

Residence Permits in LAC

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OUTLINE

1. Migration Flows in Latin America and the Caribbean

2. Main Findings

3. Preliminary data from 2020-2022

4. Other IDB Data Products

Main Findings

- ✓ Crisis in Venezuela is the largest factor in regional migration growth
- ✓ Reorientation of regional migration towards intra-regional flows
- ✓ Declining share (and numbers) of migrants from outside the region
- ✓ Increasing emigration from the region to extra-regional OECD countries
- ✓ Regional mobility schemes contribute to mobility
- ✓ Lack of formal status is a big challenge for some migrant populations

- ✓ Data on permits is not the same as the standard demographic measure of migrants – disregards length of stay and migrants’ “intent” at time of entry
- ✓ Focus on the type of permit/visa received, distinguishing between migrant and non-migrant, and permanent versus temporary
- ✓ Data are related to actual policies – provides insights into how specific policies are used by migrants
- ✓ Data in the report extends only to 2019. Updates forthcoming.

Weaknesses of permit data

- Irregularity
- Changes in status

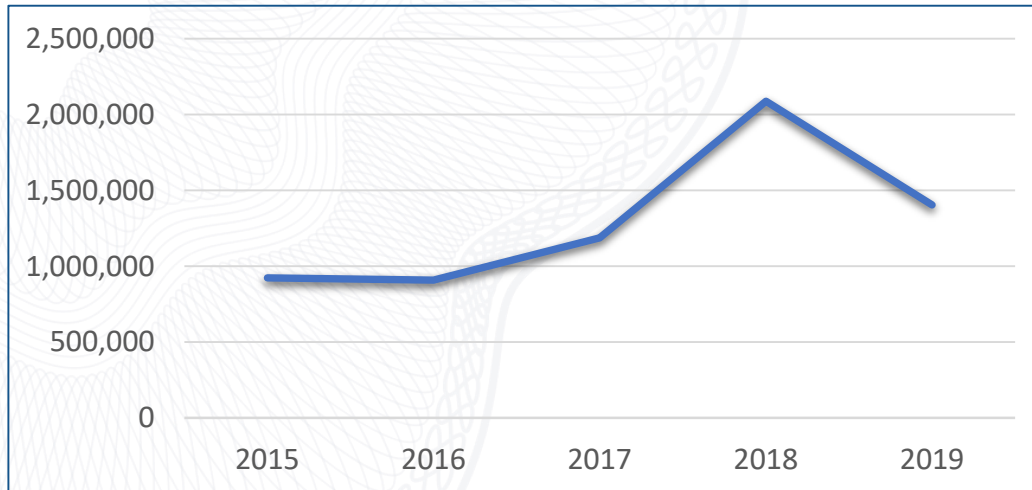
Strengths of permit data

- Policy relevance
- Timeliness

LAC Totals

- Peak in 2018
- 2019 still 50% above 2015
- OECD Average 8 permits per 1,000 population (2010-18)

Total Permits Issued, 15-country total



Total Residence Permits Issued in 15 LAC Countries, 2015-19

Country	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Average per 1000 pop.
Argentina	262,798	217,898	215,400	224,187	164,528	4.84
Barbados	5,268	5,082	5,669	4,005	5,127	17.53
Bolivia	25,758	28,526	30,905	32,295	23,981	2.46
Brazil	114,473	125,467	102,721	121,735	182,920	0.61
Chile	215,172	228,449	355,218	536,895	416,641	18.49
Colombia	55,849	58,390	133,576	543,028	98,042	3.53
Costa Rica	30,901	14,646	19,191	17,545	17,114	3.94
Ecuador	48,772	50,987	57,558	83,889	109,854	4.04
El Salvador	2,156	2,127	2,229	2,798	2,545	0.37
Mexico	105,681	110,385	118,237	125,146	128,494	0.92
Panama	22,300	22,142	46,022	50,397	51,381	9.05
Paraguay	11,151	12,163	15,354	20,724	24,041	2.37
Peru	17,984	25,134	75,019	319,411	173,308	3.76
Suriname	3,052	3,053	6,745	2,355	2,844	6.21
Uruguay	1,705	3,182	2,976	2,820	3,331	0.81
Total	923,020	907,631	1,186,820	2,087,230	1,404,151	2.41
Index 2015=100	100	98	129	226	152	

Source: IADB DataMIG Database.

Migration from Venezuela

Permits issued to Venezuelans in 15 LAC countries

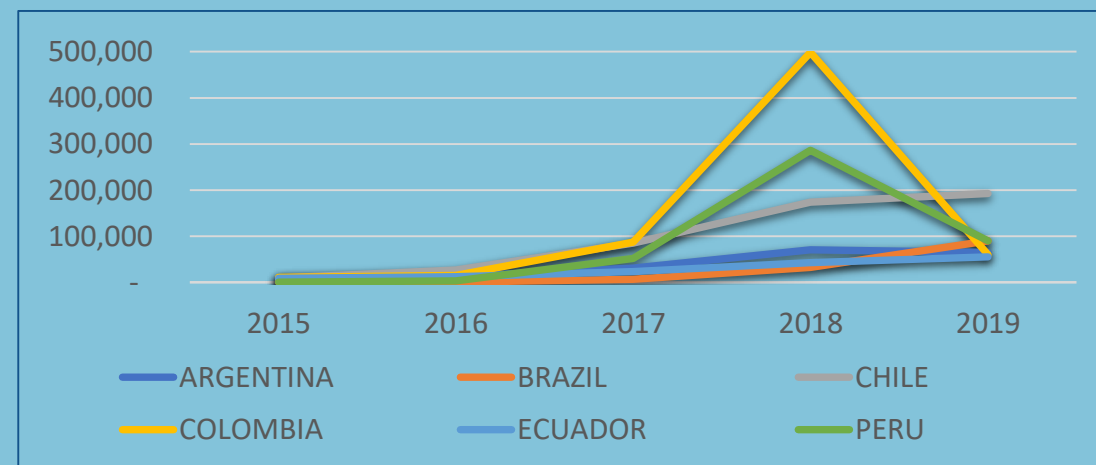
Destination	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Argentina	5,803	12,865	31,173	70,545	65,094	185,480
Barbados	49	23	115	42	27	256
Bolivia	499	837	1,167	1,899	2,259	6,661
Brazil	877	869	6,894	32,494	90,194	131,328
Chile	9,730	26,625	85,259	173,825	192,996	488,435
Colombia	10,662	14,884	86,981	498,704	60,094	671,325
Costa Rica	990	949	1,200	1,094	1,060	5,293
Ecuador	8,682	12,336	23,229	43,028	55,108	142,383
El Salvador	48	63	110	158	101	480
Mexico	6,531	7,854	12,258	17,533	16,074	60,250
Panama	6,501	4,881	17,799	24,923	21,450	75,554
Paraguay	34	92	182	219	499	1,026
Peru	635	3,543	51,649	286,393	90,351	432,571
Suriname	6	6	17	55	29	113
Uruguay	43	79	166	49	38	375
Total	51,090	85,906	318,199	1,150,961	595,374	2,201,530

Source: IADB DataMIG Database.

Note: Totals for the 5-year period are included because returns to Venezuela followed by re-emigration are considered uncommon, so double counting should be minimal.

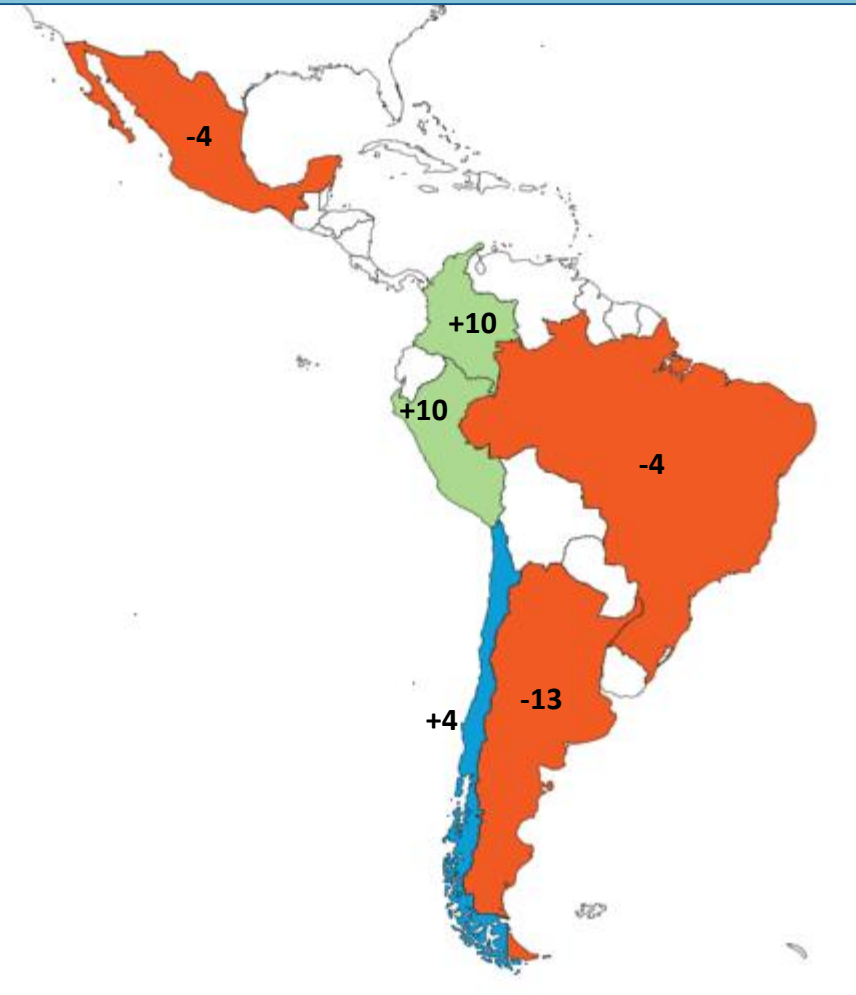
- Permits, not total flows
- Large regularizations in 2018
- Brazil and Ecuador grant large numbers in 2019
- More regularizations in 2020-21

Permits to Venezuelans – Selected countries

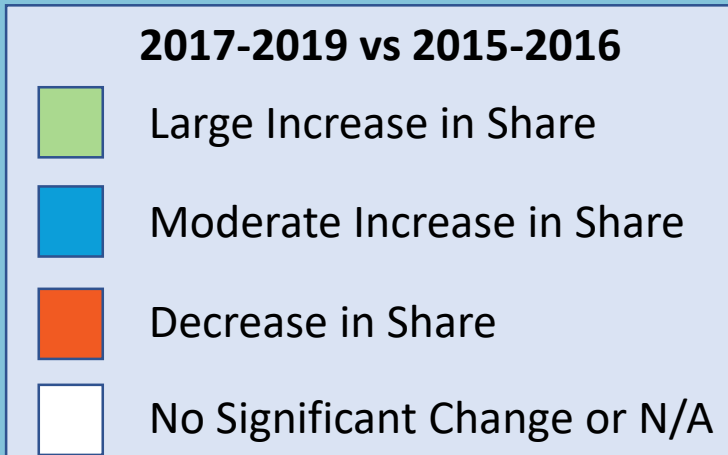


New destinations within LAC

Change in Share of All Permits, p.p.
2017-2019 vs 2015-2016



- Chile, Colombia, and Peru are issuing an increasing share of permits in LAC
- Excluding Venezuelans, Chile and Peru showed the largest gains

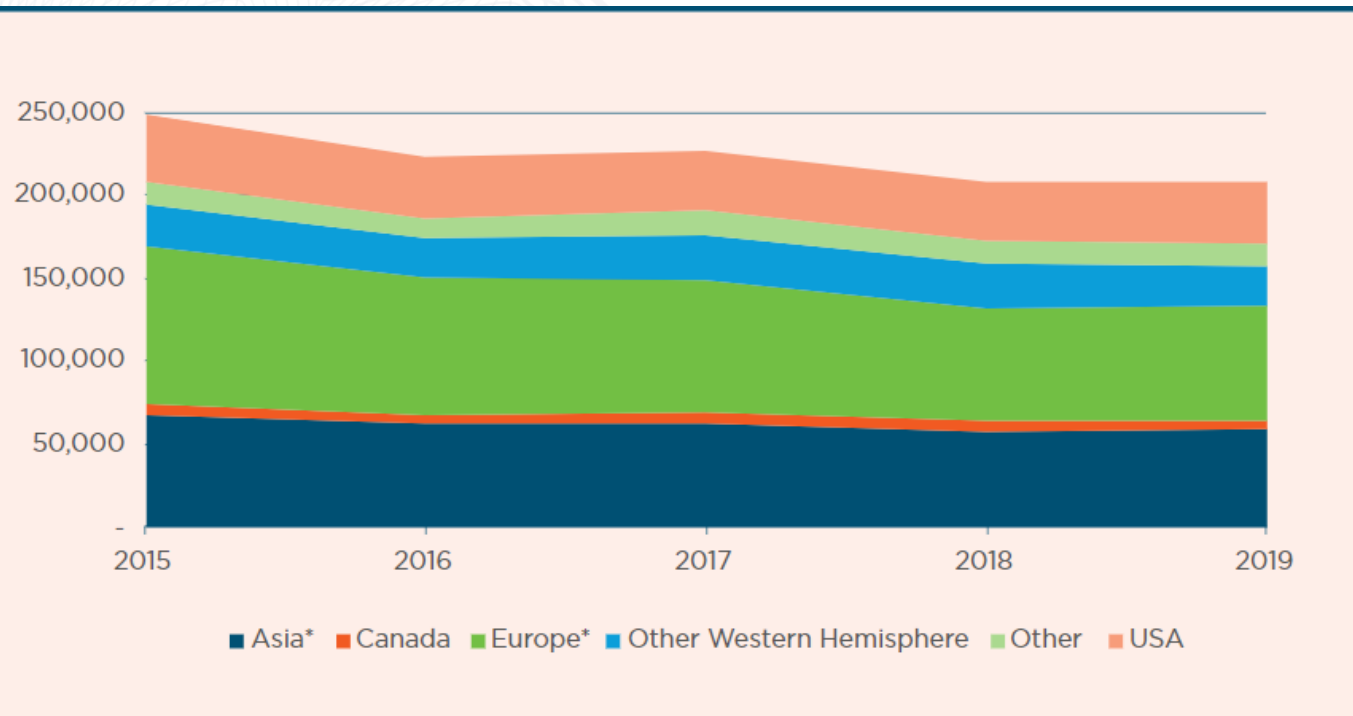


Change in Share (Excluding VEN), p.p.
2017-2019 vs 2015-2016



Declining Immigration from outside LAC

Immigration from outside the region in 15 LAC Countries

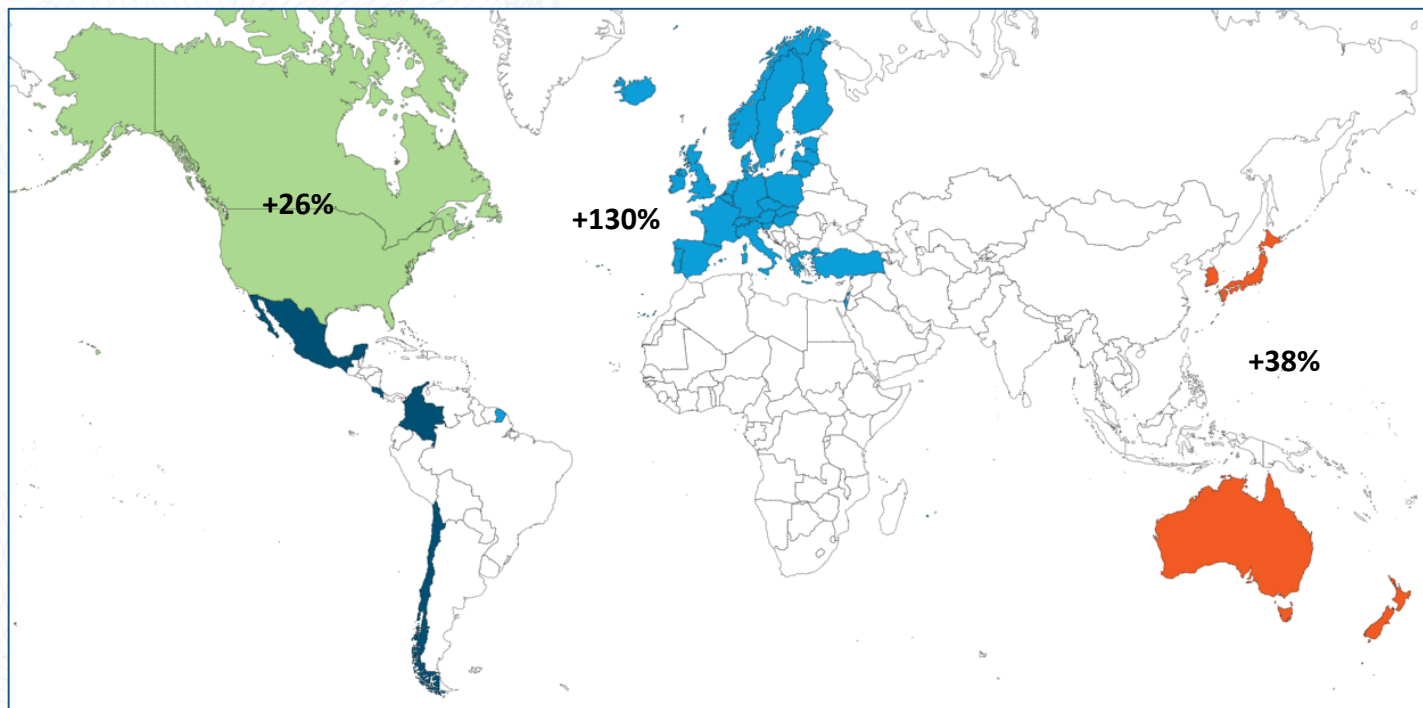


Source: IADB DataMIG Database.

- Gradual decline from most extra-regional countries
- Overall, extra-regional permits in 2019 were 83% of the 2015 level.
- Permits to Europeans were 28% lower in 2019 than in 2015; to Asians and North Americans 13% lower.
- Increases only to Barbados, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay (representing 10% of the total)

Increasing Emigration

Emigration to Extra-Regional OECD, change, 2018 vs 2015



Share of LAC Emigrants to Extra-regional OECD, 2018



- 1.3 million permits to LAC migrants in extra-regional OECD in 2018 – up 45% vs 2015
- Largest growth (156%) among Venezuelans (71,000 permits in 2018)
- The numbers of permits to Colombians, Nicaraguans, and Hondurans each also more than doubled over the period.
- The USA and Spain were the primary destinations, with significant numbers of permits for some nationalities to the UK, Canada, France, Portugal, and Germany.
- Though small relative to the totals, significant numbers of permits in Asia and Oceania OECD members were granted to Brazilians, Mexicans, Colombians, Argentines, Peruvians, and Chileans.
- The growing diaspora can promote higher remittances and more knowledge transfer

Regional Mobility Mechanisms

MERCOSUR Residence Permits in 2019 ('000s)



Mercosur Residence Permit

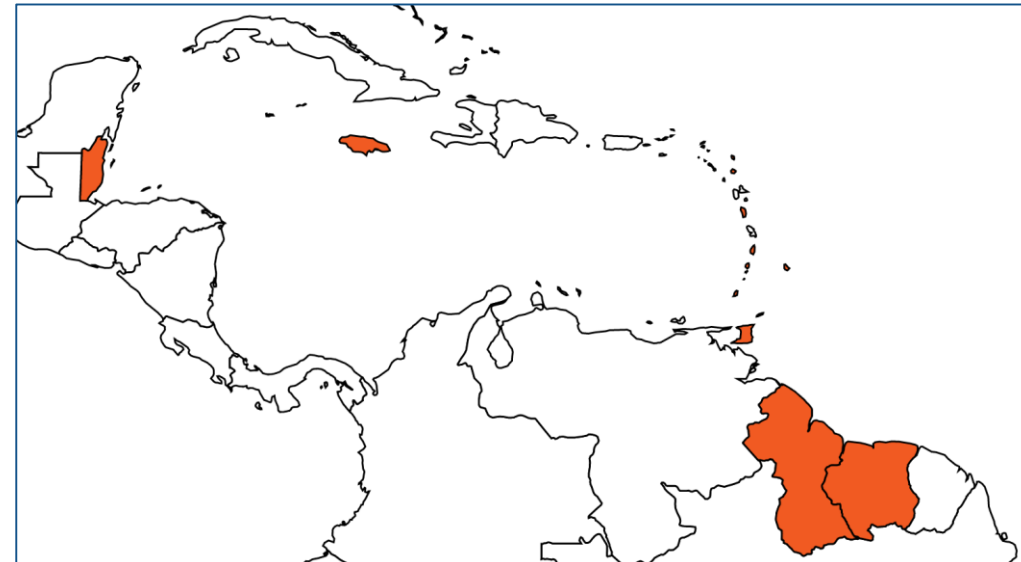
- 10 Countries allow citizens of any of them automatic 2-year residence and right to apply for permanent residence
- Total annual number doubled over the 5 years: 74K to 156K
- Primary permit granted to Venezuelans in Ecuador
- Rapid growth over 5 years in Chile (33%), Ecuador (190%), Paraguay (124%), Peru (4400%)
- High shares of permits to eligible migrants in Brazil (79%), Bolivia (70%), Paraguay (60%), and Ecuador (54%)

*Venezuelans' eligibility suspended in most member countries.

CARICOM Skilled Nationals and Right of Establishment

- Self-employed and those with certain skills may seek work in other CSME nations. May bring dependents
- Guyana and Barbados combined issue hundreds of such permits each year

12 CARICOM CSME Members



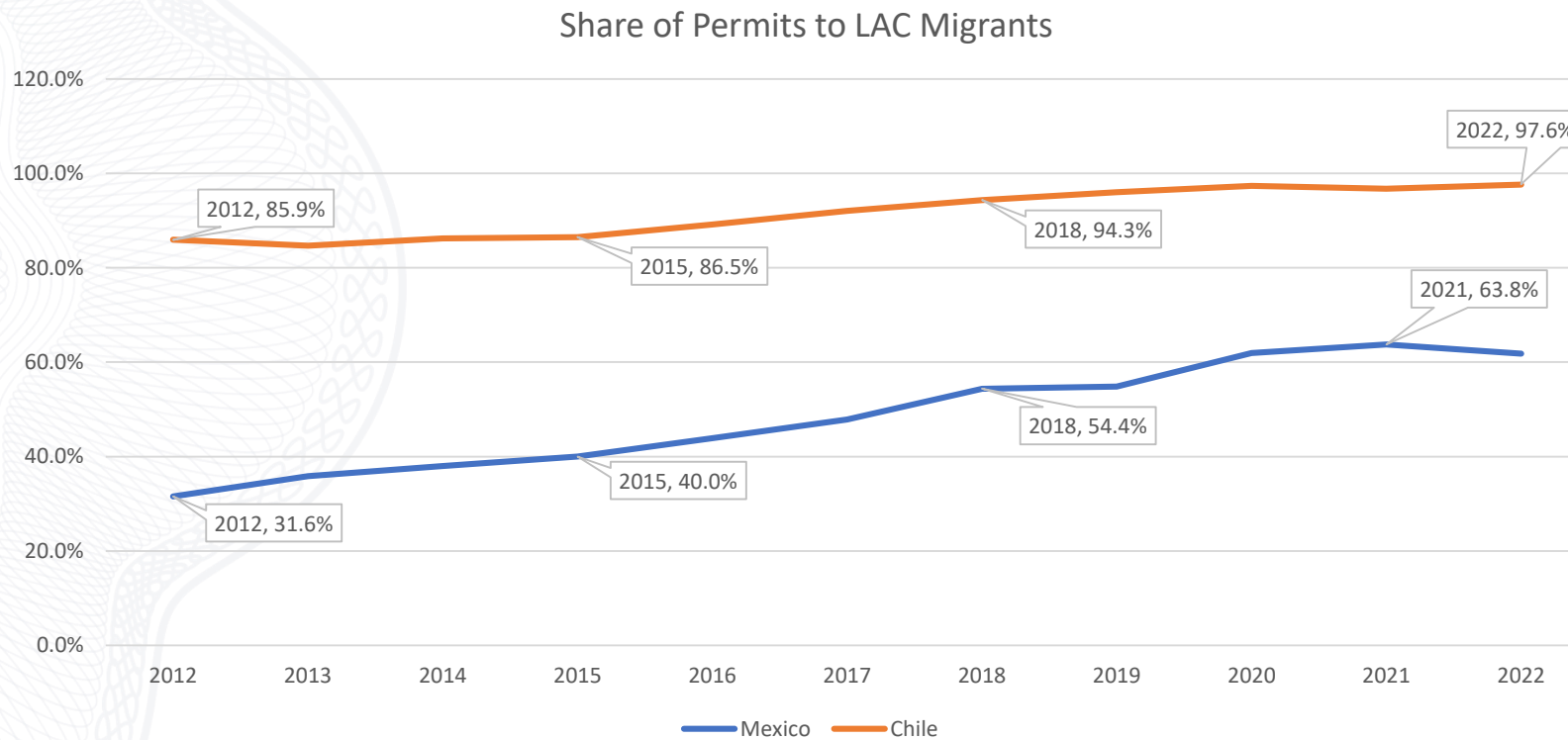
Conclusions 2015-2019

- ✓ Greater numbers of migrants in the region – Venezuelan crisis and others
- ✓ Transformation of migration patterns – increasingly intra-regional movement, with a significant decrease in extra-regional immigrants
- ✓ Continuing growth of the diaspora in extra-regional OECD countries
- ✓ Regularization is important for migrant integration, and is moving forward in LAC

Policy-relevant data is needed to guide investments in both hard and soft infrastructure, to improve the lives of migrants in the region

Preliminary data for 2020-2022

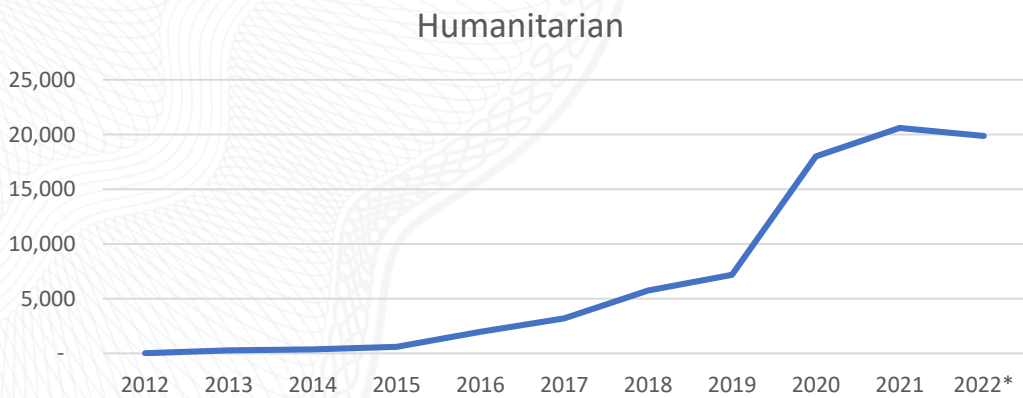
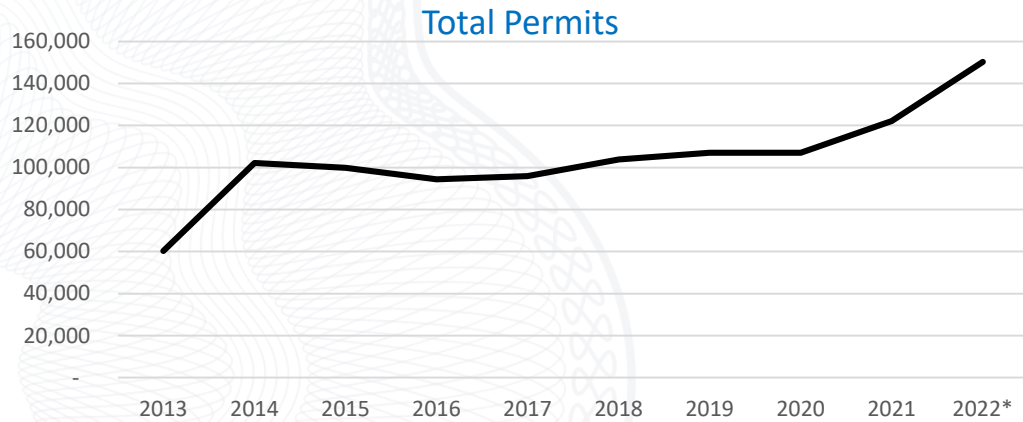
Continuing trend of increasing intra-regional share of migrants



Calculations based on data from SNM Chile and UPM-SEGOB

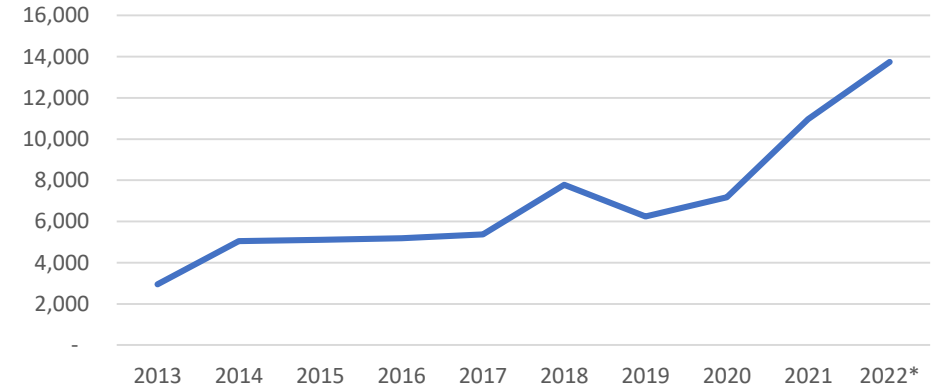
Preliminary data for 2020-2022

Increasing permits issued by Mexico

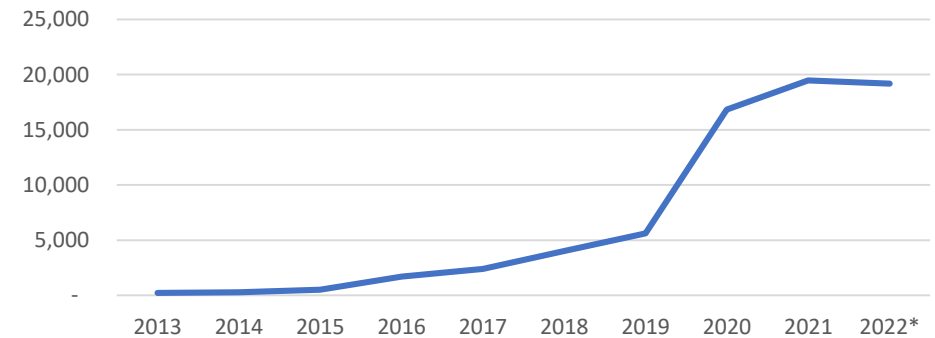


Much of the increase in total permits is explained by regularizations and recognition of refugees among migrants seeking entry to the US.

Regularizations



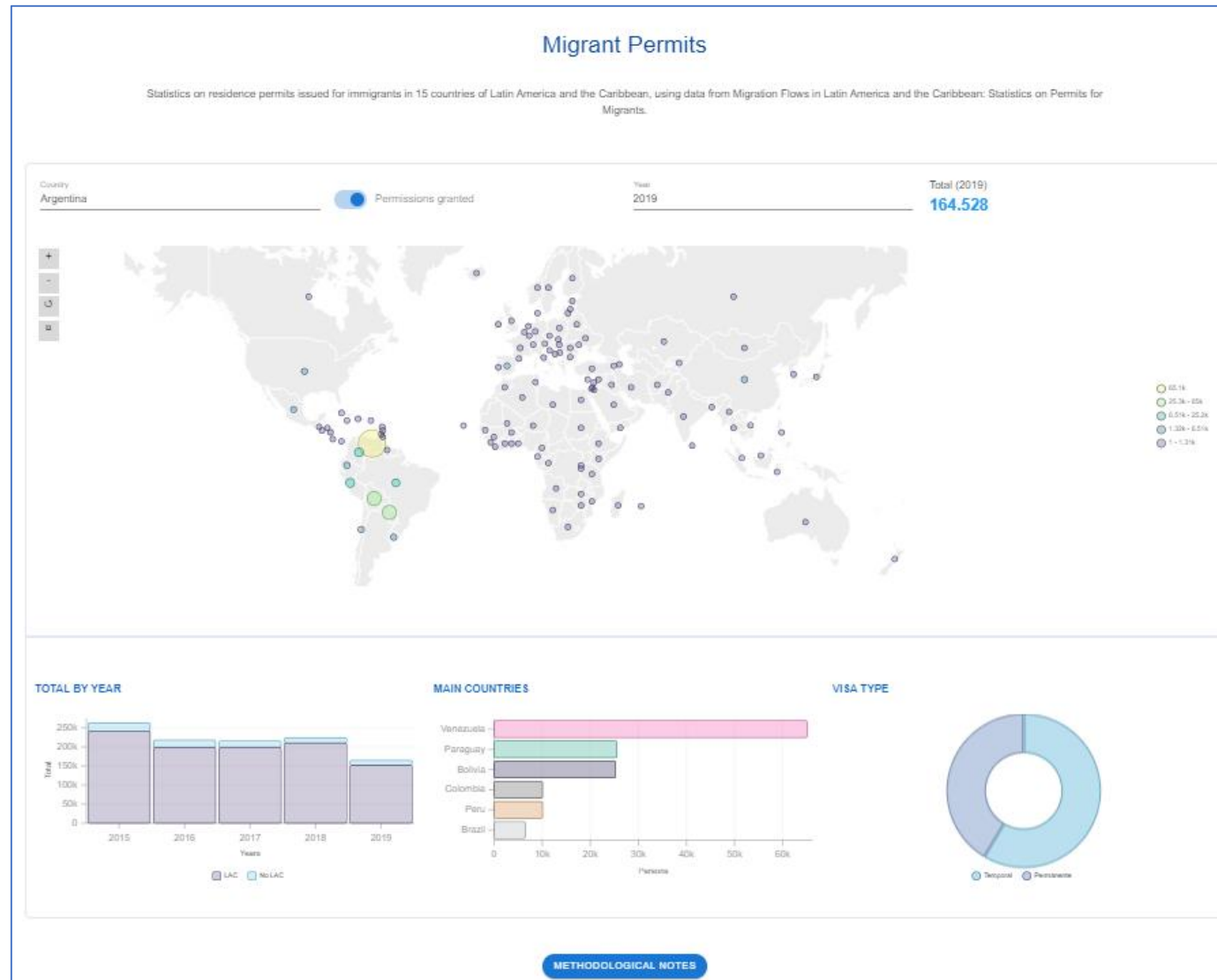
Refugees



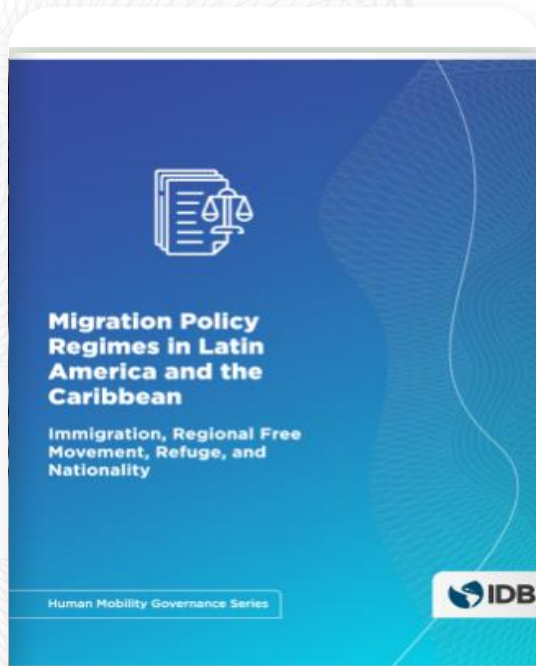
Data from UPM-SEGOB

* 2022 data through November

Explore the data – datamig.iadb.org/permits

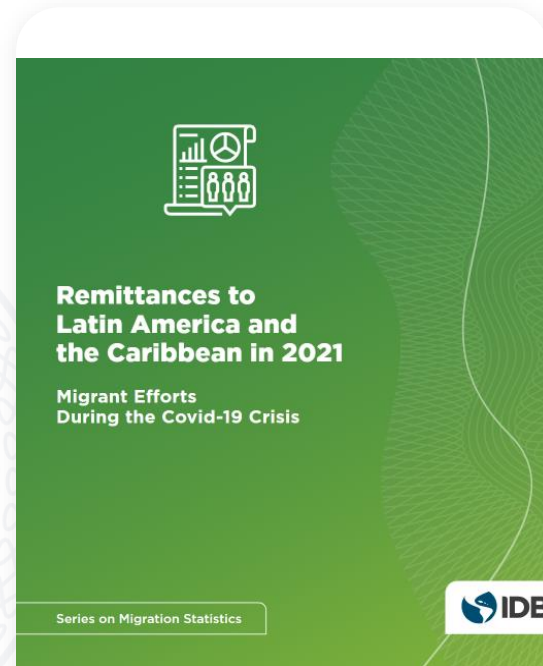


PUBLICATIONS



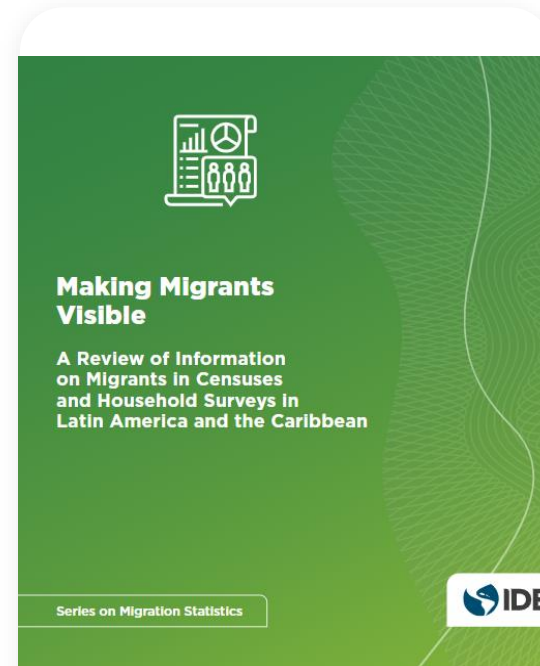
Migration Policies

40 Policy indicators
>400 Laws and regulations



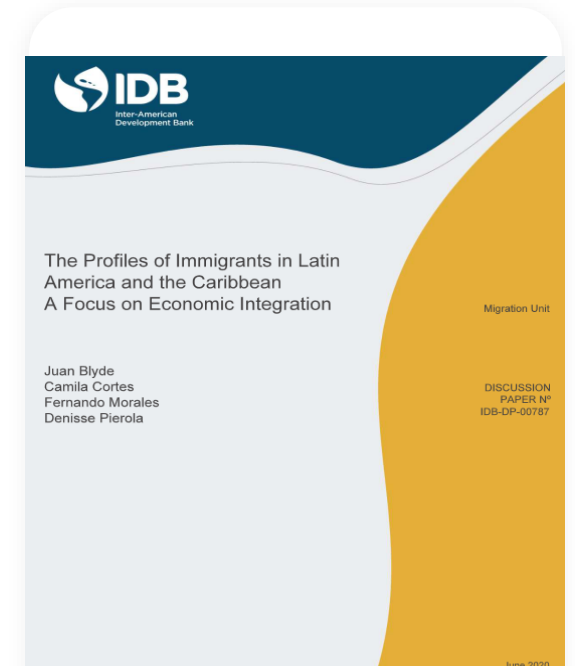
Remittances

Data and analysis of flows of personal remittances to LAC countries



Data Inventory

Survey of the availability of census and household survey data covering migrants



Migrant Profiles

Preliminary analysis of economic integration



Citizen perception laboratory on migration

How much is talked about migration on social media?

Conversation



What is said about migration on social media?

Conversation



Conversation about migration in LAC

26 countries and cities



Attitudes towards migration

How is the sentiment towards the migration conversation on social media?



Communities

What do migrants feel?



Thank you

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