Feminization of migration in Chile
Gaps and challenges in labor integration

Felipe Mallea Toledo
National Migration Service (Chile)

2. In Chile, between 2018 and 2021, along with the increase in the number of foreigners in the country, the distribution between women and men has shortened.

3. In this context, the ‘feminization of migration’ must be accompanied by an in-depth discussion on the structural causes that produce and reproduce gender inequalities in destination countries.

4. ‘Regular migration’ is a floor for ‘safe migration’ (Molland, 2021), but for it to be safe it is not only dependent on being regular.

5. One of the main inequalities is observed in labor market participation: gender gaps in access to salaried work are intensifying, post 2019 (Aguilar & Zuñiga, 2022). Migrant women participate less in salaried work because they devote their time to domestic and care work (‘unpaid work’).

Source: INE-SERMIG.
https://serviciomigraciones.cl/estadisticasmigratorias/estimacionesdeextranjeros/
What is the rate and how is the labor participation of migrants in Chile distributed between men and women?

NATIONAL MIGRATION SURVEY 2022

It characterizes the main communities of migrants in Chile, arriving between 2016 and 2020, as well as their integration barriers, in: education, labor market, social protection, access to financial services, access to technologies and support networks.

NATIONAL MIGRATION SURVEY 2022

Statistical universe: 754,492 migrants (18 years +, with phone number).

Statistical sample: 3,742 migrant respondents: 1,255 (33.5%) Venezuela, 533 (14.2%) Peru, 520 (13.9%) Bolivia, 508 (13.6%) Colombia, 505 (13.6%) Haiti, 421 (11.3%) Other countries.

Representative of the 5 migrants’ communities with the largest presence in Chile.

The survey is representative of regular and settled migrants in Chile.

Source: SERMIG-BM-JDCFD-CentroUC
https://serviciomigraciones.cl/estadisticasmigratorias/estudiosinternos/
Occupancy and employment rates are high among the different migrant communities, but with significant gender gaps:

1. Occupancy participation: Haiti and Bolivia.
2. Employment participation: Haití, Bolivia, and Perú.
Gender gaps are observed in access to salaried work: 78% of migrant workers are employed as salaried workers. This percentage is higher among Haitian migrants.

- Larger gender gaps in salaried work among Peruvian and Bolivian migrants.
Among the different migrant communities, Venezuelan migrants are the most involved in working in mobile or web applications.

Women have a slightly higher percentage of occupation than men working in mobile or web applications. This is mostly reflected among Venezuelan and Colombian migrants.
While there are high rates of labor participation and employment among the migrant population over 18 years of age, there are significant gender gaps to the detriment of women.

In general terms, the Survey shows results on a migrant population with a relatively long and regular stay in the country. The question on safe migration, in this context, focuses on the migration experiences that accompany and follow regularization processes, shifting the questions on mere legal and regulated migration to aspects of labor inclusion and gender gaps within the structures and policies that enable this inclusion.
REFERENCES


- Sermig web page on statistics (Spanish version): https://serviciomigraciones.cl/estadisticasmigratorias/