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THE UN MIGRATION AGENCY

GENERAL EXECUTIVE REPORT DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX SURVEY

DTM FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS LIVING IN COLOMBIA SURVEY

IOM COLOMBIA

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Introduction



National Workshop with Team Leaders, October 2019

Since 2015, there has been a constant migratory flow from Venezuela to Colombia. This arrival of thousands of Venezuelans to Colombia is the result of involuntary migration¹ due to the economic and political situation in their home country, which has become increasingly untenable over the last two years².

It is within this context that IOM Colombia launched the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in keeping with its mission to promote safe, orderly, and regular migration that is grounded in respect for the rights of migrants. The DTM

was used to develop an assessment profile of Venezuelan migrants entering Colombia in November 2019 with an intention to remain.

Methodology

The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) is a global methodology designed to monitor the displacement and mobility of populations in an emergency situation and migratory context. This tool systematically captures,

1 The second phase of DTM implementation in the border municipalities revealed that these individuals left their country for reasons beyond their control, driven by the need to satisfy their most basic necessities and facing the impossibility of doing so in a safe and dignified manner in their own country. See in: <https://www.migracioncolombia.gov.co/infografias/259-infografias-2020/total-de-venezolanos-en-colombia-corte-a-31-de-diciembre-de-2019>.

2 According to Colombia Migration calculations, within the national territory a little more than 1,771,237 Venezuelans remain, of whom 754,085 have obtained regular migratory status, while 1,017,152 find themselves in an irregular migratory situation. Likewise, Colombia Migration reports the issuance of 568,849 special residence permits (PEP) effective January 26, 2020.

processes, and disseminates information towards two ends: 1) to better understand the movements and needs of migrating populations, and 2) to examine the institutional

response routes and capabilities of government agencies at both the local and national levels. It is grounded in rights-based and tailored approaches.

Technical Specifications



Period

October 28th - November 10th 2019.

Geographic Context

Comprises 9 departments and 16 municipalities: Pasto and Ipiales (Nariño), Maicao and Rio hacha (La Guajira), Barranquilla, Soledad and Campo de la Cruz (Atlántico), Cúcuta, Villa del Rosario and Puerto Santander (Norte de Santander), Bucaramanga (Santander), Cali (Valle del Cauca), Bogotá, D.C. and Soacha (Cundinamarca), Arauca (Arauca), Medellín (Antioquia).



Work Team

- 53 leaders from the DTM team
- 634 enumerators
- 10 professional profilers
- 4 information management technicians
- 1 information management specialist
- 1 national coordinator

Sampling framework

The sampling universe includes those individuals arriving from Venezuela.

Size and distribution of sample

22 430 surveyed individuals in the 16 prioritized municipalities.

Main DTM findings: Refugees and Migrants Living in Colombia

The 2019 DTM for “Refugees and Migrants Living in Colombia” survey was conducted among 22 430 individuals along with 38 661 members of their families (61 093 individuals identified and assessed in total) who arrived with the intention to stay in Colombia.

DTM survey results show that the following five cities host the greatest concentration of Venezuelan migrant populations who intend to remain: Bogotá (37,44 %), Cúcuta (9,62 %), Barranquilla (8,36 %), Cali (8,33 %), and Ipiales (5,33 %).

Demographic details of those surveyed



Of those interviewed, 58,72 % were women and 41,19 % men.

Members of their households comprised 51,38 % women, 48,58 % men, and 0,04 % identified as intersexual.



Those interviewed and their family members fell into the following age categories:

Children between 0 to 5 years (early childhood) comprised 14 % of the sample, while those 6 to 11 years (childhood) totaled 10 %. Adolescents 12-17 made up 7 % of the total, and youth 18-28 represented 32 %. Adults 29-59 years were 34 % and only 3 % of those surveyed were 60 years of age or older.



Of the total of respondents, 68 % are with their families in Colombia. The DTM also assessed the family groups, which resulted in identifying 15 293 members. On average, each family comprised 3,5 individuals, including those surveyed. The information that the surveyed migrants provided about their family members enabled us to identify a total of 38 663 people.



DTM for Refugees and Migrants Living in Colombia survey also provided the following information with regards to the education levels of those surveyed³:

Completed general secondary basic education (**grades 1-3**) (18 %); complete elementary education (**grades 1-6**) (13 %); completed **high school education** (40 %); **technical degree** (9 %); higher education that

includes some **professional or technical training** (10 %); and completed **undergraduate education** (5 %). Of those remaining, 1 % have some form of **graduate degree training** (specialization, masters, doctorate). Additionally, 2 % indicated that they attained only an initial⁴ (**preschool and kindergarten**) level of education.

The survey also identified the fact that 2 % of the population could not read, 1 % could not write, and 2 % reported having no formal education at all.

Those under 18 years of age in the family groups had the following access to education:

72 % of the children under the age of 5 do not attend early education programs; only 27 % of this population has access to early childhood education.

Of the total number of children and adolescents between the ages of 6 and 17 who comprised the family units included in the study, 47 % are in school, while 53 % of them do not have access to formal education in Colombia. The primary cited reason for this is the lack of formal documentation required for access educational services.

Labor market



The data collected by the DTM with regards to migrant⁵ labor opportunities demonstrate that the population of working age (PET)⁶ as a proportion of the total population is less than the Colombian equivalent. In Colombia, the PET can be as high as 80,5 %; in the migrant population surveyed, it reached only 75,6 %. This evidences the need to generate pathways and proposals for productive and laboral inclusion while simultaneously developing protection programs that serve the entire population – especially migrant children.

There exists an alarmingly high rate of child labor, especially among those between 12 and 17 years of age: in the case of the surveyed migrants, child labor rates reach nearly triple that of a comparable Colombian population set. This situation is particularly fraught for children between 15 and 17 years of age, with a work rate of close to 28 % in the case of the Venezuelan migrant population.

³ Education levels documented in the 2019 DTM for “Refugees and Migrants Living in Colombia” survey correspond to the academic levels in the Venezuelan education system.

⁴ Preschool, kindergarten, and prep school.

⁵ The information for the DTM was collected during the last quarter of 2019. For this reason, the statistics used to compare the content to the Colombian labor market used the fourth quarter data from October-December 2019.

⁶ DANE defines the PET, which uses as its reference the international conference on labor statistics. Law 1098 (2006 - Childhood and Adolescence Code) establishes 15 years of age as the minimum required working age for minors.

Occupation⁷ and livelihood⁸

- Of those surveyed, 87 % live off of less than the legal minimum wage: i.e., less than COP \$ 828 116⁹ per month. 12 % have an average monthly income between 1 and 2 monthly minimum wage amounts, and 1 % have twice the minimum wage per month.
- 71 % of those surveyed have economic dependents, and the remaining 29 % do not. Of those with dependents, 86 % have between 1 and 4 and the remaining 14 % have five or more.
- Of those with dependents, 63 % surveyed have economic dependents in Venezuela, while 51 % have dependents in Colombia¹⁰.
- 73 % of those surveyed had sent money outside of Colombia and the remainder had not. Those who had sent money had done so to an average of two people.



Migration and mobility

- The DTM data revealed that 24 % of the identified migrants and their families came from the Zulia state in Venezuela, while 12 % came from Carabobo, and 10 % from Caracas. The remaining inflows by state include the following: 8 % from the state of Aragua, 6 % from Lara, 5 % from Táchira, 4 % from Falcón, 4 % from Miranda, 3 % from Mérida, 3 % from Barrías state, and another 3 % from Yaracuy.
- Of those surveyed, 76 % reported that the principal reason for leaving Venezuela was an economic one. 10 % had a lack of food, 7 % reported non-specified reasons, 4 % left for political reasons, 2 % for specific labor opportunities, and 1 % to reunite with their families.
- The DTM also collected data on the reasons for selecting the cities that they did as destinations on the Colombian side: 60 % did so for employment opportunities, 23 % to reunite with their families, 10 % for known contacts and associates, 3 % for intimate partner relations, and 4 % for other non-specified reasons.



- 45 % of respondents expect to receive family or acquaintances from Venezuela in the short term (1-3 months), 47 % are not waiting for anyone, 3 % do not know whether or not they will be receiving someone from Venezuela, and 4 % did not answer the question. Of those expecting to receive others from Venezuela, there is an average of 2,5 relatives anticipated and one other known person per respondent.

With regards to the relevant documentation vis-a-vis migratory status among the interviewed and their family members, the survey identified the following:

- 54 % of respondents do not have a document that certifies their immigration status, and neither do 72 % of the accompanying family members.
- 46 % of respondents have a document issued by the Colombian immigration authority; 23 % of respondents report having a Special Permit to Stay. Among the family groups, only 28 % have a document that proves their immigration status; 14 % have a Special Permit to Stay.

Health

- Among the surveyed women and female members of the affiliated families, 1339 (6 %) are pregnant. Of those who are pregnant, 8 % are minors under 18 years of age.
- Of the total number of women who are pregnant, 50 % reported having access to prenatal testing, and 49 % had not participated in a single prenatal visit. 1 % of the respondents did not answer.
- The DTM data also revealed that 12 % of people surveyed who say they are affiliated with the general social security system report being linked to the subsidized regime – i.e., that 75 % of the people who have affiliation to the system are being covered by public resources.
- The results of the DTM 2019 for Refugees and Migrants Living in Colombia survey show that respondents who are pregnant extent up through 49 years of age. Of the total, 24 are older than 35 years of age¹¹. Of all the individuals identified in the DTM – men and women – that reporting having children less than one year old, 6 % have not registered their children.



7 Homogeneous categories of tasks that constitute a set of jobs that show similarity, are performed by a person in the past, present or future, according to their abilities acquired by education or experience, and for which they receive an income in money or kind. (Definition taken from the glossary of the DANE integrated household survey).

8 The collection of strategies and activities realized by a household in order to sustain their lives. (Taken from the glossary of the UN volunteers work-book.)

9 SMLMV 2019 in Colombia, which in American currency represents USD \$ 240.

10 Note: The number totals more than 100% because the respondents had an option to select more than one country.

11 According to the World Health Organization (WHO), a maternal age of 35 years or greater is considered a mid-level risk factor. The WHO has found that the ideal age for maternity is between 20-24 years of age.

- Of the total number of women identified in the family groups between 18 and 45 years of age, 41 % reported an interest in using contraception, while 58 % said that they did not have such an interest. 1 % did not respond.
- All of the women interviewed and identified within the family groups between 18 and 45 years of age were asked whether or not they had access to contraceptives at the time of the survey: 57 % said that they did not, 43 % did, and 1 % did not answer the question.
- Among those surveyed and members of their family groups, 88 % found themselves unaffiliated to the general social security system. Only 12 % were affiliated.
- Of those who reported being affiliated, 75 % are in the subsidized regime while 25 % are in the contributory one.
- 77 % of those individuals surveyed did not know the procedures required in order to request the SISBEN survey, while 23 % were familiar with the process.
- With regards to the health conditions of those surveyed and their family members, 11 % have a chronic or long-term illness.
- The DTM survey identified 7 % of respondents that reported one or more difficulties with realizing their daily activities.

The DTM survey asked respondents about any symptoms of illness that they had had in the 15 days leading up to the DTM. Below are the responses to that inquiry.

- 16 % of those surveyed reported having a fever (and 85 % did not).
- 25 % reported having phlegm (75 % did not).
- To the question “Have you or anyone in your family had a fever and skin rash in the last month?” 14 % responded yes (86 % no).

Housing



Of those surveyed, 86 % pay rent. 41 % reported living in apartments with an average rent of COP\$ 626 879, while 39 % responded that they live in a home and pay an average monthly rent of COP\$ 519 626. The 8 % of respondents who rent a room in a larger building pay an average monthly rent of COP\$ 352 377.

- Respondents reported that, on average, they live together with 3,5 other people and Los encuestados reportaron que en promedio with 3,5 other people in the building and up to 6 individuals in the same room.
- 2 % of respondents said that they did not have a room or dedicated space for themselves and their families,

while 55 % did have a private space or room. 43 % of DTM respondents have more than one room for themselves and their families.

Food security

- Among DTM respondents, 93 % were responsible for buying the food that they and their families consumed. 1 % received food in exchange for their work activities, 1 % received donated food, 1 % received food from a community table, and 1 % obtained their food from another (unidentified) source.
- 6 % of those surveyed reported that, in the previous three months in their household, they have had instances in which they could not eat breakfast, lunch, or dinner as a result of a lack of resources necessary to purchase food for the whole family.



Protection, security and dignity

- 2763 individuals among those surveyed and their families did not possess identification documents (747 of those interviewed directly, 2106 members of their families).
- 1 % of respondents reported having a diverse sexual orientation (i.e., belonging to the LGBTI community).
- Of the total respondents, 17 % self-identified as belonging to an ethnic group: 30 % of these claimed indigenous status, and of those, 68 % were women and 32 % were men.
- Minors younger than 18 years of age comprise 36 % of the families surveyed, and 15 % of those are younger than five.
- 11 % of respondents reported feeling unsafe in the place in which they live.
- 40 % surveyed reported that they had suffered some form of discriminatory aggression.
- 15 % of the total respondents had been the victim of violent acts.
- Of those surveyed, 33 % reported that minors under 18 years of age could be victims of sexual violence, forced recruitment, substance abuse, and/or forced labor where they currently reside.
- 19 % of respondents reported working and not receiving the agreed upon wage, 4 % had worked and received less than the contracted sum.



- 22 % of individuals surveyed reported that at least one of the people with whom they lived worked and did not receive the agreed upon wage and 4 % said that at least one of the cohabitants in their homes worked and received less than the contracted sum.
- It was identified that 6 % of minors under one year of age who had been born in Colombia still do not have birth certificates.

Received help and social support networks

- 20 % of those surveyed received some time of assistance on behalf of a Colombian institution.
- 67 % received food rations, 35 % received building and other livelihood supplies, and 14 % received personal care kits.



The entities that had provided assistance to the surveyed migrants and their families were the following:

- 37 % churches and religious congregations.
- 25 % Colombian Red Cross.
- 21 % International Organizations.
- 8 % Mayors.

Information and guidance of interest requested by migrants



- 75 % of those surveyed responded that they DO NOT understand their rights nor do they know how to access them.

The themes or information that the migrants are requesting are the following:

- 83 % require information about access to employment.
- 72 % require information about access to healthcare.
- 59 % require information about access to education and nutritional needs.
- 49 % require information about migratory regulation.
- 48 % require legal consultation.
- 43 % require humanitarian assistance.
- 34 % require support for family reunification.
- 21 % require lodging/shelter.
- 20 % require support for accessing family planning services.
- 15 % require support to return to Venezuela.



International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The UN Migration Agency

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