

# Socioeconomic and Labor Profile of Venezuelans in Brazil

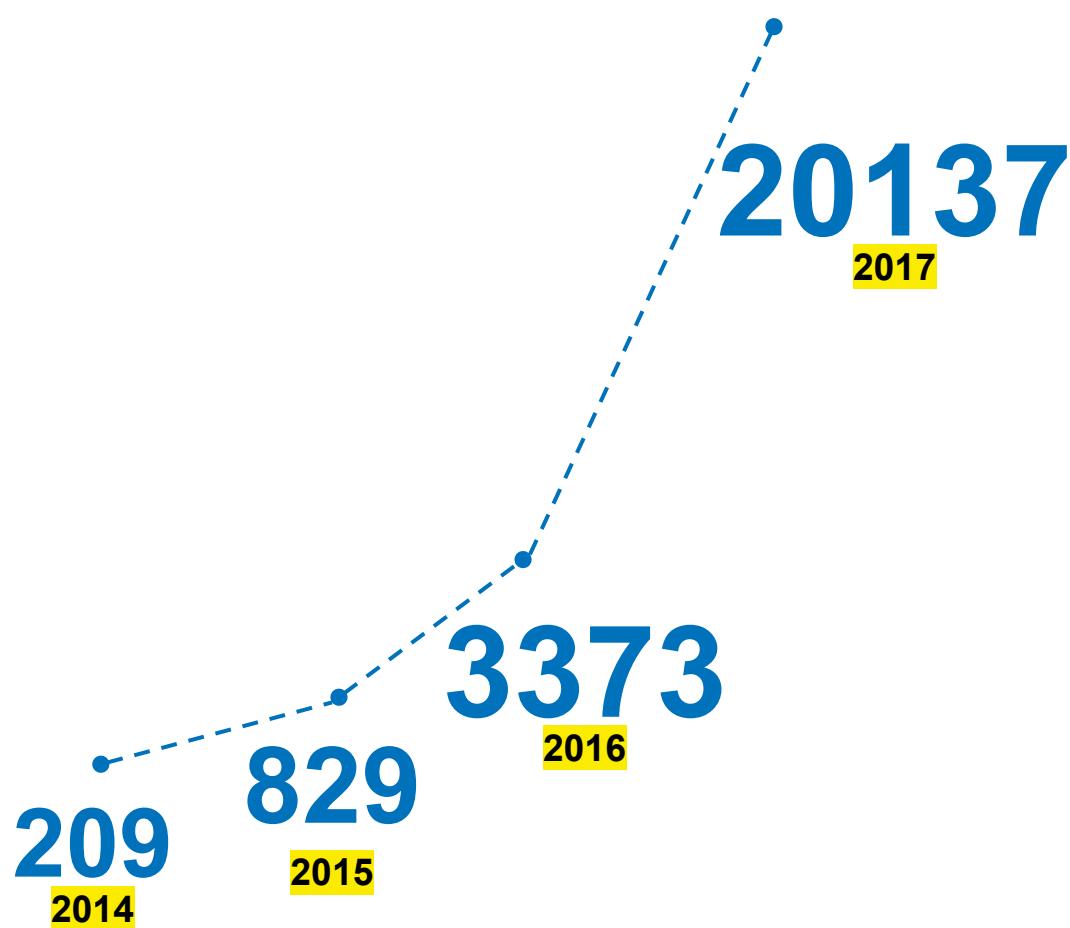
UNHCR Brazil  
January 2018



# OVERVIEW

In 2016 and 2017 Brazil has witnessed a **sharp increase in the number of asylum applications submitted by Venezuelan nationals**. By November 2017, according the official statistics, there were **20,137 Venezuelan asylum seekers in Brazil**. Considering the evolving situation in Venezuela, **the number of persons fleeing the deteriorating situation in Venezuela is likely to keep rising**.

To ensure proper planning by UNHCR, its partners and by public authorities, and to obtain **reliable and quality data on the profile of Venezuelans nationals in Brazil**, UNHCR, in partnership with the Brazilian Ministry of Labor, supported local research institutions affiliated to the Sergio Vieira de Mello Academic Consortium (SVMAC) to conduct a wide **statistical and qualitative assessment on the socioeconomic and labor profile of this population**.



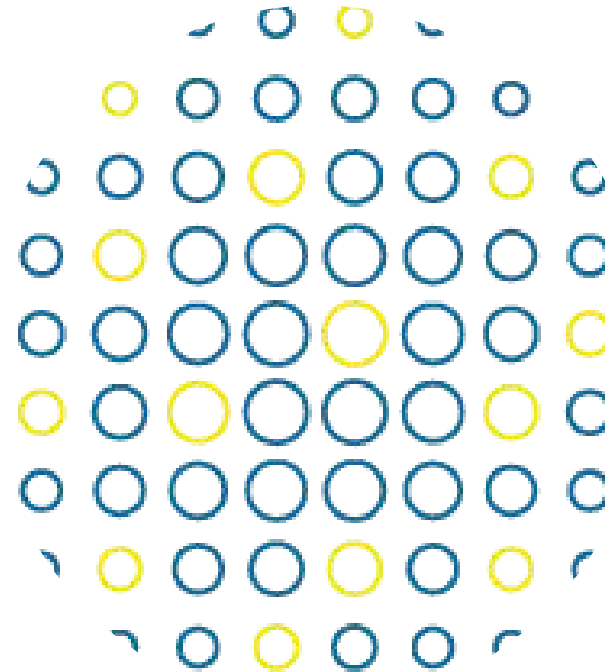
# RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- To generate **quantitative and qualitative data to inform the formulation and implementation of specific policies** by relevant stakeholders, in accordance with the needs and profile of the Venezuelan population in Brazil.
- To identify the **living conditions of non-indigenous Venezuelans living in the city of Boa Vista** and assess the **willing to participate in relocation programs** with the support of the Brazilian authorities.



# SAMPLING

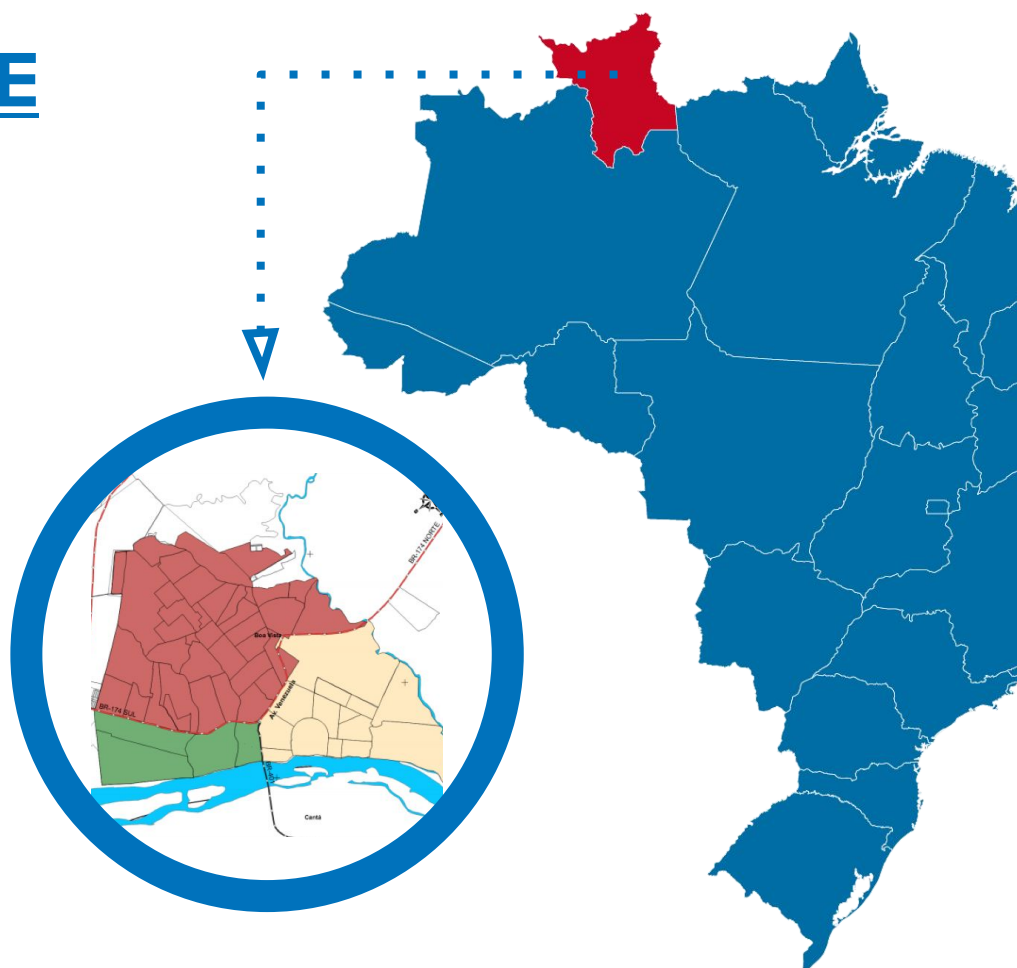
The sample design for the quantitative research was based on stratified probabilistic sampling to estimate proportions. Strata was built based on sex and age groups, with a **confidence level of 95%**, an **error margin of 2.5%** and **variance of 11%**, resulting in a sample size of **650 interviews** applied to the **non-indigenous population, aged 18 or more.**



# DATA COLLECTION SITE

Data was collected among **Venezuelans residing in 33 districts of the municipality of Boa Vista** - the capital of the State of Roraima and the urban centre with the largest number of Venezuelans in Brazil due to its proximity to the border.

In order to avoid possible biases and the incidence of non-sample errors, the research strategy consisted in approaching the interviewee near his/her place of residence, avoiding the application of questionnaires in places with a high concentration of Venezuelans.



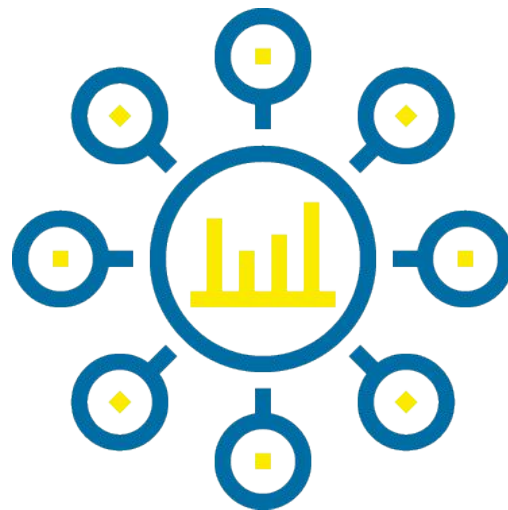
# DATA COLLECTION TOOL

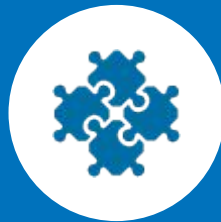
Data collection tool consisted in a structured questionnaire with closed and semi-closed questions. The questionnaire comprised 55 questions covering the following topics:

- **Sociodemographic Profile**
- **Situation Before Migrating**
- **Decision to Migrate**
- **Residence and Work in Brazil**
- **Integration in Brazil**
- **Remittances, Social Bonds and Future Expectations**

The questionnaire was applied by a field team composed by students from the Federal University of Roraima and who were trained beforehand.

Data collection occurred from **July 27 to August 9**, with **664 interviews.**







## Sociodemographic Profile



**Table 1 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans by gender according to age, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Age cohort	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
18 - 19	2,9	2,9	2,9
20 - 39	72,0	73,3	69,7
40 - 64	23,0	21,8	24,9
65 or more	0,9	0,7	1,2
No answer	1,2	1,2	1,2



**Table 2 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans, by gender, according to civil status, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Civil Status	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Married	21,7	19,9	24,9
With Partner	17,9	18,1	17,4
Single Children	53,8	56,4	49,4
Divorced/Separated	4,5	3,7	5,8
Widowed	0,8	0,2	1,7
No answe	1,4	1,7	0,8



**Table 3: Relative distribution of Venezuelan immigrants, by gender, according to education level, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Education Level	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Illiterate	0,9	0,5	1,7
Incomp. Primary School	2,3	2,9	1,2
Comp. Primary School	4,8	5,9	2,9
Incomp. High School	14,0	15,0	12,4
Comp. High School	30,5	30,9	29,9
Incomp. Higher Education	15,6	15,2	16,2
Comp. Higher Education	28,4	26,7	31,1
Post-Graduate	3,5	2,9	4,6





## Situation before Migrating



**Table 4 - Relative distribution of Venezuelan immigrants by gender, according to the state of origin**

State of Origin	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Anzoátegui	13,1	14,7	10,4
Bolívar	26,3	25,7	27,4
Carabobo	7,4	5,4	10,8
Distrito Federal - Caracas	15,4	15,2	15,8
Monagas	16,3	17,4	14,5
Other	19,9	20,6	18,7
No answer	1,5	1,0	2,5



**Table 5 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans, by gender, according to labor status in Venezuela**

Labor Status	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Employed	51,8	56,6	43,6
Self-employed	20,8	23,0	17,0
Unemployed	13,9	11,3	18,3
Student	5,9	4,2	8,7
Other	6,6	3,7	11,6
No answer	1,1	1,2	0,8





## Decision to Migrate



**Table 6 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans, by gender, according to main reason for migrating, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Main reason	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Political Crisis	25,4	27,0	22,8
Economic crisis	51,0	48,8	54,8
Employment opportunities	12,3	14,0	9,5
Other reasons	10,8	10,0	12,0
No answer	0,5	0,2	0,8



**Table 7 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans, by gender, according to migratory network, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Migratory Network	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Family	41,5	39,1	44,8
Friends/ Acquainted	58,0	60,9	54,0
Others	0,5	0,0	1,2



**Table 8 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans, by family migration, according to migratory network, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Migratory Network	Family Migration		Total
	Yes	No	
Yes	32,9	26,8	59,8
No	13,9	26,4	40,2
Total	46,8	53,2	100,0



**Table 9 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans, by gender, according to which family members had some previous migratory experience, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Relative	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Partner	24,9	25,8	23,9
Sons/ Daughters	28,6	15,3	42,8
Brothers/ Sisters	21,6	30,0	12,8
Other	24,9	28,9	20,6





## Decision to Migrate



**Table 10 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans, by gender, according to the main means of transportation to reach Brazil, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Transportation mean	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Car	25,6	22,1	31,5
Bus	71,2	75,0	64,7
Other	2,6	2,5	2,9
No answer	0,6	0,5	0,8



**Table 11 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans, by gender, according to travel time, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Travel Time	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Less than 24 hours	23,6	21,6	27,0
Between 1-2 days	56,9	57,8	55,2
Between 3-5 days	16,8	17,6	15,4
More than 5 days	1,7	2,0	1,2
No answer	1,1	1,0	1,2



**Table 12 - Relative distribution of Venezuelan, by gender, according to year of arrival in Brazil, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Year of Arrival	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Before 2016	6,5	6,9	5,8
2016	24,0	22,3	27,0
2017	66,9	67,6	65,6
No answer	2,6	3,2	1,7





## Residence and Work in Brazil



**Table 13 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, by migratory status, Boa Vista, 2017**

Migratory Status	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Asylum seekers	82,4	82,1	83,0
Residency seekers	5,5	5,4	5,8
Without documents	7,1	7,4	6,6
Others	4,3	4,9	3,3
No answer	0,6	0,2	1,2



**Table 14 - Relative Distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, by possession of Brazilian documents, Boa vista, 2017.**

Type of Document	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Scheduling/Cita	8,1	7,9	8,6
Refugee Protocol	33,7	33,5	34,0
Work Permit	22,8	23,6	21,4
Taxpayer number	29,0	28,6	29,6
Others	2,4	2,4	2,3
None	4,0	3,9	4,0



**Table 15 - Relative Distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, by accommodation type, Boa vista, 2017.**


Accommodation type	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Rent	71,2	68,4	75,9
Public Shelter	7,6	10,0	3,3
Relative/friends house	13,4	13,2	13,7
Other	7,4	8,1	6,2
No answer	0,5	0,2	0,8



**Table 16 - Relative Distribution of Venezuelans, per amount for rent payment (BRL), Boa vista, 2017.**

Rent (BRL)	Total
Total	100,0
Up to R\$300	56,0
from R\$301 to R\$500	31,6
Above R\$500	12,3





## Residence and Work in Brazil



**Table 17 - Relative Distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, sharing the same residency/facility, Boa vista, 2017.**

Number of householders	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
By himself/ herself	7,7	9,3	5,0
2 to 4	46,1	44,6	48,5
5 to 7	26,7	25,0	29,5
8 to 10	6,2	6,4	5,8
11 or more	11,4	12,5	9,5
No answer	2,0	2,2	1,7



**Table 18 - Relative Distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, sharing the same residency/facility, Boa vista, 2017.**

Number of householders	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
By himself/ herself	7,7	9,3	5,0
2 to 4	46,1	44,6	48,5
5 to 7	26,7	25,0	29,5
8 to 10	6,2	6,4	5,8
11 or more	11,4	12,5	9,5
No answer	2,0	2,2	1,7



**Table 19 - Relative Distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according to work area, Boa vista, 2017.**

Work Area	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Food Services	20,5	21,1	19,3
Commerce	36,5	35,4	38,5
Construction	12,3	17,5	3,0
Others	30,7	26,0	39,3



**Table 20 - Relative Distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, by monthly wage (937 BRL), Boa vista, 2017.**

Monthly wage (minimum wages)	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Less than 1 minimum wage	50,4	45,6	59,0
From 1 to 2 minimum wages	44,0	47,3	38,1
Above 2 minimum wages	4,8	5,9	3,0
No income	0,8	1,3	0,0





## Residence and Work in Brazil



**Table 21 - Relative Distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according number of weekly working hours, Boa vista, 2017.**

Working Hours	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Up to 20 hours	6,4	4,6	9,6
Between 20 to 40 hours	41,4	41,8	40,7
Above de 40 hours	52,1	53,6	49,6



**Table 22 - Relative Distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according to type of discrimination suffered in the workplace, Boa vista, 2017.**

Type of discrimination	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Higher number of hours	15,9	16,1	15,6
Lower wages	16,7	20,7	8,9
Nationality	62,9	58,6	71,1
Others	4,5	4,6	4,4



**Table 23 - Relative Distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according to their difficulty related to the language while looking for employment, Boa vista, 2017.**

Language Difficulty	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Yes	52,9	52,9	52,7
No	43,0	43,9	41,5
No answer	4,2	3,2	5,8





## Residence and Work in Brazil

Table 24 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans by professional status, according to education level, Boa Vista, 2017

Education level	Employed	Self-employed	Unemployed	Total
Illiterate	0,2	0,0	0,5	0,7
Complete primary education	2,3	1,0	1,7	5,1
Incomplete primary education	0,7	1,0	0,9	2,6
Complete secondary education	19,9	8,0	3,8	31,8
Incomplete secondary education	5,2	4,7	3,1	13,1
Complete higher education	18,3	5,8	3,8	27,9
Incomplete higher education	10,6	3,1	1,9	15,7
Post-graduation (specialization, MA, PhD)	2,8	0,3	0,0	3,1
Total	60,0	24,1	15,9	100,0

Table 25 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans within each education level according to professional status, Boa Vista, 2017

Education level	Employed	Self-employed	Unemployed	Total
Illiterate	25,0	0,0	75,0	100,0
Complete primary education	44,8	20,7	34,5	100,0
Incomplete primary education	26,7	40,0	33,3	100,0
Complete secondary education	62,6	25,3	12,1	100,0
Incomplete secondary education	40,0	36,0	24,0	100,0
Complete higher education	65,6	20,6	13,8	100,0
Incomplete higher education	67,8	20,0	12,2	100,0
Post-graduation (specialization, MA, PhD)	88,9	11,1	0,0	100,0
Total	60,0	24,1	15,9	100,0





## Residence and Work in Brazil

Table 26 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans by field of activity, according to education level, Boa Vista, 2017

Education level	Food Services	Trade	Civil Construction	Others	Total
Illiterate	0,0	0,0	0,3	0,0	0,3
Complete primary education	0,5	1,5	1,0	1,3	4,4
Incomplete primary education	0,5	0,8	0,0	0,3	1,5
Complete secondary education	5,2	10,1	4,6	10,3	30,2
Incomplete secondary education	1,0	4,4	2,6	3,4	11,3
Complete Higher Education	8,0	11,6	2,8	7,5	29,9
Incomplete Higher Education	3,6	6,4	1,3	7,2	18,6
Pós-graduado (Esp/mestr/dout)	1,5	1,5	0,0	0,8	3,9
Post-graduation (specialization, MA, PhD)	20,4	36,3	12,6	30,7	100,0

Table 27 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans within each education level by field of activity, Boa Vista, 2017

Education level	Food services	Trade	Civil construction	Other	Total
Illiterate	0,0	0,0	100,0	0,0	100,0
Complete primary education	11,8	35,3	23,5	29,4	100,0
Incomplete primary education	33,3	50,0	0,0	16,7	100,0
Complete secondary education	17,1	33,3	15,4	34,2	100,0
Incomplete secondary education	9,1	38,6	22,7	29,5	100,0
Complete higher education	26,7	38,8	9,5	25,0	100,0
Incomplete higher education	19,4	34,7	6,9	38,9	100,0
Post-graduation (specialization, MA, PhD)	40,0	40,0	0,0	20,0	100,0
Total	20,4	36,3	12,6	30,7	100,0





## Residence and Work in Brazil

**Table 28 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans by monthly payment, in minimum wage, according to education level, Boa Vista, 2017**

Education level	<1 M.W	1 a 2 M.W	2 M.W >	No remuneration	Total
Illiterate	0,3	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,3
Complete primary education	3,4	1,3	0,0	0,0	4,7
Incomplete primary education	0,8	0,0	0,5	0,0	1,3
Complete secondary education	16,8	12,1	0,8	0,3	30,0
Incomplete secondary education	6,3	3,9	0,8	0,5	11,6
Complete higher education	11,6	16,3	1,8	0,0	29,7
Incomplete higher education	8,9	9,2	0,5	0,0	18,7
Post-graduation (specialization, MA, PhD)	1,3	2,1	0,3	0,0	3,7
Total	49,5	45,0	4,7	0,8	100,0

**Table 29 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans by monthly payment, in minimum wage (937 BRL), according to payment within each education level, Boa Vista, 2017**

Education level	<1 M.W	1 a 2 M.W	2 M.W >	No remuneration	Total
Illiterate	100,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	100,0
Complete primary education	72,2	27,8	0,0	0,0	100,0
Incomplete primary education	60,0	0,0	40,0	0,0	100,0
Complete secondary education	56,1	40,4	2,6	0,9	100,0
Incomplete secondary education	54,5	34,1	6,8	4,5	100,0
Complete higher education	38,9	54,9	6,2	0,0	100,0
Incomplete higher education	47,9	49,3	2,8	0,0	100,0
Post-graduation (specialization, MA, PhD)	35,7	57,1	7,1	0,0	100,0
Total	49,5	45,0	4,7	0,8	100,0





## Integration in Brazil



**Table 30 - Relative Distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according to the use of public services, Boa vista, 2017.**

Service	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Health	38,9	38,4	39,9
Education	10,4	8,8	13,0
Social Assistance	2,2	2,3	2,2
None	48,4	50,6	44,9



**Table 31 - Relative Distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, by type of hostility suffered, Boa vista, 2017.**

Type of Hostility	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Xenophobia	32,9	34,3	30,5
Other	3,2	2,5	4,5
None	63,9	63,2	65,0



**Table 32 - Relative Distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according to hostility practitioner, Boa vista, 2017.**

Hostility practitioner	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Brazilian citizen	83,8	83,7	83,9
Public server	8,3	7,8	9,2
Others	7,9	8,4	6,9





## Integration in Brazil



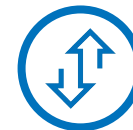
**Table 33 - Relative Distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according to acceptance to be relocated in case there is support from the Brazilian government, Boa vista, 2017.**

Acceptance	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Yes	77,0	80,6	71,0
No	14,9	12,0	19,9
Didn't know	6,8	6,4	7,5
No answer	1,2	1,0	1,7



**Table 34 - Relative Distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according to main reason not to accept reallocation, Boa vista, 2017.**

Main reason	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Employment	9,6	8,2	11,1
Integration	37,2	36,7	37,8
Proximity to the border	38,3	38,8	37,8
Others	14,9	16,3	13,3



**Table 35 - Relative Distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according to destination of emigration, Boa vista, 2017.**

Destination	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Would go back to Brazil	77,0	76,7	77,6
Would go to a different country	13,4	13,7	12,9
Don't know	8,2	7,6	9,1
No answer	1,4	2,0	0,4





## Remittances, Social Bonds and Future Expectations



**Table 36 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according to amount of money monthly sent (BRL), Boa Vista, 2017.**

Values (BRL)	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Up to 100	37,3	35,9	40,0
From R\$101 to R\$500	54,2	55,1	52,5
Over R\$500	8,5	9,0	7,5

**Table 37- Relative distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according to remittances receiver, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Receiver	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Partner	10,2	14,5	1,2
Parents	41,8	41,4	42,4
Children	32,2	30,1	36,4
Siblings	8,2	8,1	8,5
Others	7,6	5,8	11,5

**Table 38 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according to usage of remittances, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Type of use	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Debt payments	9,4	8,9	10,5
Family expenses	78,0	76,2	81,8
Education expenses	10,1	12,2	5,6
Others	2,5	2,6	2,1





## Remittances, Social Bonds and Future Expectations



**Table 39 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according to number of times returned to Venezuela, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Number of times	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Once	14,8	13,7	16,6
Twice	4,3	4,9	3,3
Twice or more	7,4	8,3	5,8
Never returned	71,8	71,8	71,8
No answer	1,7	1,2	2,5

**Table 40 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according to intention to return definitively to Venezuela, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Intention to return	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Yes	24,8	24,0	26,1
No	46,7	47,3	45,6
Do not know	27,4	27,9	26,6

**Table 41 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according to motivation to return definitively to Venezuela, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Motivation to return	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Improvement of economic conditions	61,3	56,8	66,7
Improvement of political conditions	22,5	29,5	13,9
Other reasons	16,3	13,6	19,4





**Table 42 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according to reason not to return to Venezuela, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Reason	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Government agents	20,6	20,5	20,8
Police	17,2	17,1	17,3
Armed forces	13,9	14,0	13,6
Paramilitaries/militias	10,7	10,4	11,0
Criminals	16,3	15,5	17,5
Others	0,5	0,4	0,6
None	20,9	22,0	19,1



**Table 43 - Relative distribution of Venezuelans, per gender, according to reason to stay in Brazil, Boa Vista, 2017.**

Main objective	Total	M	F
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0
Get a good job	62,9	64,7	59,8
Higher education	9,1	8,6	10,0
Training courses	8,0	7,1	9,5
Own business	14,6	14,5	14,9
Others	4,8	4,4	5,4
No answer	0,6	0,7	0,4





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