



Mixed Movements

Overview of key figures and trends

Population movements from January to June 2022 have continued to increase when compared to 2021 and previous years. The profiles of these people on the move continue to evolve, with a substantial increase in Venezuelans entering Panama and Mexico for January to June 2022, now representing the majority.

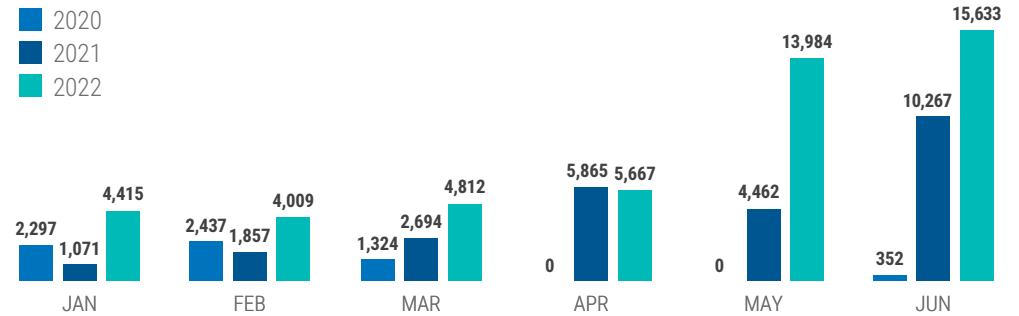
Data on irregular entries from SENAFRONT in the Darien Region of Panama and asylum applications in the region reflect the scale of this increase. As a result of closed borders and/or newly introduced visa requirements, they largely travel along irregular routes where they are exposed to dangers of grave physical harm, exploitation and abuse ([HRW, 2022](#)).



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Irregular entries Darien | 2020-2022

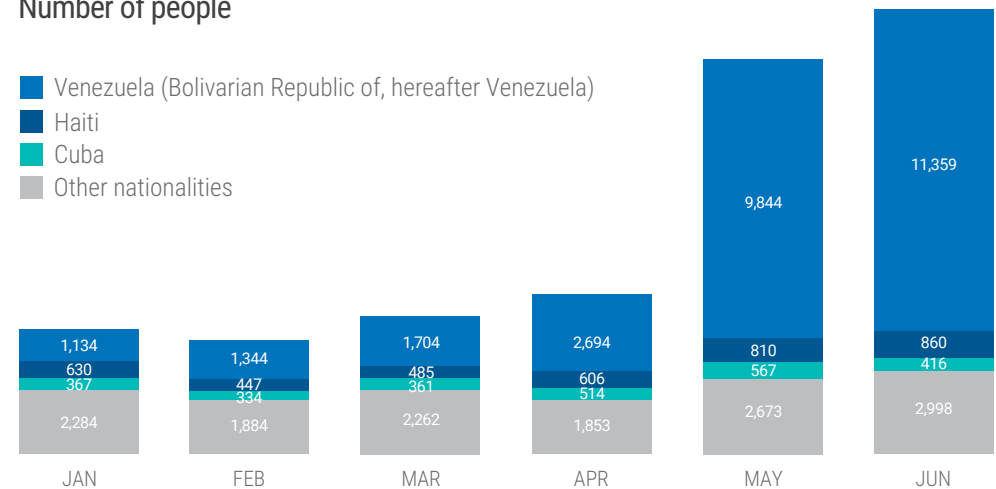
Number of people (in thousand)



Irregular entries by nationalities | 2022

Number of people

- Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of, hereafter Venezuela)
- Haiti
- Cuba
- Other nationalities



Sources: SENAFRONT Panama, 2022

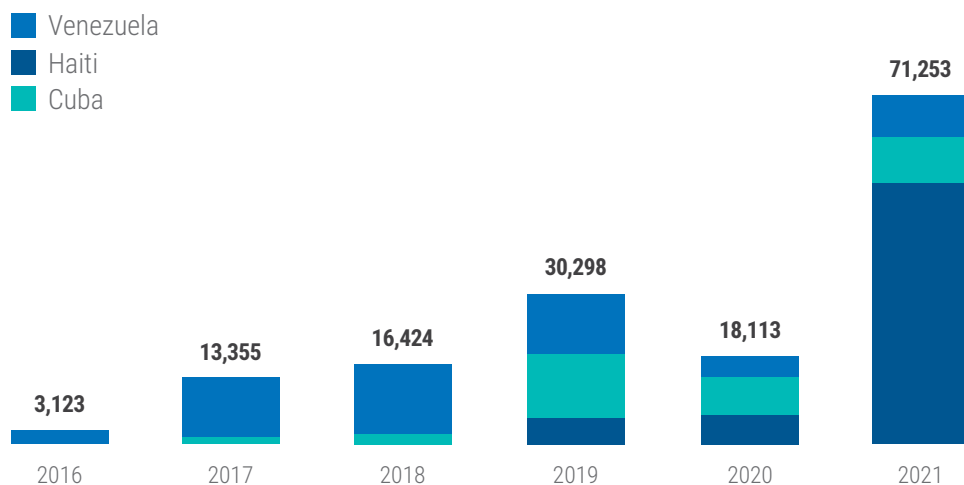


Asylum trends in Central America and Mexico

Asylum applications in Central America and Mexico continue to increase. 2021 saw a substantial increase in Haitian nationals applying for asylum in Mexico while data on 2022 asylum trends shows an increase in the number of asylum applications with Hondurans, Cubans, Haitians, Venezuelans and Nicaraguans among the top five nationalities

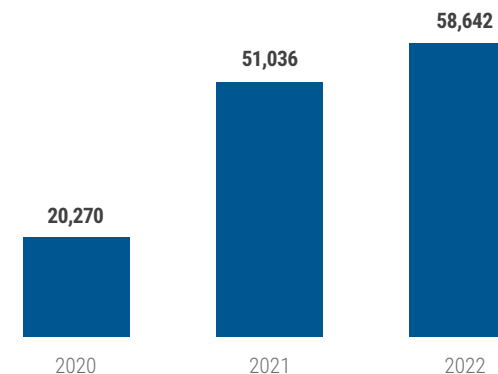
According to the official data released by the National Refugee Commission, 58,642 new asylum applications were registered in Mexico from January to June, an increase of 15% compared to the same period in 2021. (Source: [COMAR](#), 2022).

Asylum applications in Central America and Mexico by Haitian, Cuban and Venezuelan nationals | 2016 - 2021



Asylum Applications in Mexico

Jan - Jun: 2020 - 2022 (all nationalities)



Origin of asylum new asylum applications in Mexico, up to June 2022

Honduras	13,750
Cuba	10,791
Haiti	8,230
Venezuela	7,196
Nicaragua	4,616
El Salvador	3,373
Guatemala	2,176
Brazil	1,411
Colombia	1,168
Senegal	985
Other countries	4,946
Total	58,642

Source: COMAR Mexico, R4V. https://www.r4v.info/es/document/americacentral-mexico-y-colombia-r4v-reporte-especial-de-situacion-actualizacion-junio_UNHCR_2022



Human mobility restrictions update: Changes in travel restrictions, visas, entrance permits Regularization trends (humanitarian, visa, temporary permits)

- The newly elected President of Colombia has confirmed the re-opening of the border with Venezuela by 7 August for international transportation ([TELAM, 2022](#)). This border is currently closed, open only for circulation by foot.
- During the year 2022 several countries in the region have introduced visas as an entry and transit requirement for certain nationalities, for example, [Panama established on March 8th](#), the transit visa for Cubans. As of February 21st, 2022, [Costa Rica requires entry visas for Venezuelans](#), both for [transit and destination purposes, and established a transit visa for Cubans and Nicaraguans](#). [Mexico has also imposed tourist visas for Venezuelans](#) since the beginning of the year 2022. Other countries such as Nicaragua, on the contrary, [have implemented free visas for Cubans](#) since November 2021.
- According to the latest [R4V Report](#), in terms of returns to Venezuela, exits along land, river and sea borders (both regular and irregular) from Colombia to Venezuela fluctuated between a high of 17,564 in January and a low of 13,518 February, with 14,870 exits in March. Pendular movements along the Venezuela/Colombia border dropped significantly from December (17,344) to March (8,449) with the peak in December reflective of seasonal movement trends observed in past years over the Christmas and New Year's holidays.
- Colombia: From May 2021, when the Temporary Protection Statute was implemented in Colombia, until May 2022, 1.38 million Venezuelan citizens have accessed to a regular status, representing 52 per cent of more than 2 million applicants ([Migración Colombia, 2022](#)).

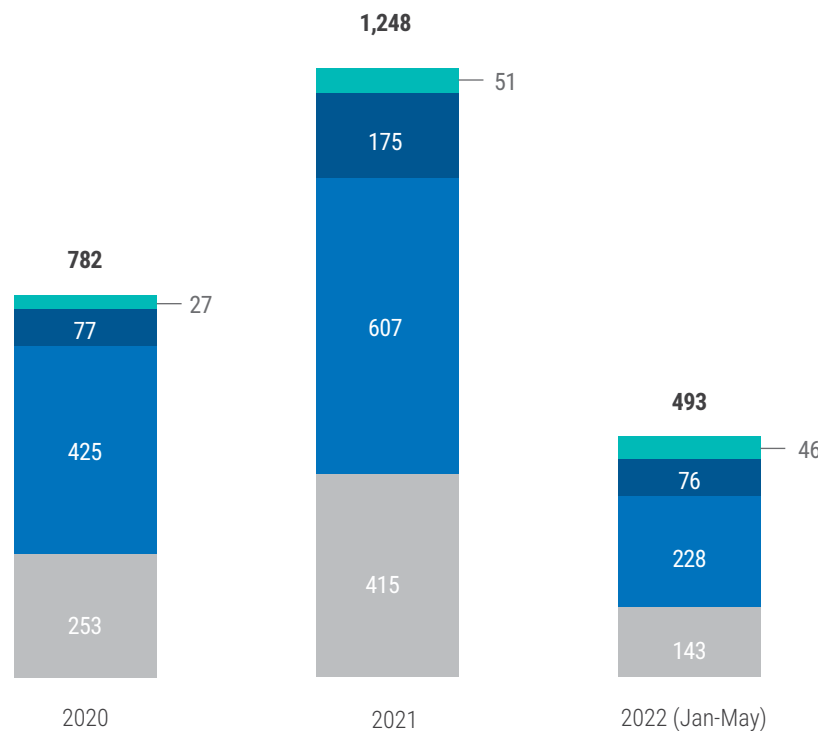


Missing migrants

- Since IOM began monitoring deaths and disappearances of migrants and people on the move, between 2014 until May 2022, 6,429 cases have been recorded in the region. Actual figures may be a lot higher as not all deaths are recorded.
- For January-May 2022, 493 cases were registered. Geographical distribution: Caribbean 137; Central America: 150; South America: 47 and North America: 159.
- During 2021, more than 720 cases of dead and missing people on the move were identified in the U.S.-Mexico border area. For the period January - May 11, 2022, 154 cases have already been registered in this area.

Total of missing migrants recorded in the Americas by sex (2020 - May 2022)

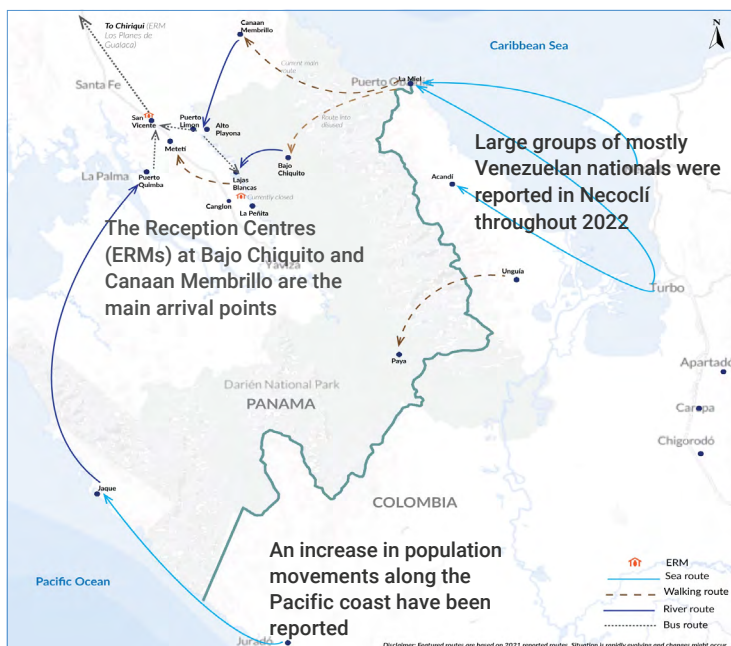
■ Male ■ Female ■ Children ■ Undetermined



Source: [Missing Migrants Project](#), 2022



Mixed Movements Colombia – Panama



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Currently, the Government of Panama maintains active the Operation Controlled Flow, through which it provides humanitarian assistance and mobilizes hundreds of refugees and migrants daily to the Migrant Reception Stations (ERM) in the provinces of Darien and Chiriquí.

On July 2022, due to the closure of the Pan-American Highway, the Migratory Reception Station (ERM) of San Vicente in the Province of Darien (with a maximum capacity of 250 people), has accommodated more than 900 people in mobility, some for several days, exceeding the capacity by more than 300%.



Since January 2022, refugees and migrants from Venezuela have been the predominant population (almost 60%) crossing through the Darien, illustrating a shift in population movement dynamics when compared to the previous year.

According to information from local authorities, as many as half of refugees and migrants in-transit through the Darien reported being victims of robbery or fraud during their journeys. Many arrive hungry and injured at reception centres in the Darien. ([R4V Situation Report](#)).

Sources: SENAFRONT, IOM, UNICEF, R4V, 2022

Through DTM flow monitoring of the Venezuelan refugee and migrant population in the Darién during the period from May 16 to June 13, 2022, 321 refugees and migrants were surveyed:

- 67% Men | 33% Women
- 54% of the total resided in Venezuela in the last 12 months before initiating their journey, 18% in Colombia, 13% in Peru, 12% in Ecuador, 3% in Chile, and 1% in other countries.
- 93.1% stated United States as final intended destination, 2.5% Mexico, 0.9% Canada and 0.6% Costa Rica.
- The main risk identified was suffering physical injuries along the route.
- The respondents identified 18 cases of missing persons.

Source: IOM DTM, [Monitoreo de flujo población venezolana](#), June 2022



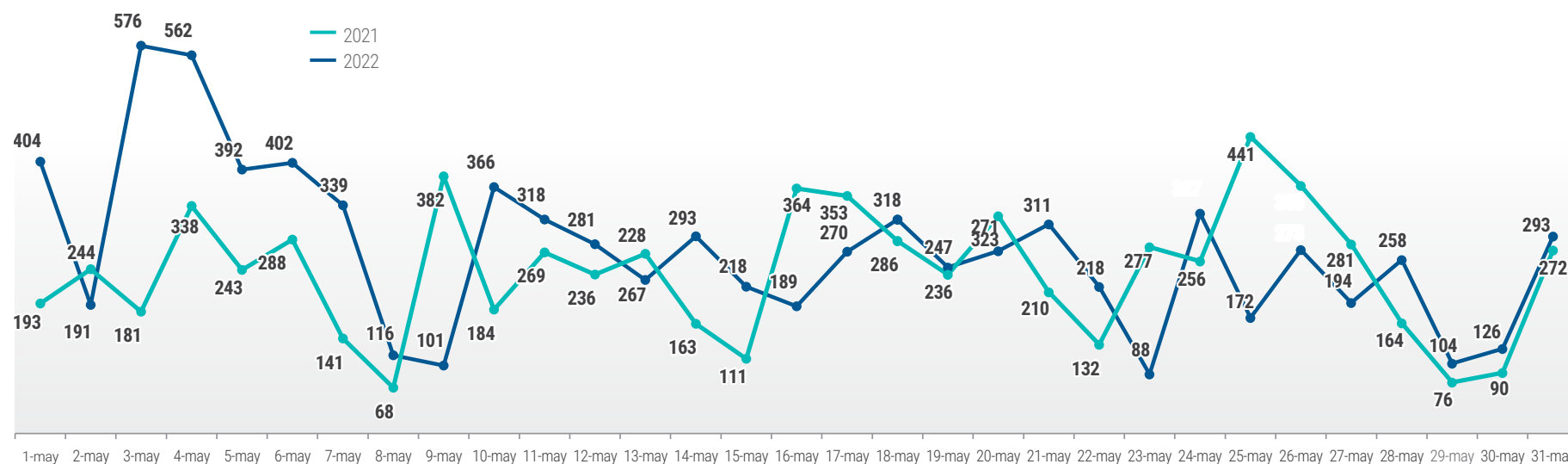
Mixed Movements Colombia (May 2022)

Context

According to [official data](#), in 2021 260,000 Venezuelan nationals entered Colombia and 250,000 exited via air, land and sea borders. The most dynamic month was December, concentrating 22% of the entries and 20% of the exits.

The graph below shows data comparing the daily distribution during May 2021 and 2022 of 7,437 refugees and migrants from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela interviewed in DTM¹ response activities in May 2022. These refugees and migrants were interviewed in 27 shelters in Colombia where they received humanitarian assistance².

- Comparing May 2022 with May 2021, data collected in those 27 shelters shows that the number of Venezuelan refugees and migrants declined from 8,446 to 7,437 (12%). Data for April 2022, also shows a decreased in comparison to April 2021.



Source: [DTM Colombia - Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela - Flow Monitoring Emergency and Stabilization Program. May 2022](#)

¹ The [Displacement Tracking Matrix \(DTM\)](#) is a modular system that IOM uses to capture, process and disseminate information on human mobility, routes and places of displacement, the degree of vulnerability and the main needs of protection of these populations. Neither DTM deployed in Colombia nor in Peru show results from a probabilistic surveys nor sampling. Data on both country sections is non probabilistic.

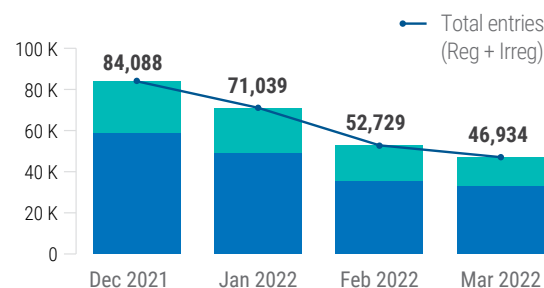
² Interviewed Venezuelan refugees and Migrants per Assistance shelter: Antioquia (109), Arauca (324), Atlántico (37), Bogotá (285), Bolívar (30), Casanare (1275), Cundinamarca (174), La Guajira (374), Nariño (2029), Norte de Santander(2.087), Santander (378), Tolima (77), Valle del Cauca (258).



Mixed Movements Colombia (March-June 2022)

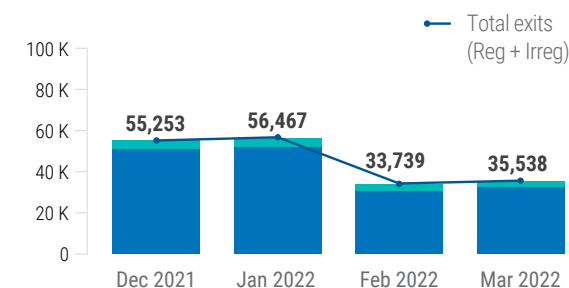
Total entries of refugees and migrants from Venezuela via land, river and sea borders (both regular and irregular) to Colombia decreased successively every month from December (82,373) to March (45,129), with the same trend observed in entries of Venezuelans by air (decreasing from 23,721 in December every month to 14,687 in March).

Entries of Venezuelans to Colombia, First Trimester of 2022



Entries	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22
Regular from Venezuela	34,668	30,214	16,789	17,303
Regular from Ecuador	564	968	646	740
Regular from Colombian Caribbean Coast	30	19	29	9
Regular by air	23,721	17,759	17,758	14,687
Total	58,983	48,960	35,222	32,739
Irregular from Venezuela	23,984	20,665	16,422	13,130
Irregular from Ecuador	1,121	1,414	1,085	1,065
Total	25,105	22,079	17,507	14,195

Exits of Venezuelans from Colombia, First Trimester of 2022



Exits	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22
Regular to Venezuela	11,622	14,051	11,092	12,025
Regular to Ecuador	108	334	316	354
Regular from Colombian Caribbean Coast	15	28	25	34
Regular by air	39,177	37,694	19,179	19,917
Total	50,922	52,107	30,612	32,330
Irregular to Venezuela	4,015	3,513	2,426	2,845
Irregular from Ecuador	316	847	701	363
Total	4,331	4,360	3,127	3,208

Source: Source: R4V, [Movements Report: First Quarter 2022](#), June 2022.



Mixed Movements

Panama – Costa Rica (May 2022)

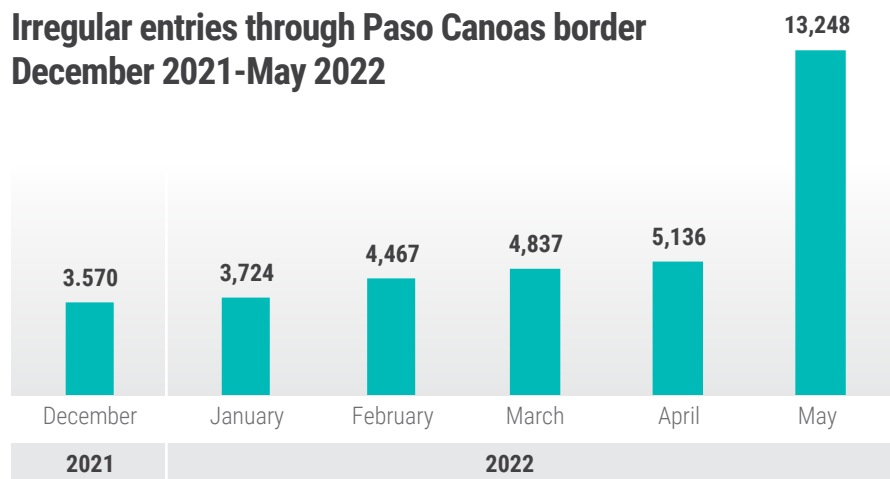


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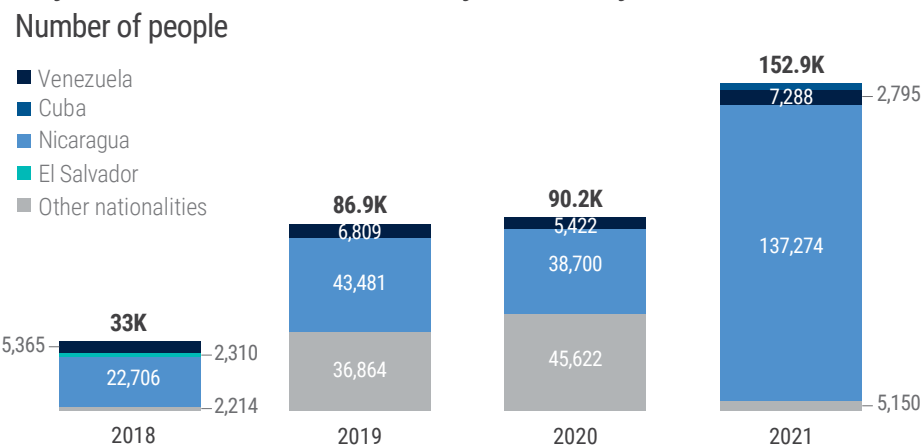
In May 2022, IOM's DTM identified the following trends at the Paso Canoas border:

- 158% increase in the flow in comparison to April 2022 (5,136 people)
- Nationalities
 1. 85% Venezuelan
 2. 5% Haitian
 3. 2.5% Dominican
 4. 2.5% Senegalese
- 74% Males | 26% Females
- 91% stated United States as final intended destination
- 19% were 17 years or younger
- 77% of Venezuelan refugees and migrants in-transit had resided in Venezuela immediately before initiating their journeys north (this percentage increased gradually over the past five months, from 46% in January, to 61% in February, to 65% in March and 76% in April).

Irregular entries through Paso Canoas border December 2021-May 2022



Asylum-seekers in Costa Rica by nationality 2018 -2021





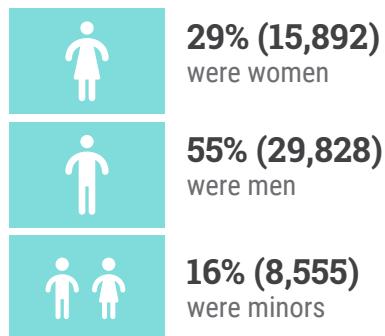
Mixed Movements

Nicaragua - Honduras - Guatemala (June 2022)

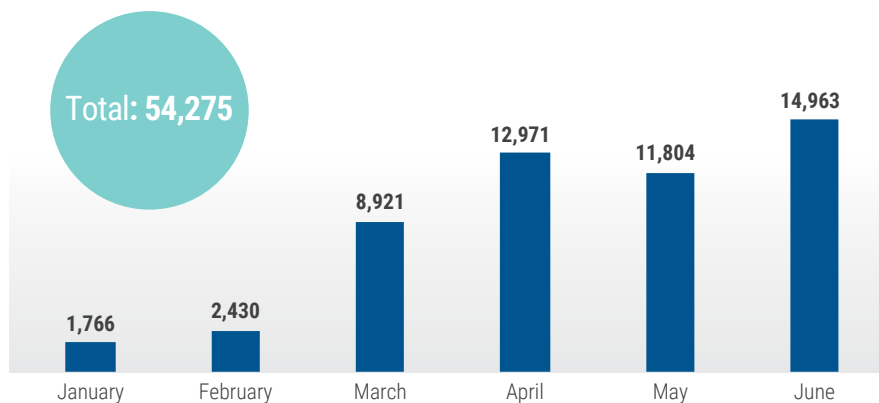


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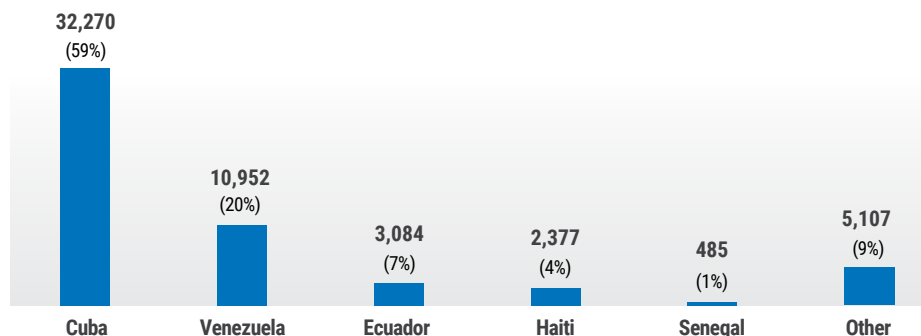
Totals by demographic groups:



Irregular refugees and migrants entries to Honduras per month, January-June 2022



Country of nationality of refugees and migrants entering Honduras irregularly, January-June 2022



Trends in 2022 in Honduras

According to official reports from the National Migration Institute (INM) as of June 30, 2022, Cuban nationals continue to comprise the largest number of irregular entries into the country.

Source: [National Migration Institute \(INM\)](#) of Honduras, 2022.



Mixed Movements Mexico (April - May 2022)

Tapachula (state of Chiapas) and Tenosique (state of Tabasco) are two of the main receiving cities of mixed population movements in southern Mexico because of their location on the border with Guatemala.

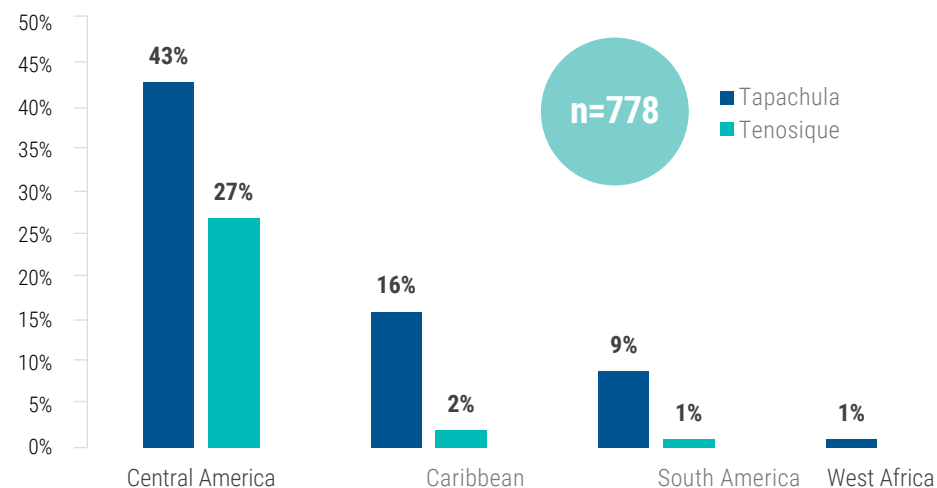
In April 2022, IOM's DTM identified the following trends through the monitoring of mixed flows in Tapachula and Tenosique (sectors of the southern border of Mexico).

In April there was a sharp decrease in the arrivals in both sectors, but what stands out is the diversity of nationals from Honduras, Haiti, Cuba, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in Tapachula

Results summary:

- 69% of interviewees were located in Tapachula, 31% in Tenosique. Distribution by gender shows 74% were males and 25% were females.
- Almost 50% of respondents were between the ages of 18 to 25
- The distribution of refugees and migrants by nationality indicates that most are from Honduras (45%), followed by Haiti (17%) and Guatemala (11%). Nationals were also found from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Cuba, Senegal, Colombia, Guinea, the Dominican Republic, Ghana, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which represented a total of 28%
- 79% were unemployed divided into 57% looking for work (mainly in Tapachula) and 22% not looking for work (percentage-wise the same in both cities). 21% of respondents, mostly in Tapachula, were working as employees (11%) or on their own (10%).

Percentage of refugees and migrants by region of country of nationality and by city



- Between December 2021 and January 2022, the monthly average of Venezuelans arriving by plane in Mexico was around 28,800 people. As of February 1, 2022, the Mexican government began to require visas for people holding Venezuelan passports. Between February and April 2022, the monthly average of Venezuelans arriving by plane in Mexico was around 4,100 people. An 86% reduction in the monthly average of Venezuelans arriving by plane in Mexico.
- Encounters of Venezuelans at the US border dropped from 22,779 in January to 5,078 in May 2022; totaling over encounters 39,000 in 2022.

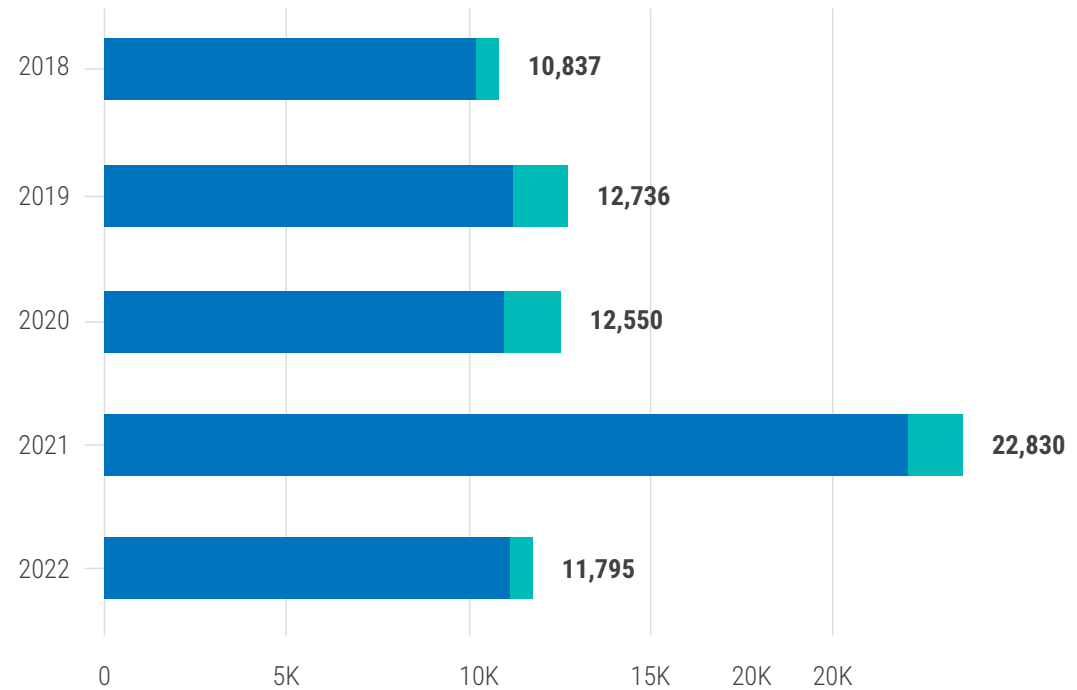
Sources: IOM, UNHCR, R4V, 2022



Child Returnees from US to Mexico

Events of repatriation of Mexican children and adolescents from the United States
By age group (2018 - May 2022)

■ 12-17 years old ■ 0-11 years old

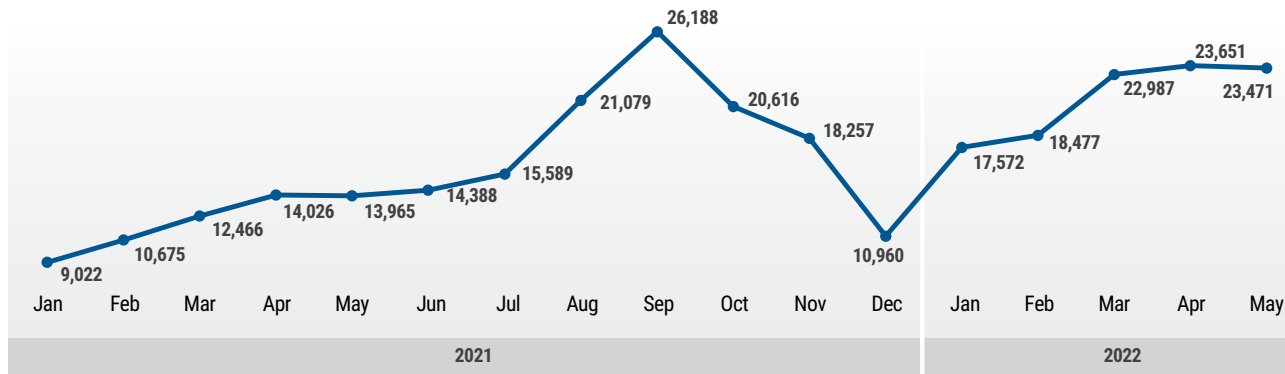


Source: [UPMRIP](#) Boletín mensual de estadísticas migratorias, 2022



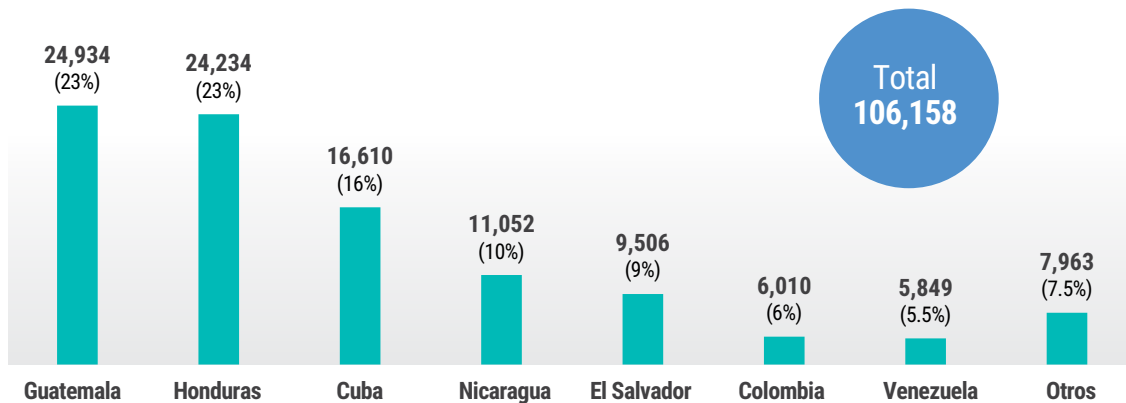
Mixed Movements Apprehensions in Mexico

Apprehensions by Mexican migration authorities, 2021-2022

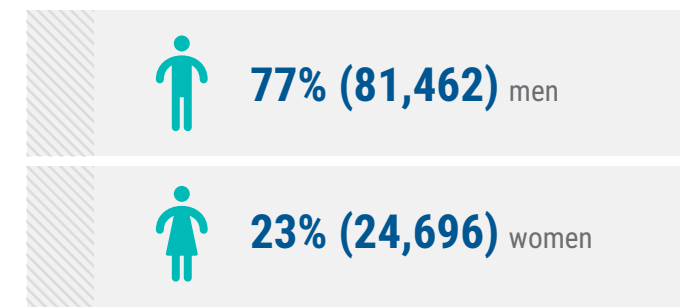


The period between **January-May 2022** presents an increase of **76%** compared to the same period in 2021 (**60,154**)

Apprehensions by Mexican migration authorities by country of origin, January – May 2022



Totals by demographic groups:



Source: UPM, 2022



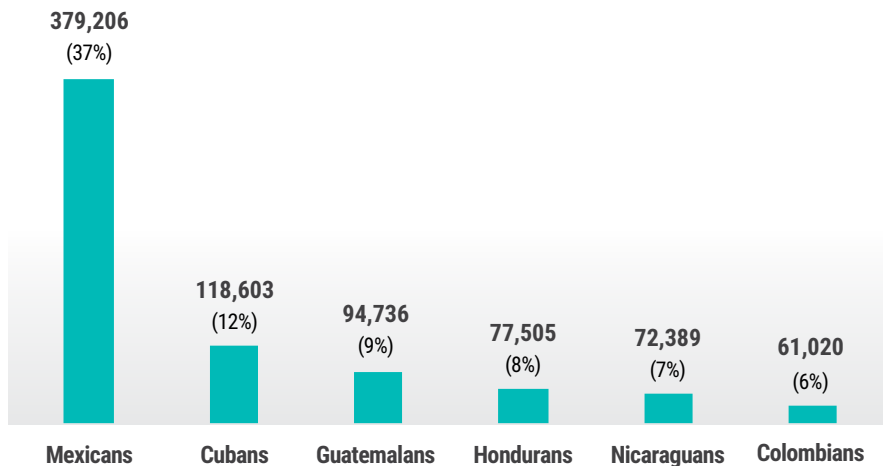
Encounters in the Southwestern United States Border

Southwest land border encounters by month, 2021-2022

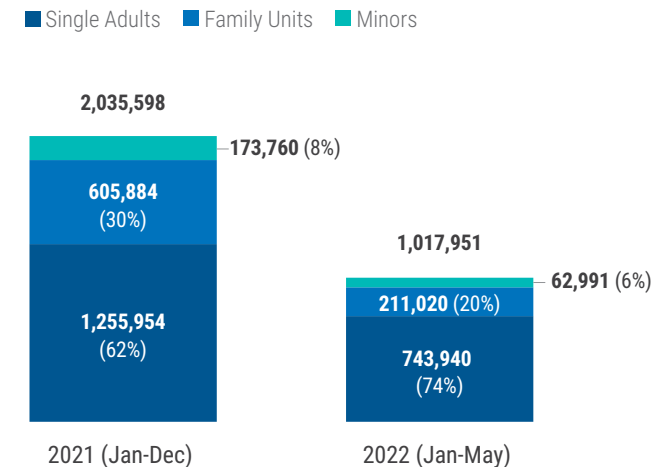


The period between **January-May 2022** presents an increase of **43%** compared to the same period in 2021 (**712,182**)

Main nationalities of the identified encounters at the U.S. border in 2022 (January-May)



Encounters on the southwest border of the United States, 2021-2022 (January-May)



Source: United States (U.S.) [Customs and Border Protection](#) (U.S.) Department of Homeland Security, 2022



WFP Study (Jan - Mar 2022)

Preliminary Results

Food Security:

In the short term: 1 in 4 only had one or two meals the day before the survey while 58% were worried about food during the week before the survey.

During the trip: 10% experienced severe hunger, such as not having food to eat, and even spending entire days without eating. In addition almost half of them (49%) experienced a situation of moderate hunger during their journey.

In general, the situation of Venezuelans is more precarious compared to other groups.

Concerns and needs:

Most people are primarily concerned about the possibility of being deported. Followed by the inability to get food.

Primary needs:



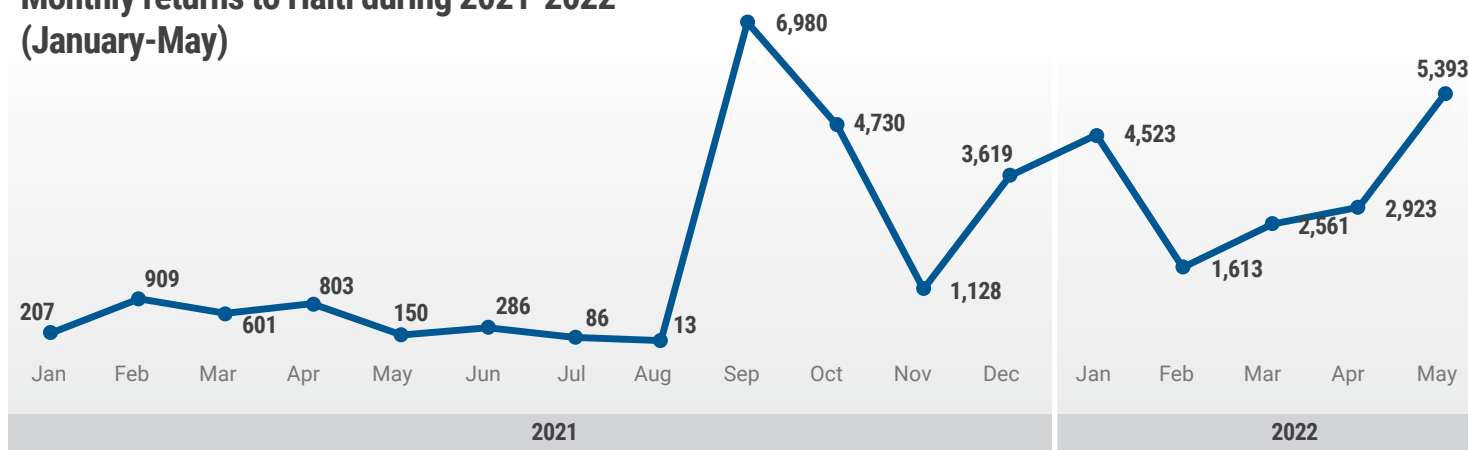
Source: WFP

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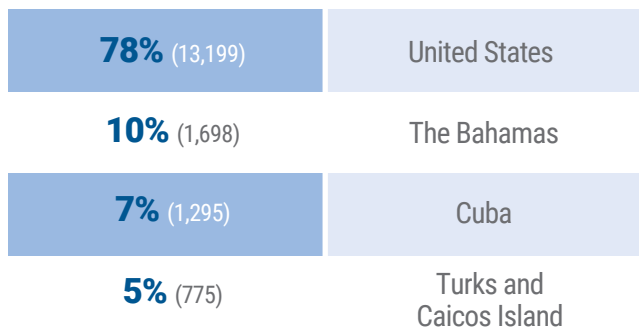
Returns to Haiti

Monthly returns to Haiti during 2021-2022 (January-May)

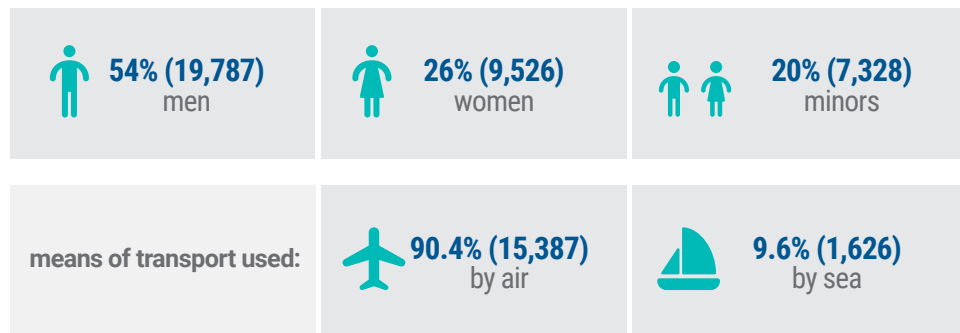


17,013
returns from
January-May
2022

Returns by repatriation country, January-May, 2022



Of the total 36,642 returns from January 2021 to date:



Source: IOM Haiti, [Migrant returns and reception assistance in Haiti](#), May 2022



Mixed movement drivers in countries of origin (June 2022)

General Context

Low economic growth of 1.8% of GDP for 2022, well below the 6.1% recorded in 2021, and higher inflation (8.1% in April 2022) ([ECLAC, 2022b](#)) may affect migrants disproportionately.

After 2020 and the pandemic, in 2021, the number of people living in extreme poverty is estimated to have reached 13.8% of the Latin American population (86 million in total), and 32.1 per cent -201 million- living in poverty ([ECLAC, 2022a](#)).

Climbing prices of energy products (and of commodities in general) have sharply increased international transport costs, worsening pre-existing complications in supply systems ([Idem](#)). In addition to these developments, migrants often seek better opportunities in contexts of unemployment, stagflation and other push and pull factors.

Insecurity and generalized violence

In 2021, Honduras had the third highest homicide rate at 38.6 per 100k reported homicides in LAC region. This is followed by Belize, Mexico, El Salvador, and Guatemala ([InsightCrime](#)). The increase in population flows [directly arriving](#) from Venezuela in the Darien also coincides with the country's second highest homicide ranking in the region of [40.9 per 100k](#). Available data for the first quarter of 2022 from national authorities in [El Salvador](#), [Honduras](#) and Guatemala indicate a slight increase in the number of reported homicides. Data on violence against women and [femicide](#) shows an increase in the number of reported cases when compared to the first quarter of 2021.

Haiti: In a context of persistent political and economic crisis, armed gangs have gained momentum and gradually extended their control over more than a third of Port au Prince metropolitan zone. OCHA estimates that approximately 1.5 million people, or nearly 50% of the capital's population, are directly affected by the violence, and see their freedom of movement and access to basic services restricted. ([OCHA](#))

Inflation & food security

In April 2022, annual inflation for Latin America and the Caribbean was 8.1%, up 1.5 percentage points from the end of December. Inflation expectations remain high due to the uncertainty international context, and especially to the external supply shocks ([CEPAL](#)).

- Food inflation in March 2022 sent alarm bells ringing about the weakness of regional food security ([Idem](#)). As shown in the WFP report on refugees and migrants' access to food, a quarter of interviewed refugees and migrants reported having eaten only 1 or 2 times a day, being access to food a problematical concern in the last 7 seven days for almost 60%. Population in transit is especially affected, as 8% experienced severe situations such as not eating for days. The results of the survey show that in general, the situation of Venezuelans is more precarious compared to other nationalities.
- The situation in Haiti is of great concern as the country imports almost 70% of its cereal supply. It is estimated that between March to June 46% of the population will experience severe hunger from March to June ([WFP, 2022](#)).

Poverty

In 2020, 33% of the population of Latin America lived in poverty while 13.1% in extreme poverty, meaning that circa 204 million people did not have sufficient income to cover their basic needs and that, of these, 81 million lacked the resources even to purchase a basic food basket ([ECLAC, 2022c](#)).

Hazards

- In 2021, the main hazards in terms of impact on human mobility were: hurricane Ida, hurricane Elsa, hurricane Laura, an earthquake in Haiti and the eruption of La Soufrière Volcan in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines ([IDMC, 2022](#)).
- In 2021, altogether there were 1.7 million new displacements in the Americas due to disasters. In Haiti they reached 220,000 and 194,000 in Cuba ([Idem](#)).

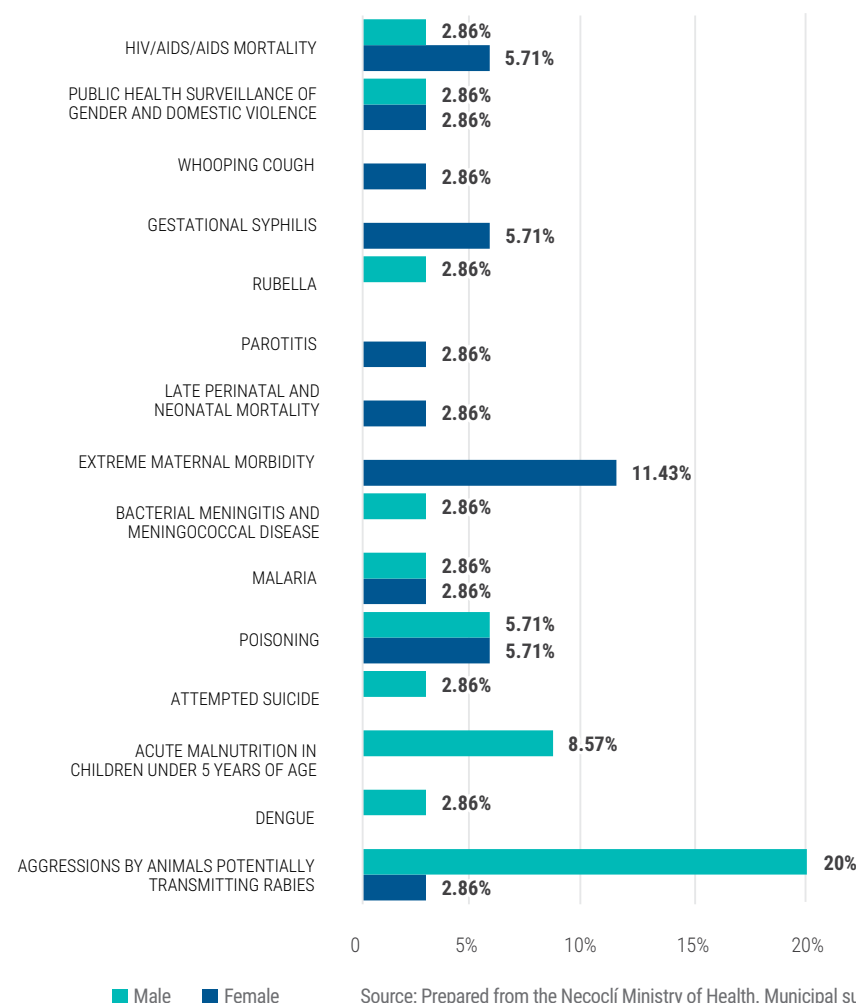


Mixed Movements Public Health Surveillance

The accumulation of mixed movements in Necoclí, Colombia has resulted in increased needs for health services. The graph to the right shows the percentages by sex of the 35 events (excluding ARI due to a new virus) showing that the most reported event in men was aggression by animals potentially transmitting rabies (20%), followed by malnutrition in children under 5 years of age (8.6%). In the case of women, the most reported event was extreme maternal mortality (11.43%). From epidemiological week 01 of 2021 to epidemiological week 25 of 2022, 186 events of health interest in the refugee and migrant population have been reported, of which 47% occurred in women and 53% in men.

On the other hand, the four main public health events that have been reported are related to: Aggressions by animals that transmit rabies, Acute malnutrition in children under 5 years of age, Malaria, HIV AIDS and gestational syphilis.

Compulsory notification events in the refugee and migrant population by sex. Necoclí. 2021 - 2022

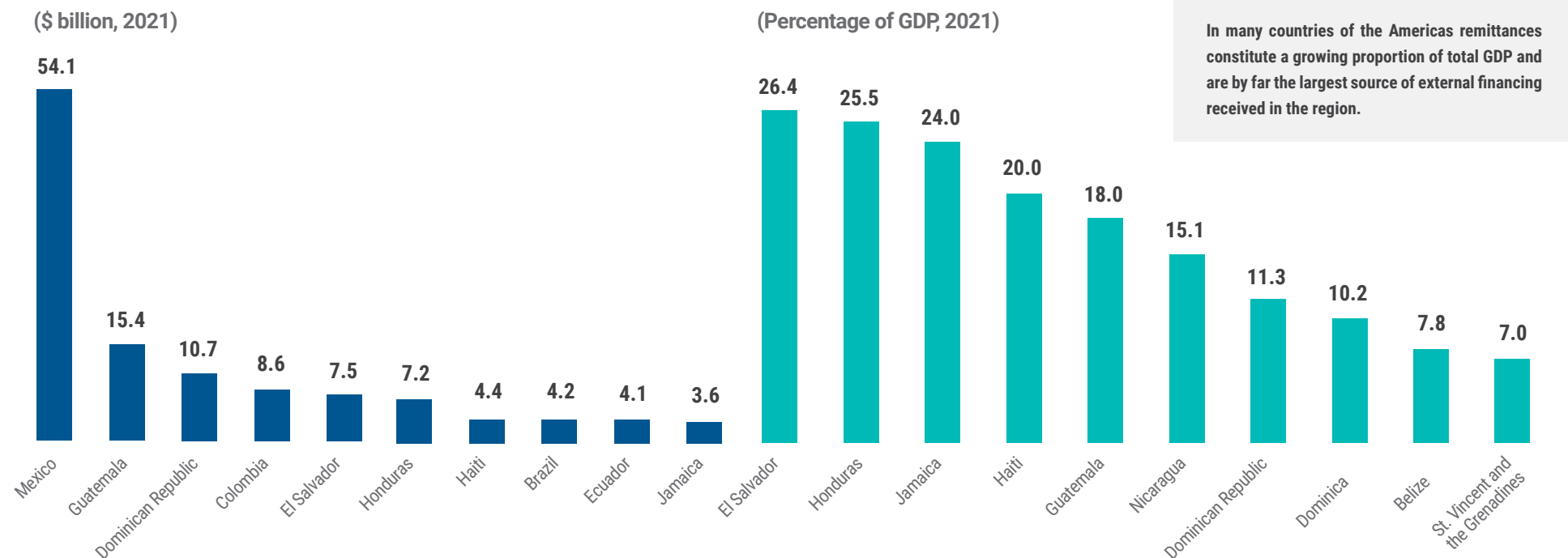




Remittances as a contribution to economies

- During 2021, remittance inflows saw strong gains in Latin America and the Caribbean (by 25.3%). Mexico was second among the top five recipient receiving countries for remittances worldwide in 2021, with only India having received more remittances. ([World Bank, 2022a](#)).
- With improved prospects for the job market in the United States, remittance flows to the Latin American region are expected to continue growing at 9.1 per cent in 2022 and 7.7 per cent in 2023. ([World Bank, 2022b](#)).
- Overall, registered remittances inflows to 28 countries and territories of Central America, North America and the Caribbean for which data were available were in excess of USD 117 billion in 2021, compared with USD 96 billion in 2020.

Top Remittance Recipients in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2021



Source: [World Bank, 2022b](#).