Jorge Chávez International Airport (AI) in Lima, representing 99.8 per cent.

Likewise, November 10 was the deadline for foreigners in an irregular situation to apply for the Permiso Temporal de Permanencia (CPP). According to SNM figures, 214,633 applications were registered, mainly from Venezuelan nationals between 18 and 60 years of age.

ESTIMATED FIGURES  
OCTOBER – DECEMBER, 2023  
(Superintendencia Nacional de Migraciones Perú)



REGULAR FLOW OF THE VENEZUELAN POPULATION



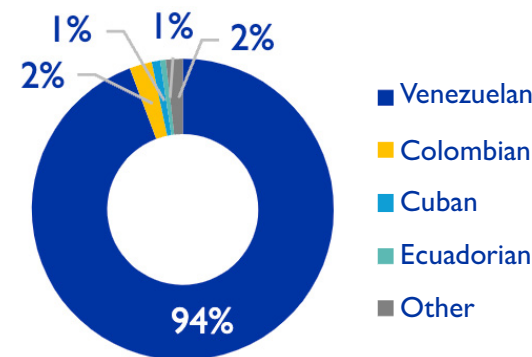
Source: Superintendencia Internacional de Migraciones (SNM), 2023.

REGULARIZATION FIGURES AS OF DECEMBER 2023



Source: Superintendencia Internacional de Migraciones (SNM), 2023.

NACIONALITY:



SEX:



AGE GROUP:

0 - 10 years	15.1%
Teenagers 11 - 17 años	10.5%
Adults 18 - 60	72.1%
Older Adults 60+	2.3%



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

PERU

IRREGULAR FLOW MONITORING REGISTRY (COUNTS)

According to figures from the National Superintendence of Migration (SNM), in the last quarter of 2023 there was a negative average monthly balance (-2,502) of the Venezuelan population. These departures were mainly through Jorge Chávez International Airport (AI) in Lima, representing 99.8 per cent.

Likewise, November 10 was the deadline for foreigners in an irregular situation to apply for the Permiso Temporal de Permanencia (CPP). According to SNM figures, 214,633 applications were registered, mainly from Venezuelan nationals between 18 and 60 years of age.

ESTIMATED FIGURES OCTOBER – DECEMBER, 2023



**19 260** MONTHLY ENTRIES

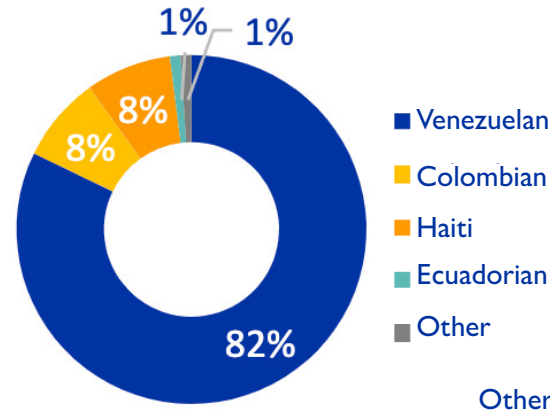


**17 550** MONTHLY EXITS

(MONTHLY AVERAGE)

**1 710** NET MONTHLY BALANCE

IRREGULAR FLOW BY COUNTRY OF MIGRATION



Source: DTM Registry, 2023.

SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

SEX:

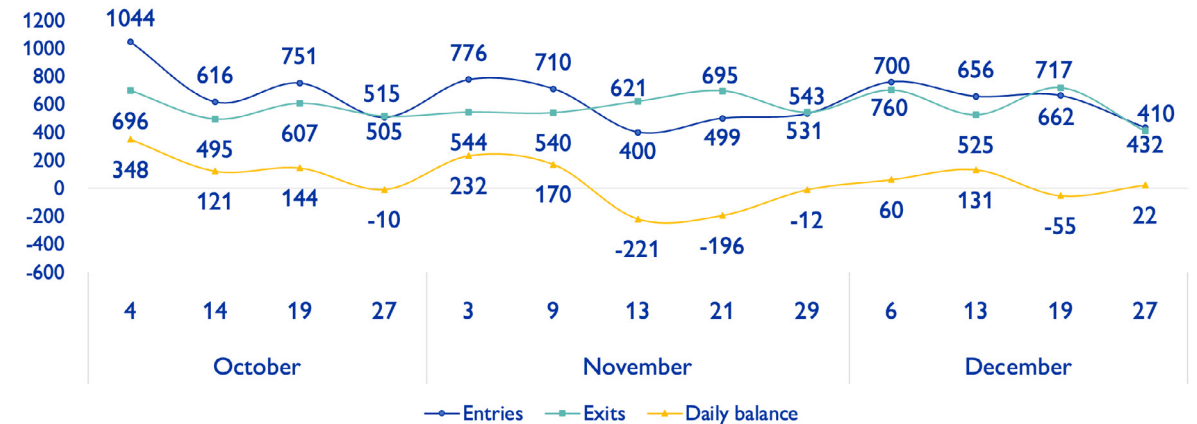
**58.2%** Men

**40.1%** Women

COUNTRIES FINAL DESTINATION:

	Venezuela	Peru	Ecuador	Colombia	
Flow South – North	55%	19%	14%	13%	
	Chile	Peru	Brazil	Argentina	Bolivia
Flow South – North	87%	9%	3%	1%	1%

IRREGULAR ENTRIES AND EXITS FROM PERU THROUGH THE BORDERS OF TUMBES, TACNA AND DESAGUADERO



Source: DTM Registry, 2023.

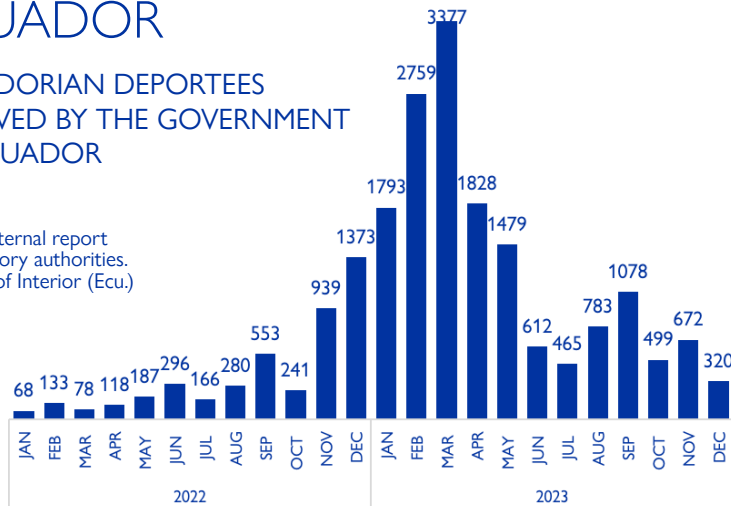


LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

ECUADOR

ECUADORIAN DEPORTEES RECEIVED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ECUADOR

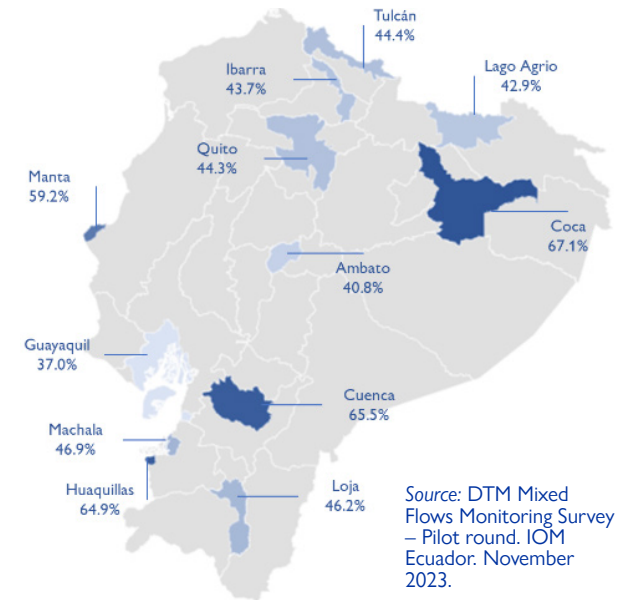
Source: Internal report by migratory authorities. Ministry of Interior (Ecu.) 2023.



- Irregular migrant flow of Ecuadorian population still is a matter of interest.
- The figures of Ecuadorian individuals deported from different countries that were received by Ecuadorian authorities show a decrease of 35 per cent compared to the previous quarter, and it is also 41 per cent lower than the same period in 2022.
- With data from the Mixed Flow Monitoring Survey (pilot round, November 2023), 62.8 per cent of Ecuadorian population interviewed has an intention to migrate in the next 12 months and a country of destination defined. Main countries of destination are: United States (51.7%), Spain (18.2%), Canada (4.8%), Argentina (4.2%) and Italy (3.2%).
- Cities of Coca (67.1%), Cuenca (65.5%) and Huaquillas (64.9%) show the largest proportion of Ecuadorian population with intention to migrate to the United States.

INTENTION BY ECUADORIANS TO MIGRATE TO THE UNITED STATES (PER CENTAGE)

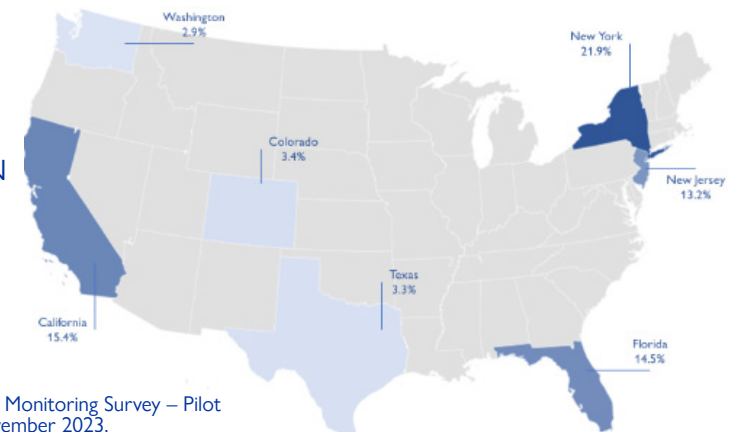
- 81.7 per cent of Ecuadorian population interviewed with intention to migrate to the United States are between 18 and 39 years old.
- 22.4 per cent are unemployed and 77.6 per cent has a dependent or independent job; within the latter, 54.6 per cent lacks a formal contract and a minimum wage salary.
- 24.9 per cent has complete or incomplete college studies.



Source: DTM Mixed Flows Monitoring Survey – Pilot round. IOM Ecuador. November 2023.

- Main reasons to chose this country of destination are seek of job opportunities (53.9%), family reunification (19.2%) and seek of better living conditions (11.5%).

MAIN DESTINATIONS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES BY ECUADORIAN POPULATION (TOTAL PERCENTAGE)



Source: DTM Mixed Flows Monitoring Survey – Pilot round. IOM Ecuador. November 2023.



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

ECUADOR MIGRATION TRENDS OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2023

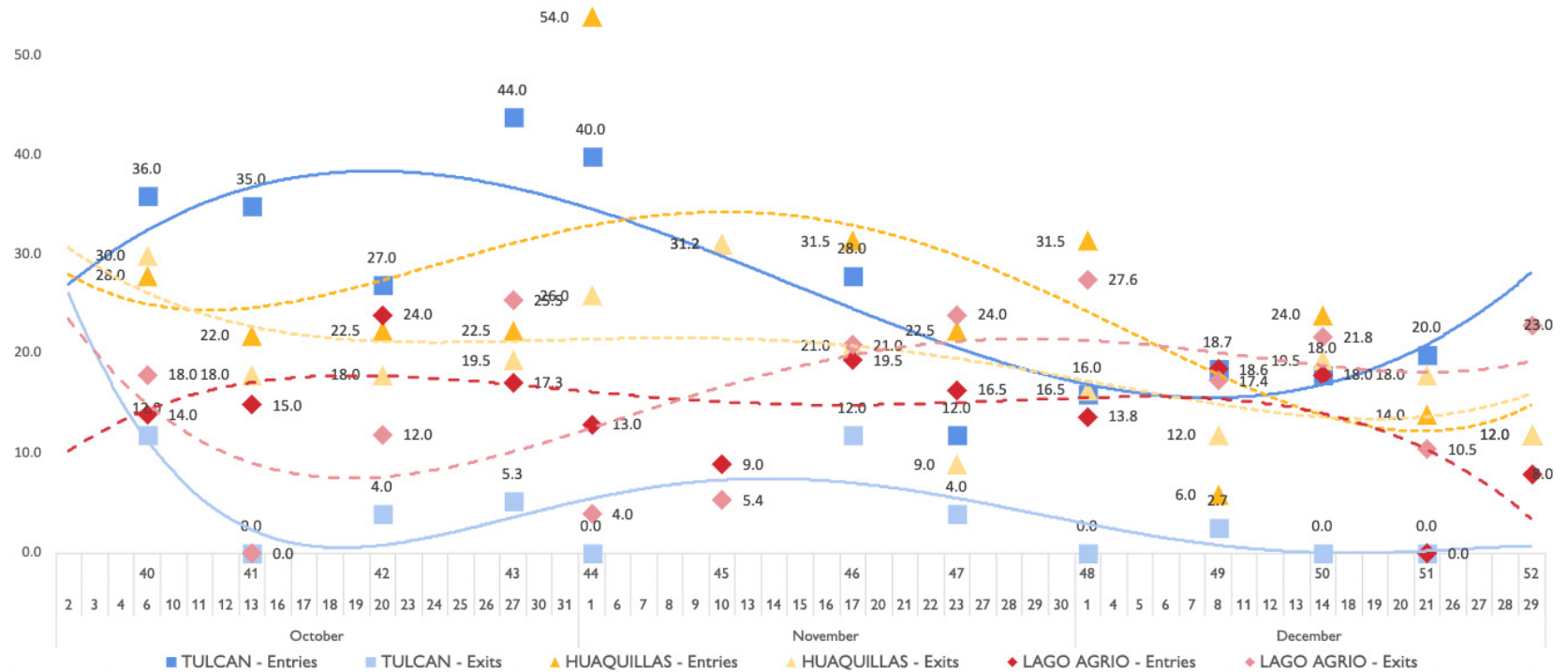
Based on observations at border points::

In **Tulcan** significant decrease in entries was observed, from an average of 35 people per day in October to 19 in December (DTM Flow Monitoring Registry. IOM Ecuador, Oct.-Dec. 2023).

In **Lago Agrio** an increase was shown in on-foot exits from November to december, moving from a daily average per week of 4 persons from 30 October to 1 November to an average of 28 from 27 november to 1 December. Entries remained almost constant through all the reporting period (Ibid).

In **Huaquillas** a slight increase in both inflows and outflows was observed until the last week of October and the first of November, reaching a daily average of 54 entries from October 30 to November 1, and 31 exits from 6 to 10 November. Towards the end of December, a significant decrease in both flows was also observed (Ibid).

ON-FOOT MIGRANT FLOW DAILY AVERAGE BY WEEK



Source: DTM Flow Monitoring Registry. IOM Ecuador, October-December 2023.

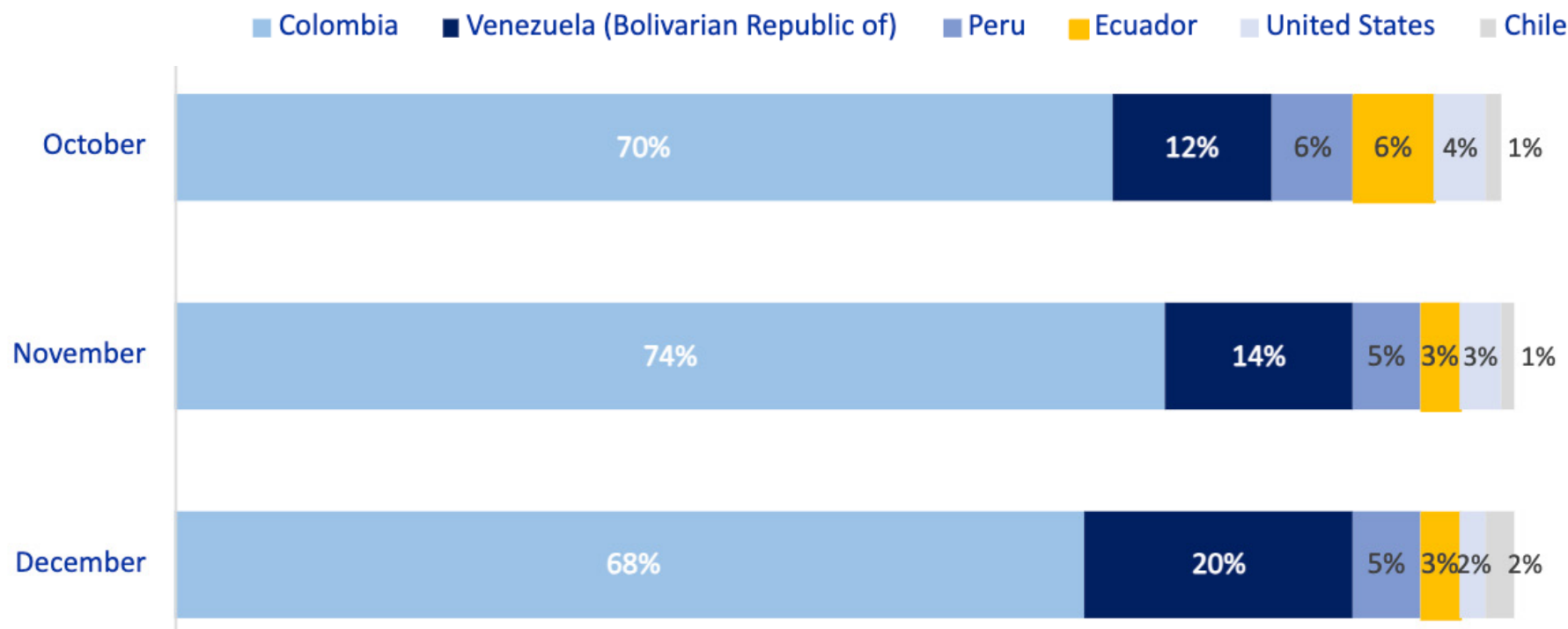


LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# COLOMBIA

According to data from DTM monitoring of refugee and migrant flows conducted during the registration process in accommodation services and Points of Attention and Orientation (PRO), between October and December 2023, **55.873** migrants were recorded. Within this group, 71 per cent expressed the intention to live in Colombia, with the most prominent departments being Antioquia (21%), Bogotá, D.C. (16%), and Norte de Santander (12%). Fourteen per cent indicated their willingness to return to Venezuela, while another 14 per cent were in transit to a third country, and one per cent engaged in a pendular movement between Colombia and Venezuela.

## COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION



Source: Record of entries of beneficiaries in Shelters and Orientation and Referral Points (PRO) in Colombia, IOM Colombia, 2023



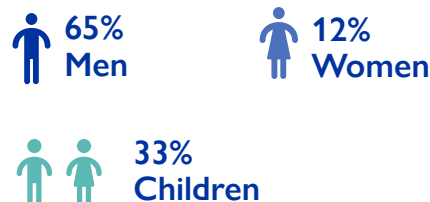
LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# COLOMBIA

Official migration data from Colombia estimates that, as of December 15, 2023, 527 748 irregular migrants were in transit through Colombian territory. Within this population, 64 per cent are of Venezuelan nationality, 11 per cent Haitian, 11 per cent Ecuadorian, and 6 per cent Chinese. Additionally, there is a marginal participation of other extracontinental nationalities (Indian, Afghan, Bangladeshi, Nepali, Cameroonian, Angolan, and Vietnamese), as well as from other countries in the continent (Cuba, Brazil, Dominican Republic, and Peru).



### SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE:



Regarding the migratory flow at the Panama border, there is a decrease in irregular migratory transit in Necoclí, according to migration data, compared to the previous quarter. This pattern is also noticeable in Turbo.

Moreover, authorities recorded an increase transit through the maritime corridor from San Andrés, Corn Island, Blufields, with the final destination in Managua, Nicaragua.

Note: All maps in this report are for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration.

Source: Irregular Migrants in Transit, Migration Ministry of Foreign Affairs Colombia, December 15, 2023.





LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

## BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA:

### TRENDS IN 2023



■ Departures ■ Returns

Source: IOM, GTIM 2023.

According to data from individuals in mobility assisted by IOM and UNHCR, despite migration exits being greater than returning nationals, there was an increase in the number of people returning in 2023 compared to 2022. For every 2.02 persons leaving, 1 person decided to return, representing a return-to-exit ratio of 0.59 (0.49 in 2022).

### EMIGRATION (OUTFLOWS) MAIN MOTIVATIONS TO MIGRATE:

\*The response per centages can add up to more than 100% (multiple choice)



Source: IOM, GTIM 2023.

The main destination countries (GTMI 2023) are: Colombia (71%), Peru (11%), Ecuador (7%), Chile (5%), the United States of America (4%), and Brazil (1%). However, it is essential to note that Colombia does not necessarily indicate the final destination of migrating individuals. Colombia may serve as a transient location as they move towards their ultimate destination.

### RETURNS (INFLOWS)

#### MAIN MOTIVATIONS TO RETURN:

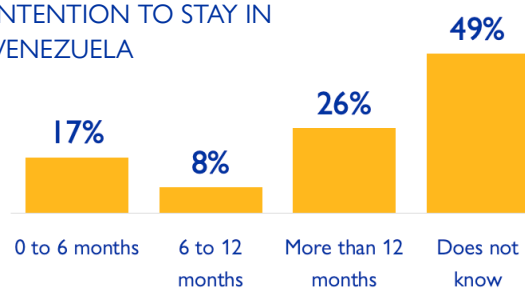
\*The response per centages can add up to more than 100% (multiple choice)



Source: IOM, GTIM 2023.

The prevailing reasons for return include family reunification and personal matters, suggesting that personal motivation and family connections are key factors in the decision to come back. Colombia is the primary country from which individuals return, accounting for 62%, followed by Peru (18%) and Ecuador (11%).

### INTENTION TO STAY IN VENEZUELA



26 per cent of individuals who returned in 2023 expressed the intention to stay in Venezuela for more than a year. Meanwhile, 49 per cent indicated that they do not know how long they will stay in Venezuela.

Source: IOM, GTIM 2023.

Source: Inter-Agency Mobility Group (IAMG), (2023). Migration Context: January-December 2023. Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

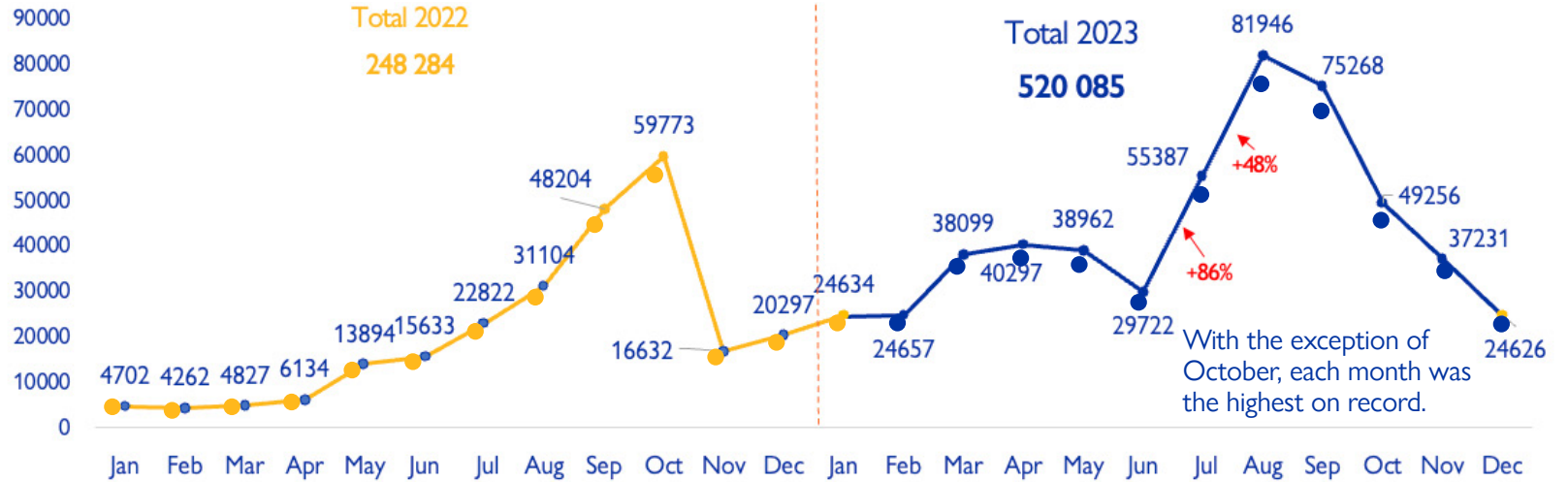
The presented data is the result of monitoring individuals in mobility attended by IOM – UNHCR and their implementing teams, located in border areas of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. This report does not include migration by sea (except for deported or repatriated individuals), air, or assisted voluntary return programs.

LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

PANAMA

IRREGULAR ENTRIES ON THE BORDER WITH COLOMBIA 2022 AND 2023

Source: National Immigration Service of Panama, [Irregular transit on the Panama-Colombia border](#), s.f. [January 2024].



Source: National Immigration Service of Panama, [Irregular transit on the Panama-Colombia border](#), s.f. [January 2024].

From October to December 2023, 1 208 average daily entries are recorded, and only 21% of the year's migratory flow has passed. As of December, the interannual flow increased by 110% of the total registered in 2022, it has doubled. With the exception of October, each month was the highest on record.

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE 2022 – 2023:



Total entries 2023: **78%** (406 939 ▲)  
 Total entries 2022: **84%** (207 846)



Total entries 2023: **22%** (113 146 ▲)  
 Total entries 2022: **16%** (40 438)

Source: National Immigration Service of Panama, [Irregular transit on the Panama-Colombia border](#), s.f. [January 2024].

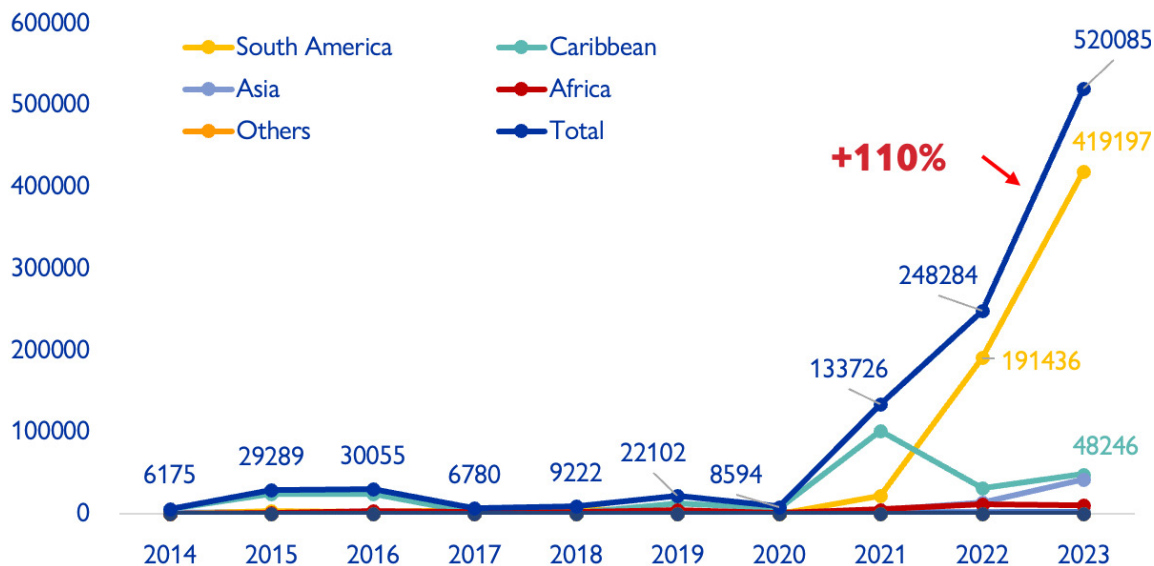
LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# PANAMA

IRREGULAR ENTRIES BY THE BORDER WITH COLOMBIA, BY REGION OF ORIGIN, 2014 – 2023

In 2023, only 18 percent of entries to Panama were irregular via the Darien, the rest were regular entries.

According to the Panamanian authorities, since the beginning of the year, until December 31, 2023, 520,085 irregular migrants have crossed through the province of Darién (328,650 Venezuelans, 57,250 Ecuadorians, 46,422 Haitians, 25,565 Chinese, 18,841 Colombians, 5,811 Chileans). In December alone there have been 24,626.



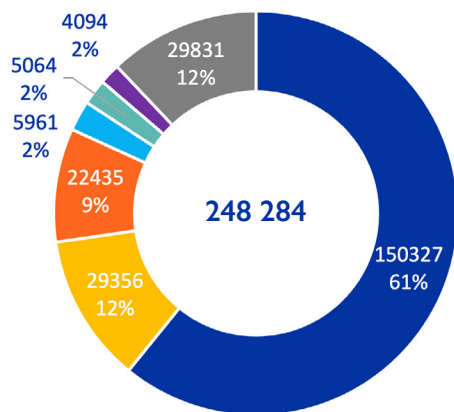
Source: National Immigration Service of Panama, Irregular transit on the Panama-Colombia border, s.f. [January 2024].

MAIN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN 2023 AND 2022

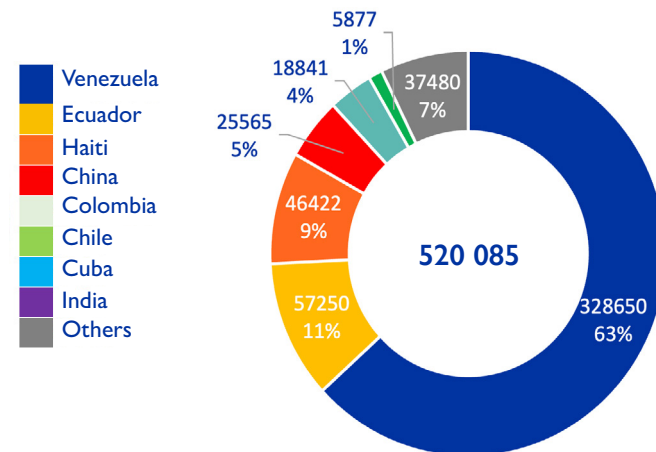
As of December, Venezuelans 63%, Ecuadorians 11% and Haitians 9% are the 3 main nationalities in Darién. People from China are included as the 4th nationality of relevance in the flow, 2,023 people from Cuba and India have decreased their transit through Darien compared to 2022.

Source: National Immigration Service of Panama, Irregular transit on the Panama-Colombia border, s.f. [January 2024].

MAIN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN IN 2022



MAIN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN IN 2023



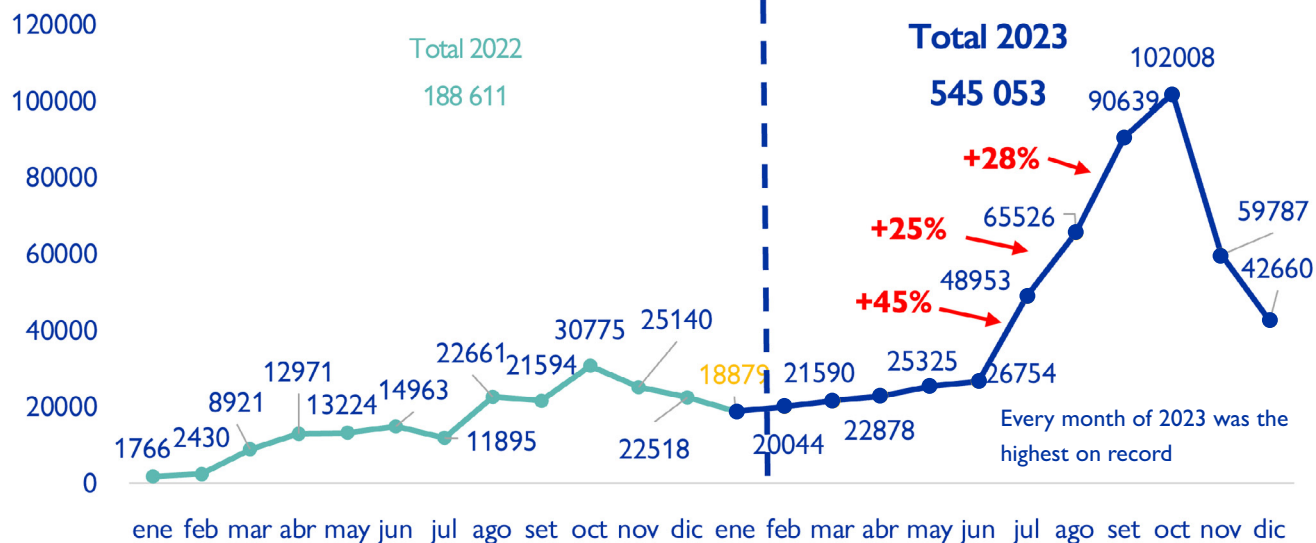


LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# HONDURAS

## IRREGULAR ENTRIES TO HONDURAS FROM NICARAGUA 2022 AND 2023

- In 2023, just 28 per cent of entries to Honduras through the southern border were irregular. The remaining were done so regularly.
- The second semester recorded 75 per cent of the total flow of the year.
- 2 230 average daily entries are recorded for the last quarter of 2023.
- The interannual flow increased by 189 per cent of the total registered in 2022.



Source: National Migration Institute, Irregular Migration Flow Statistics Panel, (January 2024).

### DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE 2022 – 2023:



Total entries 2023:  
**79%** (431 057 ▲)



Total entries 2022:  
**80%** (151 389)



Total entries 2023:  
**21%** (113 986 ▲)



Total entries 2022:  
**20%** (37 469)

Source: National Migration Institute, Irregular Migration Flow Statistics Panel, (January 2024).

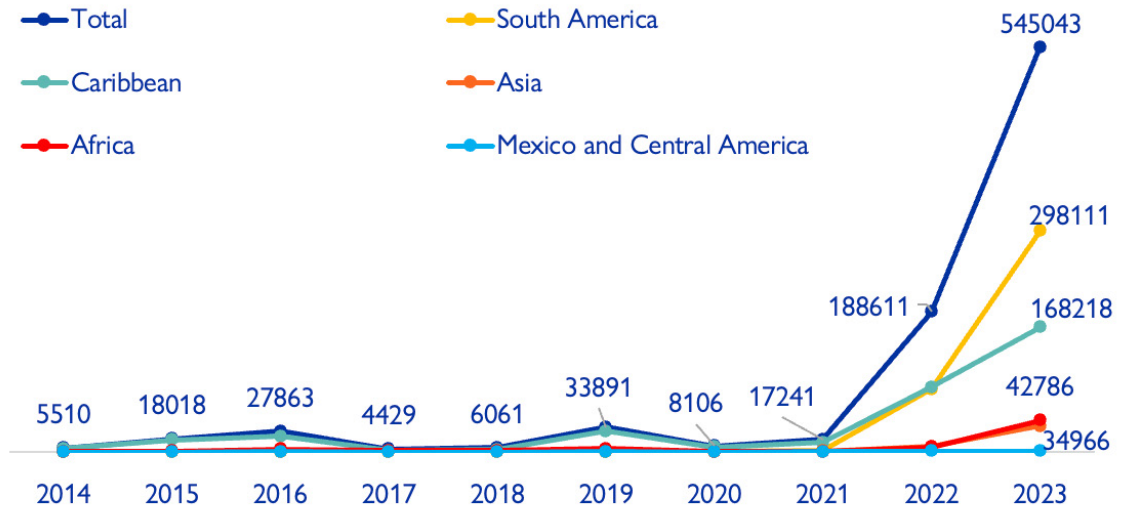


LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# HONDURAS

In 2023, according to Honduran authorities, 545 043 irregular entries have been registered, with a linear monthly increasing trend from January to June 2023. From July to October the increase was exponential, followed by a decrease in November and December. The main nationalities are Venezuelans (228 889), Cubans (85 969), Haitians (82 249), and Ecuadorians (46 086), reflecting the nationalities of countries in difficult situations in terms of economic, security, and political factors. In October 2023 alone, 102 008 people entered irregularly, the highest month recorded so far.

## IRREGULAR ENTRIES TO HONDURAS FROM NICARAGUA, BY REGION OF ORIGIN, 2014 – 2023

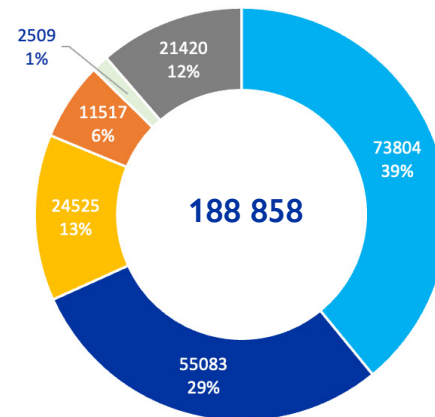


Source: National Migration Institute, Irregular Migration Flow Statistics Panel, (January 2024).

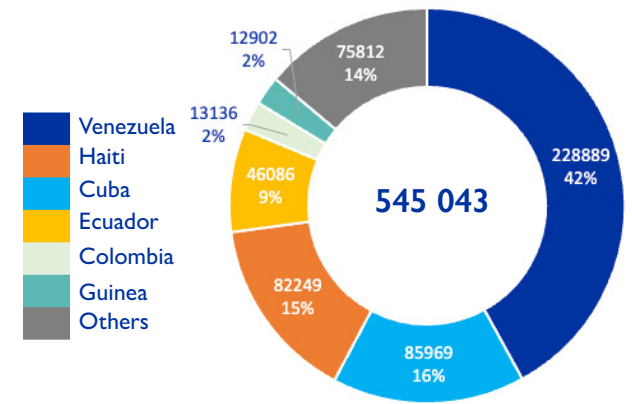
## MAIN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN 2022 AND 2023

In 2023, Venezuelans are 42%, Cubans 16%, Haitians 15%, and Ecuadorians 9% of the total, together they are 83% of the total flow in transit through Honduras.

### MAIN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN IN 2022



### MAIN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN IN 2023



Source: National Migration Institute, Irregular Migration Flow Statistics Panel, (January 2024).

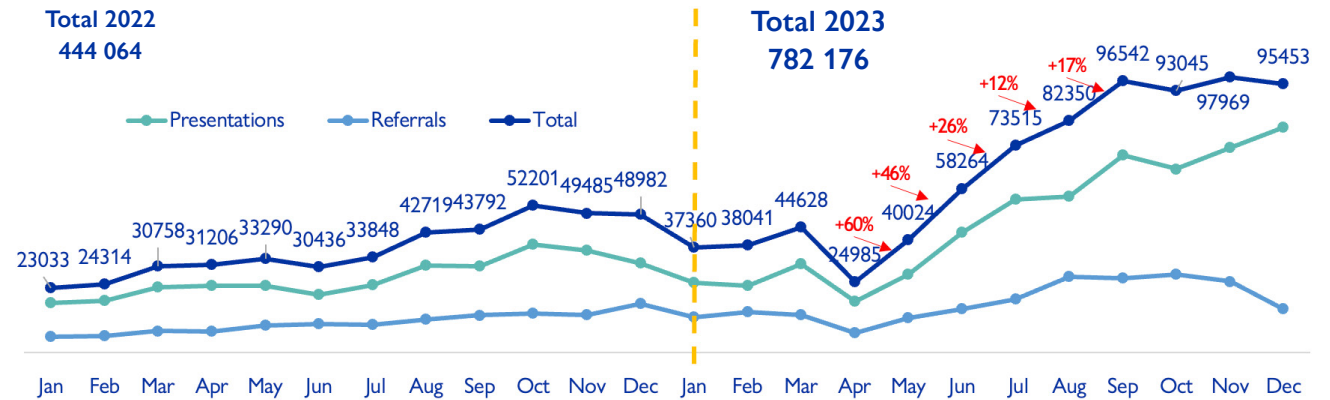


LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# MEXICO

## TOTAL EVENTS OF MIGRANTS WITH IRREGULAR SITUATION 2022-2023

Increasing trend in irregular person events in Mexico from April to September 2023. In the second semester, 69 per cent of the total flow of 2023 entered. By December 2023, the total number of events for 2022 has been exceeded by 74 per cent.



Source: Migration Policy Unit (UIP), Statistical Report (January 2024).

### PRESENTATIONS AND REFERRALS, 2023:

**782 176** ▲

**Presentations:** events of adult migrants who entered the immigration stations of the National Migration Institute (INM) under the administrative procedure of “presentation” for not providing proof of their immigration status.

**79%**  
437 365  
**Men**

**21%**  
128 996  
**Women**

### PRESENTATIONS AND REFERRALS, 2022:

**444 064**

**Referrals:** events of adult migrants referred by the National Migration Institute to shelters of the Network for the Comprehensive Development of the Family (DIF), for whom an administrative procedure was initiated because they did not have proof of their immigration status. Events involving minors or people with specific protection concerns

**20%**  
41 346  
**Men**

**27%**  
56 506  
**Women**

**29% (61 284) boys**  
**25% (52 367) girls**

Source: Migration Policy Unit (UIP), Statistical Report (January 2024).



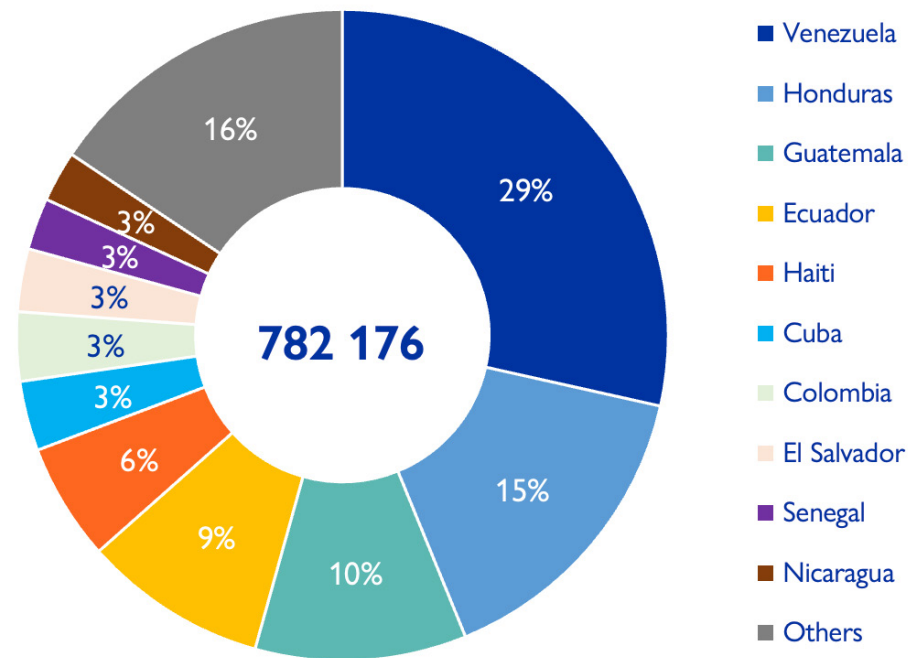
LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# MEXICO

MAIN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN OF PRESENTATIONS AND REFERENCES, 2023



Flow of migrants in transit in Dali, El Paraíso. IOM 2023 / Erick Escoto. © IOM 2023



Only in December 2023, 12 per cent of the total entered since January, which represents 3 079 daily events with irregular migrants on average.

In 2023, as of December, Venezuelans 222 855, Hondurans 119 986, Guatemalans 82 032, Ecuadorians 71 391 and Haitians 45 457, are the main nationalities in transit through Mexico. These nationalities represent 69 per cent of the events of migrants in irregular transit.

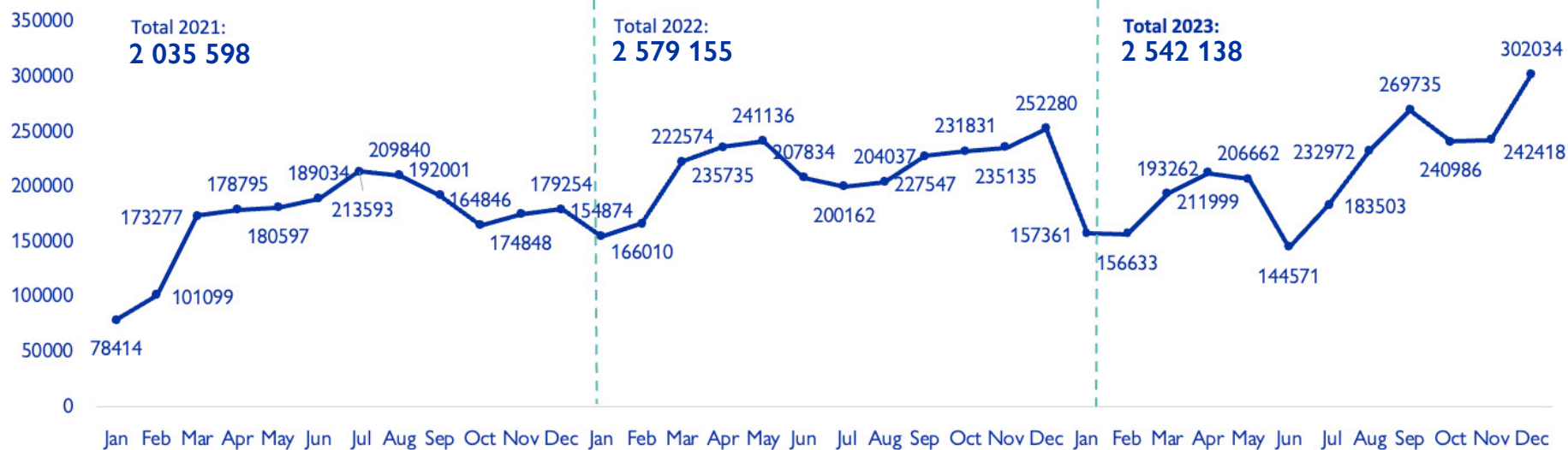
Source: Migration Policy Unit (UIP), [Statistical Report](#) (January 2024).



LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# UNITED STATES

## ENCOUNTERS ON THE LAND BORDER OF THE SOUTHWEST UNITED STATES, 2021-2023



Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, [Southwest Land Border Encounters](#), (January, 2024)

- December 2023 is the highest month in data recording, representing 9 743 daily encounters.
- 14 percent (358 037) occurred under Title 42 since January.
- 86 per cent (2 184 099) occurred under Title 8 since January
- The total number of encounters in 2023 (2 542 138) is 1 per cent lower than the total in 2022. There is an increasing trend from July to December 2023 with a slight decrease in October and November.

Encounter data includes US Border Patrol (USBP) Title 8 apprehensions, Office of Field Operations (OFO) Title 8 inadmissibility, and Title 42 expulsions. As of March 21 In 2020, expulsions began to be applied under Title 42, that is, migrants in an irregular situation detected by immigration authorities were deported to the last country of immediate transit or to their country of origin for public health considerations. Title 42 expired on May 11, 2023.

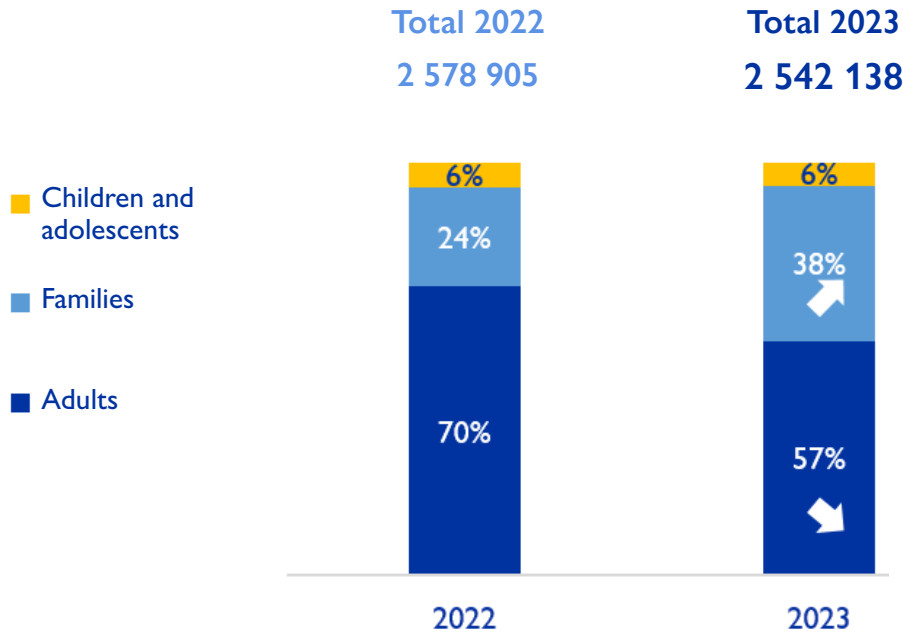




LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

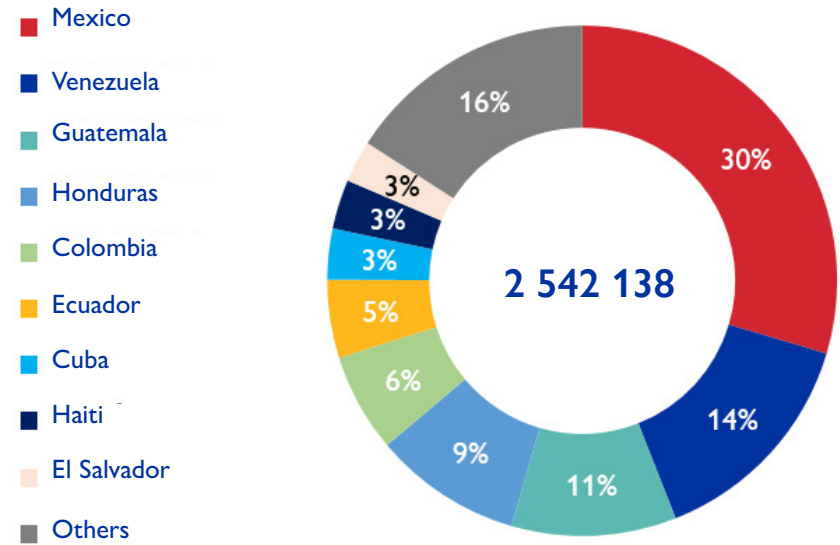
# UNITED STATES

ENCOUNTERS AT THE LAND BORDER OF THE SOUTHWEST UNITED STATES, 2022 – 2023



At the demographic level, more and more families are traveling together. While in 2022 they represented 24% of the flow, by December 2023 they represent 38% of the total encounters. This demonstrates a change in the trend of previous years in which family flows were lower.

TOP COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN IN ENCOUNTERS AT THE LAND BORDER OF THE SOUTHWEST UNITED STATES IN 2023



Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Southwest Land Border Encounters, (January, 2024)

For December, Mexicans 30%, Venezuelans 14%, Guatemalans 11% and Hondurans 9%, are the nationalities that together represent 64% of the total encounters on the southwest land border.

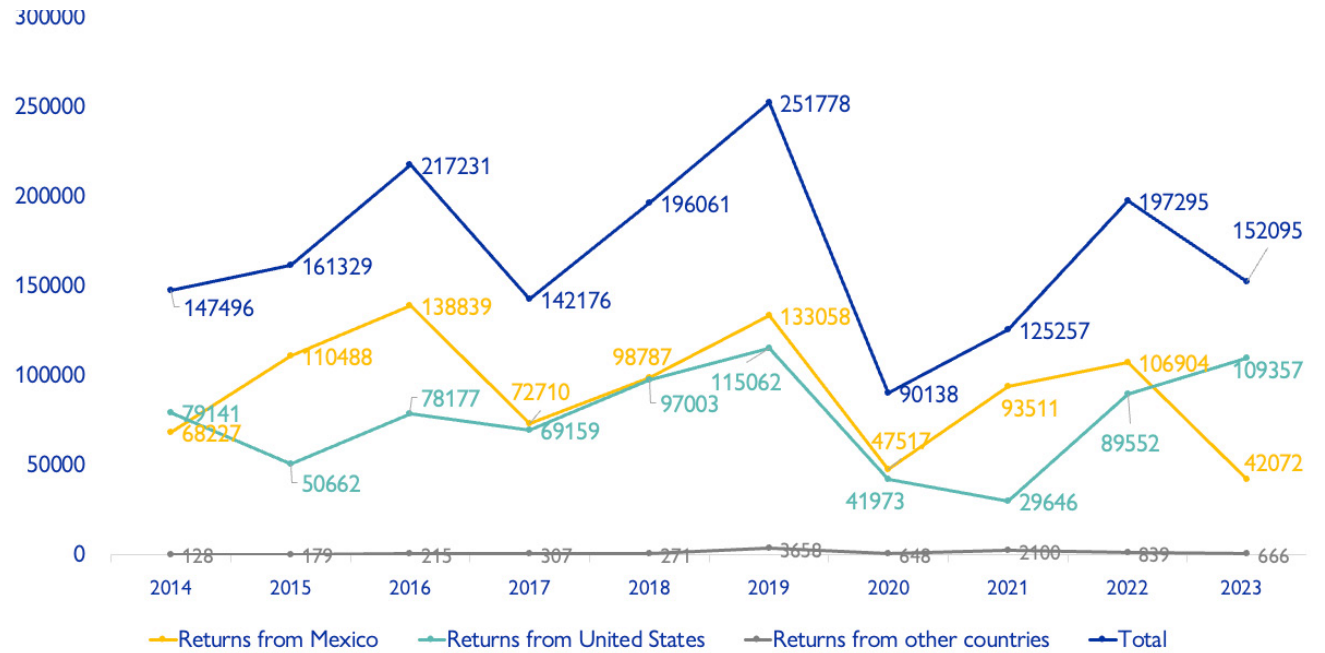


LARGE MOVEMENTS IN THE AMERICAS

# RETURNS OF SALVADORANS, GUATEMALAN AND HONDURANS

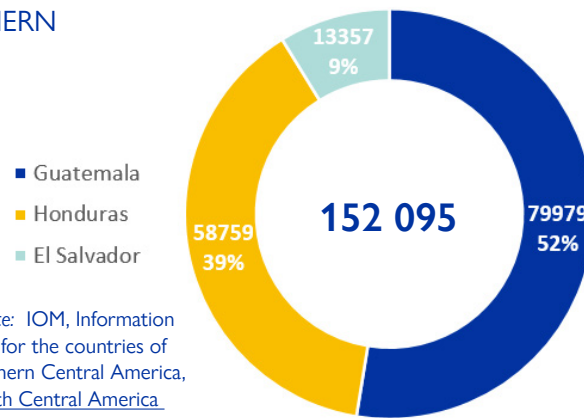
RETURNS FROM MEXICO, THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER COUNTRIES, 2014-2023

The flow of migrants returned to the region from January to December 2023 was reduced by 23% compared to the same period of time during 2022 (El Salvador: -7%; Guatemala: -15%; Honduras: -34%). Compared to the same period of time in 2021, there was an increase of 21% (El Salvador: 57%; Guatemala: 25%; Honduras: 11%).



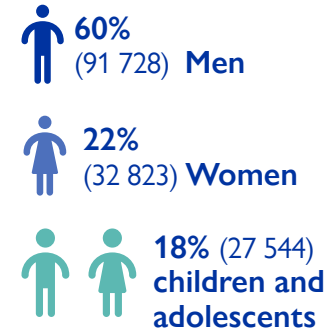
Source: IOM, Information Unit for the countries of northern Central America, North Central America Dashboard, January 2024.

## RETURNS BY COUNTRY IN NORTHERN CENTRAL AMERICA IN 2023

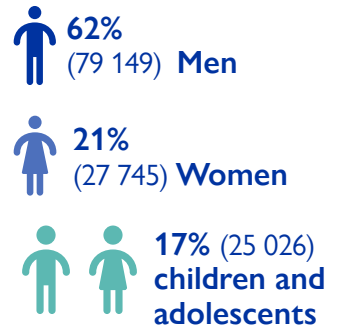


Source: IOM, Information Unit for the countries of northern Central America, North Central America Dashboard, January 2024.

### RETURNS 2023



### RETURNS 2022





GLOBAL DATA INSTITUTE  
GLOBAL MIGRATION  
DATA ANALYSIS CENTRE



# MIGRATION TRENDS IN THE AMERICAS

IOM REGIONAL OFFICE IN SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA  
IOM REGIONAL OFFICE IN BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA  
OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE REGIONAL  
RESPONSE TO THE SITUATION IN VENEZUELA

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2023

## ABOUT IOM REGIONAL DATA HUBS

The RDH was established in September 2020 in IOM's Regional Office for Central America, North America and the Caribbean, with the purpose of operationalizing and implementing IOM's institutional Migration Data Strategy in the region.

The RDH provides support to IOM Country Offices, as well as to Member States, civil society organizations and other key stakeholders in the region in order to build activities related to migration data and information management.

The three main objectives of the Data Hub, aligned with the Migration Data Strategy, are the following:

**Objective 1** Strengthen the global evidence based on migration.

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**Objective 2** Develop the capacities of States and other relevant partners to enhance the national, regional and global migration.

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**Objective 3** Ensure more evidence-based IOM- and United Nations system-wide programming, operations, policy advice and communications.

The RDH activities are aligned with the commitments made in various international frameworks, including the Global Compact for Safe, **Regular and Orderly Migration (GCM)**, in particular its Objective 1: "Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies", as well as the goals and indicators of the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, including, for example, Target 10.7: "facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration and mobility of persons, including by way of the implementation of well-planned and managed migration policies) and Target 17.18: "... increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status..."

## CONTACT

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International Organization for Migration (IOM) Regional Office for South America Buenos Aires, Argentina

### **Regional Data Team (RDH, in Buenos Aires, Argentina)**

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Office of the Special Envoy for the Regional Response to the Situation in Venezuela (OSE) Panama City, Panama

Website: <https://respuestavenezolanos.iom.int/>