

MOVEMENTS REPORT

JANUARY - MARCH 2022

ENTRIES AND EXITS CONSOLIDATED FROM JANUARY TO MARCH 2022



SOURCES:

1) Mexico: Regular entries of Venezuelans by air and irregular exits of Venezuelans by land, as estimated by "encounters" along the U.S. / Mexico border.

Source for regular entries: Ministry of Government

Source for irregular exits:

<u>U.S. Customs and Border Protection</u>

2) Dominican Republic: Regular entries and exits of Venezuelans by air.

Source: Ocentral Bank of the Dominican Republic

3) Costa Rica: Irregular entries of Venezuelans at Paso Canoas

February: 10M Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)

March: 10M Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)

4) Panama: Irregular entries of Venezuelans via the Darien land border with Colombia, and regular entries and exits of Venezuelans

Source for irregular entries:

Mational Migration Service

Source for regular entries and exits:

Mational Migration Service

5) Colombia: Regular and irregular entries and exits of Venezuelans by air, land and sea borders.

Source for regular entries and exits:

Migration Colombia

Source for irregular entries and exits: OGIFMM estimates using data from 24 free WiFi access points cross-referenced with data from Migration Colombia.

6) Ecuador: Regular and irregular entries and exits of Venezuelans by air and land.

Source for regular entries and exits: Ministry of Government.

Source for irregular entries and exits: @ GTRM Border Monitoring and Population Profiling System

7) Peru: Regular and irregular entries and exits of Venezuelans by air

Source for regular entries and exits: Superintendence of Migration of

Source for irregular entries and exits: GTRM.

8) Brazil: Regular entries and exits of Venezuelans at all points.

Source: Source: Federal Police of Brazil

9) Uruguay: Regular entries and exits of Venezuelans by air. Source: National Migration Directorate.

10) Chile: Irregular entries along northern border with Bolivia. Source: Mayor of Colchane/ R4V.



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REGIONAL TRENDS AND KEY FINDINGS

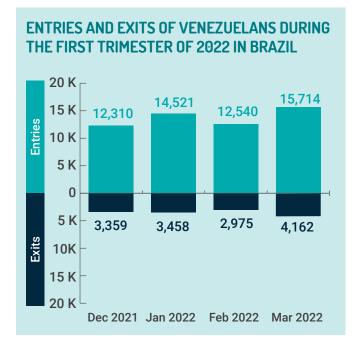
In Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, seasonal movements of Venezuelan refugees and migrants – characterized by increased pendular travel to/from Venezuela in December 2021 and January 2022 for the Christmas and New Year's holidays, as well as increased movements between Ecuador and Colombia, and decreased arrivals to Peru in December –stabilized in February and March. Beyond the aforementioned seasonal pendular movements, there was no trend of increased returns to Venezuela observed at border crossings either with Colombia or Brazil in the first three months of 2022. See data in accompanying figures.

Neighbouring countries of Chile felt the effects of the country's new Migration Law in effect since 12 February, resulting in the "redirection" or immediate removal of thousands of Venezuelans attempting to cross to Chile from Bolivia and Peru. See below and the R4V Special Situation <u>Reports</u> for more information on movement trends along the Bolivia / Chile / Peru borders and the R4V response.

Finally, a new visa requirement for Venezuelans entering Mexico as of 21 January had the effect of sharply decreasing regular arrivals of Venezuelans by air, and was associated with increased irregular overland transit of Venezuelans through Central America, including the perilous Darien Gap between Colombia and Panama, exposing refugees and migrants to greater protection risks. See detailed information below.

BRAZIL

According to data from the <u>Federal Police</u> collected through *Operation Welcome* together with R4V partners, Venezuelan arrivals to and departures from Brazil increased in January by 18% and 3% respectively compared to December, then *decreased* by 14% and 16% in February compared to January (returning to December levels) and then increased again in March by 25% and 44% (exceeding January levels) reaching 15,714 entries and 4,162 exits in March. R4V partners in Brazil at the border with Venezuela remain attentive to evaluate whether this increase in March arrivals and departures represents a growing trend or a stabilization of some sort following the increased movements of Venezuelans typically observed around December and January.

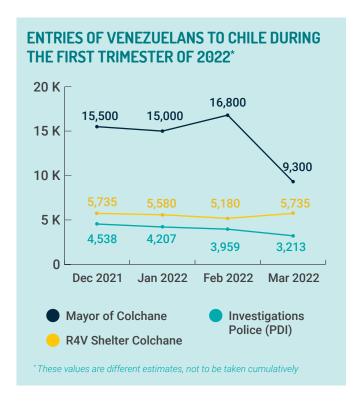


It is important to note that this data relates to regular (rather than irregular) movements: in December 2021, the Brazilian border with Venezuela formally re-opened for land crossings, which – combined with regularization pathways and humanitarian entry grounds effective since June 2021 for Venezuelans – have had the effect of permitting regular Venezuelan entries and exits and resulting in a limited number of irregular movements.

Meanwhile, on 16 March, the Federal Police issued <u>Ordinance 28/2022</u> which extended until 15 September 2022 the validity of all migratory regularization documentation that had expired

in the past two years, including for Venezuelans, provided the document holder maintained residency in the country throughout this period.

CHILE



On 12 February, Chile began applying its new Migration Law allowing for the "redirection" (or immediate removal) of refugees and migrants who entered the country irregularly. The majority of those affected were Venezuelans crossing irregularly to Chile from Bolivia and Peru (as reported in the R4V February and March Special Situation Reports). According to the Head of National Defense of Tamarugal Province, a total of 7,095 "redirection" or rejection procedures were initiated by end-March. Nevertheless, because Bolivia did not have a procedure to accept reentries of non-Bolivian nationals, more than 90% of these "redirections" reportedly resulted in affected refugees and migrants being referred to the National Migration Service (SNM) for administrative procedures while remaining within Chile.

After the new President of Chile was sworn in on 11 March, the incoming administration extended a State of Exception originally declared by the outgoing administration, which had led to the

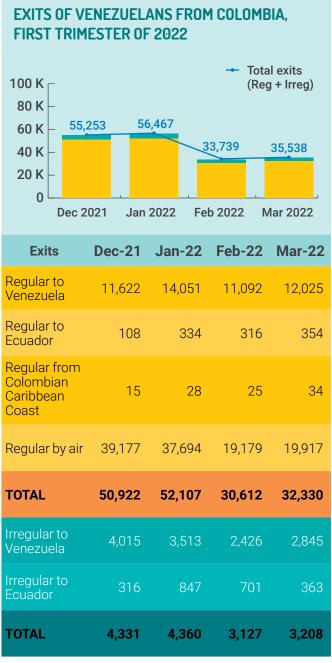
deployment of military and police to the northern borders with Peru and Bolivia since 15 February, to prevent irregular entries in the provinces of Arica, Parinacota, Tamarugal and El Loa. The new government also continued to strictly apply the "redirection" procedures under the new Migration Law.

These border enforcement measures appear to have resulted in a decrease in irregular arrivals to Chile in March (3,213) which were down 19% compared to February (3,959) according to data from the Investigations Police (PDI). Of 11,379 total irregular arrivals recorded by the PDI for the first quarter of 2022, some 7,763 or 68% were Venezuelans. These numbers were largely consistent with (and somewhat lower than) irregular arrivals reported by the PDI in the same guarter of 2021. Other estimates point to even higher numbers of irregular arrivals during the reporting period, the vast majoring being Venezuelans, with the Mayor of Colchane estimating 15,000 arrivals in January; 16,800 in February; and 9,300 in March, for a total of over 41,000 so far in 2022 (and also noting a reduction in arrivals in March due to border enforcement measures).

On 24 January, a 47-year-old Venezuelan, who had crossed 5 countries, was found dead in the city of Colchane, due to problems related to climatic conditions. He was the second refugee or migrant death registered in January. A total of six refugee and migrant deaths were recorded during the reporting period. According to interviews with R4V partners, refugees and migrants believe that they face better weather conditions to cross borders during the southern hemisphere summer (December, January and February). But in those months the altiplano winter – characterized by storms, hail and floods – affects the Chile-Bolivia border, resulting in perilous conditions.

COLOMBIA



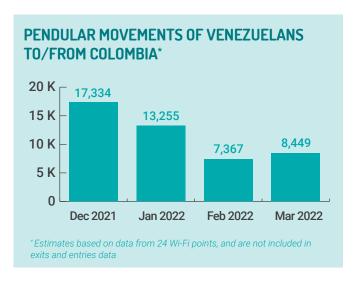


Total entries of refugees and migrants from Venezuela via land, river and sea borders (both regular and irregular) to Colombia decreased successively every month from December (82,373) to March (45,129), with the same trend observed in entries of Venezuelans by air (decreasing from 23,721 in December every month to 14,687 in March). Data on regular entries was provided by *Migracion Colombia*, while irregular entry figures were estimated by the GIFMM (R4V National

Platform in Colombia) using <u>data from 24 free WiFiaccess points</u> cross-referenced with **Migracion Colombia** data¹.

In terms of returns to Venezuela, exits along land, river and sea borders (both regular and irregular) from Colombia to Venezuela fluctuated between a high of 17,564 in January and a low of 13,518 February, with 14,870 exits in March. Pendular movements along the Venezuela/Colombia border dropped significantly from December (17,344)

^[1] Data collection is limited to those refugees and migrants who voluntarily connect to one or more of 24 free WiFi access points throughout the country and the information they provide in a short survey. Therefore, these estimations of irregular movements reflect a portion, and are not representative of all irregular movements in Colombia.



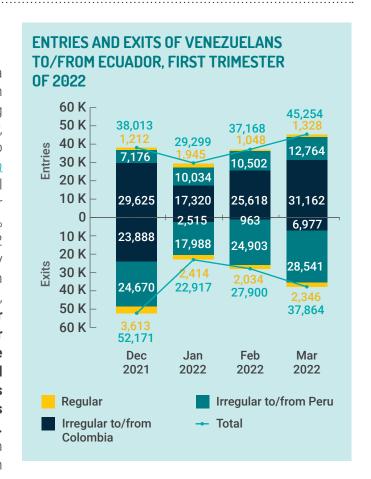
to March (8,449) with the peak in December reflective of seasonal movement trends observed in past years over the Christmas and New Year's holidays. Entries of Venezuelans traveling north from Ecuador, meanwhile, remained relatively low throughout the reporting period, with combined regular and irregular entries observed through monitoring in Colombia not surpassing 1,850 in any month other than January (when there was a spike of 2,382 entries).

As a result, no trend of significant return movements of Venezuelans from Colombia, Ecuador, or from other countries further south was observed. Nevertheless, some R4V partners' interviews of Venezuelans at the border with Ecuador in Nariño showed an increased intention of refugees and migrants to return to Venezuela in the future (from 16% of those interviewed in January to 22% of those interviewed in March). Entries to Colombia still appear to be higher than exits to Venezuela (e.g. those related to returns) which implies no change in the dynamics of movements so far.

As concerns departures of Venezuelans from Colombia by air (without being able to specify destinations), these dropped dramatically between January (37,694) and February (19,179) which also coincided with the introduction of a visa requirement for Venezuelans arriving to Mexico (as of 21 January) while the number of air departures remained stable from February into March (at 19,917) when additional visa requirements went into effect in Costa Rica (since 21 February), Honduras (since 21 February) and Belize (since 28 February). See accompanying figures for details.

ECUADOR

Irregular exits from Ecuador towards Colombia were significantly higher in December 2021 than in prior or subsequent months of 2022 (reaching 23,888 in December, but only 2,515 in January, 963 in February, and 6,977 in March), according to estimates by the **Border Monitoring and Population** Profiling System of the GTRM (the R4V National Platform in Ecuador). Irregular entries to Ecuador from Colombia, meanwhile, decreased by 42% from December 2021 (29,625) to January 2022 (17,320) before rebounding by 48% in February (to 25,618) and increasing again by 22% in March (to 31,162). According to R4V partners' analysis, these entry and exit numbers in the first quarter of 2022 are consistent with trends observed over the past three years, when the months linked to the Christmas and New Year's festivities registered decreases in entries to Ecuador, and increases in exits to Colombia, while the number of arrivals and departures tends to stabilize again in March. The increase of entries to Ecuador from Colombia in February and March is thus viewed as a stabilization



in the seasonal trend of arrivals. Meanwhile, refugees and migrants leaving Ecuador interviewed by R4V partners reported the intention to return to Venezuela and/or Colombia, and in some cases, the desire to continue to the United States.

Meanwhile, arrivals to Ecuador from Peru increased every month from December 2021 (7,176 arrivals) to March 2022 (12,764 arrivals). Exits to Peru from Ecuador, meanwhile, remained relatively constant from December (at 24,670) to February (24,903) with a slight increase in March (28,541), with the exception of a drop in January (to 17,988). Along the Peru-Ecuador border, therefore, the number of monthly exits from Ecuador was on average 2-3 times greater than the number of monthly entries from Peru during the first quarter of 2022.

Although by February Ecuador had re-opened its two main land borders (Rumichaca in the north, and

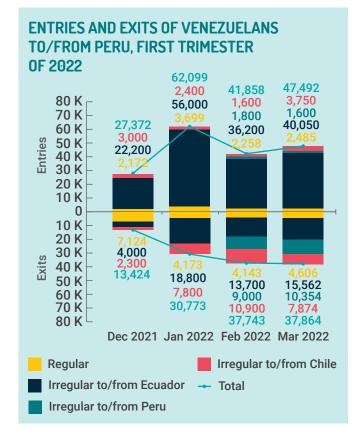
Huaquillas in the south), the country maintained a special visa requirement for Venezuelans, with few able to meet the requirements (including COVID-19 vaccination), resulting in refugees and migrants largely resorting to irregular crossings. The number of regular entries remained below 1,500 for all but one month (January) while regular exits were below 2,500 for all but one month (December).

The Government of Ecuador <u>announced in March</u> that it would soon formalize its new regularization process for Venezuelans, originally announced last year.

PERU

On 12 February, Peru <u>repealed</u> the decree that had temporarily closed land borders since March 2020 and reopened its borders with Ecuador, Chile and **Bolivia.** Despite this, very few regular entries or exits were subsequently recorded. This was likely due to unclear information on the validity of pre-pandemic entry requirements specifically for Venezuelans, and lack of documentation. Meanwhile, the Chilean side of the southern border remained closed, which limited the resumption of regular movements. The 12 February application of the new Chilean Migration Law resulted in a significant number of refugees and migrants throughout the southern region with interrupted travel patterns. While some sought to return north, others indicated they would re-attempt to cross to Chile via Bolivia.

Overall, Peru saw a large jump in arrivals and departures in January (after extremely low numbers in December) and then a stabilization through March. There were just 6,300 irregular exits in December, compared to 26,600 in January, 33,600 in February and 33,800 in March, according to estimates by the GTRM (R4V National Platform in Peru). Most exits occurred through the northern border with Ecuador: out of 94,000 Venezuelans estimated to have left Peru irregularly during the first quarter of 2022, 51% crossed into Ecuador, 28% into Chile, and 21% into Bolivia. The number of Venezuelan irregular entries also bounced back



in the first quarter of 2022, following December arrivals that were the lowest recorded of the previous six months. The GTRM estimated a total of 143,400 irregular entries to Peru in the first quarter of 2022, primarily through the northern border with Ecuador. Both entry and exit trends fit with seasonal Christmas and New Year's holiday travel trends observed in prior years. Another factor that may explain increased entries to Peru through

March – in addition to seasonal trends – is the subsequent 5 April expiration of the term to process the Temporary Permanence Permit Card (CPP). At the end of March, the Superintendence of Migration (SNM) was still evaluating a possible new extension of the term. By 11 March, the SNM reported that over 118,000 CPPs had been delivered, as well as 23,400 humanitarian residences.

Meanwhile, R4V partners' border monitoring activities – and the reliability of population estimates based on these – increased substantially in February, with the addition of monitoring of the

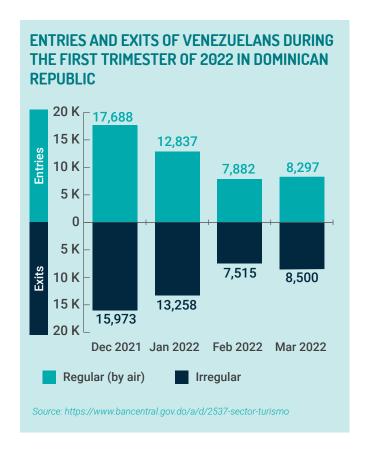
southern border with Bolivia (in addition to Ecuador and Chile) and counts conducted 4-5 times a month. According to an R4V partners' <u>14 March monitoring report</u>, although Peru (mainly Lima) remained the primary destination of 56% of Venezuelans entering the country through the northern border, 43% reported Chile to be their intended destination.

CARIBBEAN SUB-REGION

In the Dominican Republic average *monthly arrivals* of Venezuelans by air — which continued to be the primary route used — for the first quarter of 2022 (9,672) were higher than for the same period in 2021 (4,915) but consistent with overall 2021 monthly averages (10,494). The Dominican Republic saw a decrease in arrivals and departures of Venezuelans in both January and February, after a peak in December (likely also related to seasonal travel) with a stabilization in March. A total of 29,016 Venezuelans entered and 29,273 departed the country in the first quarter of 2022, for an almosteven migratory balance (neither an increase nor a decrease in the total population of Venezuelans in the country).

Registrations of new Venezuelan asylum-seekers in **Trinidad and Tobago** by an R4V partner were lower in the first three months of 2022 than the same period in 2021: there were 232 new Venezuelan asylum-seekers registered in January, 331 in February and 259 in March. The slight peak in February is likely due to seasonal trends and related registration capacity (with more limited capacity in December and January resulting in larger numbers of registrations in February).

Meanwhile, in **Aruba**, **Curaçao** and **Trinidad and Tobago**, there were multiple instances of irregular boat arrivals of refugees and migrants from Venezuela, including of children and infants, and operations carried out by the respective national authorities to detain and deport Venezuelans in an irregular situation over the past three months, according to media reports. In Aruba, there were at least *five irregular boat arrivals* of *Venezuelans*



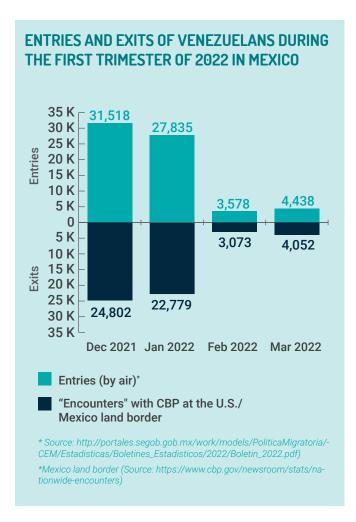
(carrying a total of 40 passengers) intercepted by the Coast Guard during the first quarter of 2022; in Curaçao, at least one <u>boat</u> (carrying 13 passengers) was intercepted by the Coast Guard in February; and in Trinidad, at least one boat (carrying 20 passengers from Venezuela) was intercepted in February, in a situation where Coast Guard officials fired shots at the boat and a <u>Venezuelan infant on board was killed</u>. R4V partners released a <u>statement</u> in response, urging states to establish mechanisms to protect the rights of refugees and migrants. Meanwhile, in March the authorities in <u>Aruba</u> and <u>Curaçao</u> conducted frequent site <u>visits</u> in restaurants, bars, supermarkets, construction

sites and other spaces to identify Venezuelans in an irregular situation for subsequent detention and deportation. During the reporting period, at least 289 Venezuelans returned to Venezuela from Curação through transit countries due to the suspension of direct return flights. Meanwhile, at least 73 Venezuelans were deported from Trinidad and Tobago during the first quarter of 2022, according to public statements made by the Ministry of National Security (although non-official sources and reports received from R4V partners suggest that the actual number of Venezuelans deported during this period may be much higher).

Finally, in **Guyana** in March, the arrival of at least 125 indigenous Warrau refugees and migrants from Venezuela via canoe to the Pomeroon-Supenaam area of Region Two prompted the authorities to relocate them to Region One, in a joint operation carried out by the Guyana Police Force and the Guyana Defense Force Coast Guard. Government agencies, in cooperation with R4V partners, also provided health care, shelter and food assistance. The situation led the President of Guyana to issue public remarks emphasizing that the country's response to arrivals of refugees and migrants from Venezuela has been, "a humanitarian reception in coordination with international partners."

CENTRAL AMERICA AND MEXICO SUB-REGION

In **Central America** and **Mexico**, movement trends of refugees and migrants from Venezuela were strongly correlated with the implementation of new visa policies by countries in the sub-region: most notably in Mexico, the number of entries and exits of Venezuelans dropped sharply after the introduction of a new visa requirement for Venezuelans on 21 January 2022. Arrivals of Venezuelans by air to Mexico dropped from 27,835 in January to 3,578 in February and 4,438 in March. This also correlated with a steep decline in the number of departures of Venezuelans from Mexico to the United States, where the number of "encounters2" by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) with Venezuelans attempting to enter the United States irregularly from Mexico dropped from 22,779 in January to 3,073 in February and 4,052 in March. This suggested that a significant number of Venezuelans had been arriving by air to Mexico prior to January and then subsequently crossed by land to the United States, with the visa requirement having the effect of limiting access to regular routes of transit, and resulting in increased irregular (and more dangerous) routes of transit by land to reach Mexico and continue on to the **United States.** Costa Rica, <u>Honduras</u> and Belize also imposed new visa requirements for arriving Venezuelans during the reporting period, effective end-February.

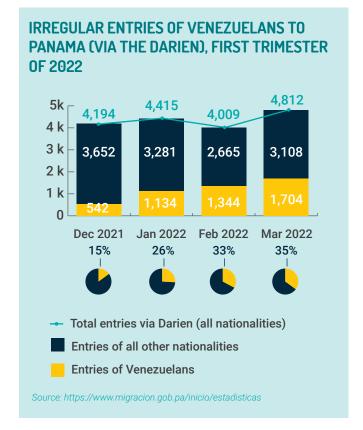


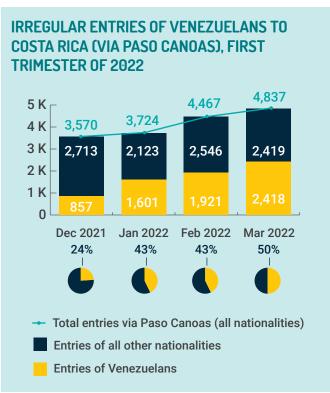
Correspondingly, the number of Venezuelans traveling by land through Central America and Mexico increased markedly in the same time period, including, as reflected in the number of Venezuelans traversing the perilous Darien Gap from Colombia to Panama and continuing overland through Costa Rica (as reported in the R4V CAM Special Situation Report). The number of

^[2] The number of "encounters" does not equal the number of individuals who attempted to cross the border, as a given individual may attempt to cross multiple times (and will be counted as multiple "encounters") in a given month. The recidivism rate for January through March 2022 was on average 28%, according to data from <u>CBP</u>.

Venezuelans in transit through the Darien in Panama more than doubled from December (542) to January (1,134) and increased by 16% in February (1,344) and 21% in March (1,704) according to data from the National Migration Service (SNM).

Starting in January and continuing through March, Venezuelans represented the top nationality of all refugees and migrants in transit by land irregularly through both Panama and Costa Rica. Venezuelans made up 35% of all crossings through the Darien in Panama in March (out of 4,969 total according to the SNM) and 50% of all crossings through Paso Canoas in Costa Rica in March (according to an R4V partner's monitoring report). The number of Venezuelans in transit by land through Costa Rica increased by 87% from December (857) to January (1,601) and then 20% to *February* (1,921) and 26% to March (2,418). R4V partners in Colombia, Panama and Costa Rica reported that Venezuelans (as compared to other nationalities) lacked adequate information about the dangers of these irregular crossings or the material resources necessary to reduce their risks (for example, to use shorter and safer routes). Interviews by an R4V partner in Panama found that the majority of Venezuelans using these routes were young male adults traveling alone or with a partner (although there were also family groups, many reported deciding to leave their children in the care of others and not travel with them) with the intention to reach the United States. Interviews by an R4V partner in Costa Rica found that Venezuelans who had recently departed Venezuela made up a growing majority of those in transit trying to reach the United States: 65% of Venezuelans in transit surveyed in March - up from 61% in February and 46% in January - reported Venezuela as their last immediate country of residence, while the remainder had previously resided in countries including Colombia. Peru, Ecuador, Panama and Brazil. Reasons given for leaving previous host countries in the region included the inability to attain economic self-sufficiency and xenophobia. According to an R4V partner's survey conducted in March, 98% of Venezuelans interviewed at the border between Costa Rica and Panama indicated the United States was their final destination. With the new visa requirement for Venezuelans entering Mexico greatly limiting the ability of refugees and migrants to access safe, secure and regular means



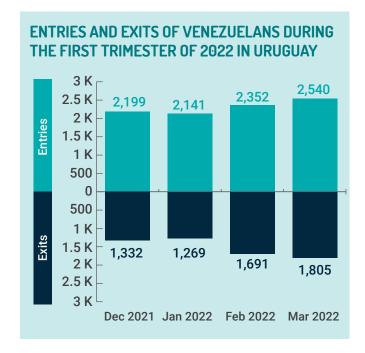


of transit, it is expected that irregular entries of Venezuelans by land through countries in Central America and Mexico will increase, and result in greater protection threats for Venezuelans using irregular routes.

SOUTHERN CONE SUB-REGION

The 12 February introduction of a new Migration Law in Chile had ripple effects in neighbouring countries of the Southern Cone, particularly in Bolivia, as thousands of refugees and migrants in transit to Chile were subsequently subject to "redirection" or immediate rejection procedures at the border. Bolivia did not, however, have a procedure in place to accept the re-entry of non-Bolivian nationals at the border with Chile. According to R4V partners' monitoring, at the end of February there were approximately 150 Venezuelans entering Bolivia per day at Desaguadero (along its border with Peru) en route to Chile, while there were approximately 200-300 Venezuelans exiting daily from Pisiga (in Bolivia) to enter Chile. Venezuelans who were turned back from entering Chile along the border with Bolivia (particularly near Colchane/ Pisiga) either re-attempted entry to Chile or in some cases returned to Peru (via Desaguadero/Puno). Many refugees and migrants in transit along these routes were in dire economic circumstances with little capacity to meet their basic needs, including health needs after traversing difficult weather and dangerous terrain. See the R4V Special Situation Reports: Bolivia / Chile / Peru for February and March for more information on movement trends and the R4V response.

In terms of movements to **Paraguay**, R4V partners reported an increase in irregular movements from the Chaco region in Bolivia by the end of March (correlated with the difficulties reported entering Chile). Meanwhile, official entry figures from the General Migration Directorate showed a slight decrease in regular Venezuelan arrivals in January and February (847) compared to November and December (1,038) with an overall balance of 147 more entries than exits so far in 2022.



Uruguay showed slight month-by-month increases of regular Venezuelan arrivals in January, February and March, reaching a total of 7,033 arrivals and 4,765 exits in this period, for a balance of 2,268 more entries than exits in the first quarter of 2022, according to data from the National Migration Directorate.

Finally, in **Argentina**, R4V partners reported the arrival of approximately 100 Venezuelan refugees and migrants per month through the land crossing at La Quiaca (border with Bolivia) as well as sporadic arrivals at Puerto Iguazu (border with Brazil). At Puerto Iguazu, at least one family was *denied entry* during the reporting period, despite seeking asylum.

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