

# Profile of women in mobility at Venezuela border states: main findings (2019-2021-2022)

***Mary Carmen Villasmil***

*National Officer in Population and Development  
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)  
Venezuela*



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## Preliminar considerations:

- ✓ These studies were carried out within the framework of the **implementation of the Venezuela humanitarian agenda, between 2019 and 2022.**
- ✓ Efforts have been oriented towards generating **quantitative and qualitative information**, thereby generating a useful information base to identify care needs and justify advocacy actions on key issues,
- ✓ They are not intended to be representative studies from a statistical point of view.
- ✓ For instrumental reasons, **information was collected from the beneficiary population, specifically women** beneficiaries of GBV prevention and response interventions in emergencies.
- ✓ The studies **complement each other**, add value to their respective findings and propose new ways to strengthen research areas. They are not intended to be comparable.
- ✓ For ethical reasons, **the information provided should be considered sensitive.**

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## Methodological aspects:

- The information was captured through the Dignity Kits distribution forms provided to women in mobility;
- The main criteria used for the differentiation and construction of profiles for women in mobility was women's mobility types, namely:
  - **Swing mobility:** refers to the round trip from the place of residence to border areas;
  - **Permanent mobility:** referring to the definitive departure either to a destination country or to a state other than the country of origin;
- Diversity criteria such as **disability and ethnicity** [indigenous people and Afro-descendant population] was also integrated.
- The information was obtained through the facilitation of GBV awareness activities on with a focus on sexual violence and its links with sexual and reproductive health in the **4 border states**;
- In both surveys, **10,000 women were approached**, the remaining number varying according to the goals of the projects. The needs and risks of GBV were raised incorporating other local actors and the beneficiaries themselves.

# Profile of women in mobility at Venezuela border states: main findings (2019)



## Mobility profiles: Overview Characteristics of women in mobility

- 30% of beneficiary women in mobility were young women aged between 20 and 29 years;
- 87% were in swing mobility, while 13% were in permanent mobility;
- **Bolívar represents the state with higher number of women both in swing and permanent mobility;**
- 16% of the women belong to indigenous ethnic groups; 2% had some type of disability;
- 42% of women travel alone and around 10% of them were under 19 years of age;
- **91% of women migrate to improve their income and economic situation;**
- **1 in 3 women under the age of 20 had at least 1 child;**
- Of the women who are not expected at their destination, 15% were under 19 years of age.

# Profile of women in mobility at Venezuela border states: main findings (2019)

## Women in permanent mobility: trends

- They represent the **13% of women interviewed**;
- **40% of women in mobility were in between 20 and 29 years**, with a higher representation of women aged between 20 and 24 years;
- Most of them were married (57.4%);
- **65% had an average of 2 children**;
- 1 in 3 completed their basic education;
- 2% were indigenous women;
- **There is no representation of older adult women in the study**;
- 43% are self-employed;
- Those who travel accompanied (70%) do so with their family nucleus (sons-daughters-partner);
- 55% of them are expected at their destination, generally by the primary and/or extended family network;
- Among the main reasons of women's mobility: improving income, family reunification and sending money remittances and medical cares.

# Profile of women in mobility at Venezuela border states: main findings (2019)



## Women in swing mobility: trends

- **18% were indigenous women;**
- **Most of women in swing mobility were in between 15 and 39 years old, not finding significant differences between specific age groups;**
- The majority of women were single (56%);
- 61% reported having an average of 2 children;
- 30% of them completed secondary education
- **38% reported being Housewives as their main occupation**
- Most of them traveled with member from their family nucleus (sons-daughters-partner);
- Reason of women´s mobility: improving income and sending money remittances as the most important reasons;
- Most of them were not expected at their destination, in which cases these occurred motivated by non-family networks.
- **The presence of elderly women in this type of mobility stands out.**

# Profile of women in mobility at Venezuela border states: main findings

(2019)

## Some relevant findings:

- **Swing mobility is the most frequent type of mobility;**
- It also turns out to be the most common type of displacement in **indigenous women and older adults;**
- Regardless of the type of mobility, we could refer to a type of migration that is more of an associative nature (those where the woman is part of a family movement) than autonomous (individual), since they are usually accompanied, generally by a member of their family nucleus;
- The number of children by each type of mobility does not show significant differences. **In either case, the average number of children was between 0 and 2 children;**
- In case they are expected at their destination, the Networks play a very important role. If the mobility is definitive, primary and/or extended family networks usually operate; in the swing mobility case of trafficking in a network not defined by family ties;
- **The economic variable show a greater incidence in the mobility ratio,** regardless of the type of mobility reported by women;
- Permanent mobility is more common among young women; as the age increases, with a much higher incidence of swing mobility cases.
- As the origin is more distant from the border, the probability of definitive mobility increases; The more away from the border women are, the higher is their likelihood to migrate permanently.

## Viaje DEFINITIVO fuera de Venezuela



*International  
permanent  
mobility  
trends in  
2019*



# *GBV risks and protection needs identified in women at 7 states of Venezuela (2021)*

## **Mobility dynamics in the context of crisis and pandemic**

- During the first months of the pandemic, there was a significant decrease in mobility dynamics at the border due to transit restrictions and fuel shortages, as a result of the Venezuelan economic crisis;
- **Women who remained migrating during the hardest moments of the confinement faced a significant increase in the GBV risks associated with migration;**
- While the official crossings are closed, women must resort to irregular routes that pose significant risks to their lives and integrity (presence of armed groups, organized crime gangs and/or harsh natural conditions during this process);
- **With the normalization of life in a pandemic, commuting has been reactivating in most states at rates similar to those before it;**

# *GBV risks and protection needs identified in women at 7 states of Venezuela (2021)*

## Impact on women:

- The Venezuela crisis had a differentiated impact of women according to their particular conditions, ethnicity origins, or the time of their life trajectory in which they find themselves;
- **Evidence has shown that women faced a major impact of the new dynamics and responsibilities derived from the crisis and pandemic situation;**
- Main impacts of the Venezuela crisis on women's lives, increase in unpaid workload and/or upbringing and care; increase in physical and psychological violence mainly by their partners or ex-partners; deterioration of their health conditions and personal hygiene; deterioration their sexual and reproductive health, deterioration of their physical and mental health; Increased barriers to access GBV reporting and response services.

# Profile of women in mobility at Venezuela border states: main findings (2022)

## Some relevant details:

This study introduces new elements in the migratory dynamics, such as return migration and the generational issue.

- A profile such as the one presented is estimated;
- Women of productive age with children, residents of the periphery of the capital regions;
- **They are currently part of the second or third generation of internal migration processes;**
- More than 50% single, who have reached a low or medium level of education;
- Likewise, more than half have never earned a salary and are dedicated to care and reproduction work. Those with paid jobs refer to precarious, domestic and personal service jobs.
- **The presence of adolescents with children stands out, in a situation of equally early and predictably forced and violent marital unions, who have abandoned their studies and have been confined to domestic work.**

# Final considerations

## Major challenges in terms of information needs:

- ✓ This study is part of an effort to know the reality of a tremendously emerging trend in our country;
- ✓ A country that has historically been a recipient of migration destination country, and not the opposite;
- ✓ **The generation and timely data about population in mobility is a subject of high political sensitivity;**
- ✓ The information in destination countries is a very highly valued source, but it lacks the **official character**;
- ✓ There is no official data that provides an in-depth analysis of the characteristics, trends and trigger of mobility in the country;
- ✓ It is required to **strengthen efforts** are required by different actors, such as international cooperation, civil society and academia to advance in this regard.
- ✓ **Promote spaces like these to learn about experiences and methodologies for the study and approach of these processes is key, at a time when more than ever information has become a strategic instrument for decision-making and public politics.**

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*Thank you very much!*  
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