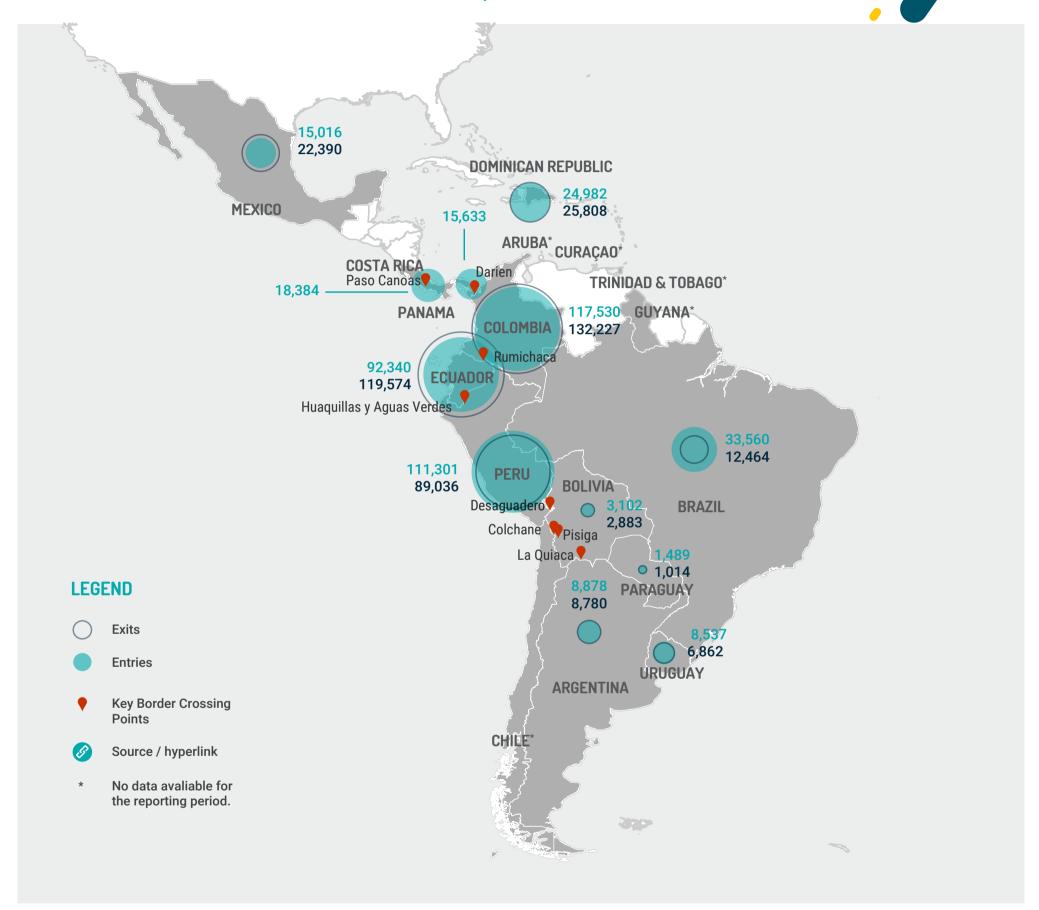


**MOVEMENTS REPORT** 

# **APRIL - JUNE 2022**

# **CONSOLIDATED ENTRIES AND EXITS OF REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS** FROM VENEZUELA FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 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.S.** Customs and Border Protection

2) Dominican Republic: Regular entries and exits of Venezuelans

Source: O Central Bank of the Dominican Republic

3) Costa Rica: Irregular entries of Venezuelans at Paso Canoas border with Panama.

April: 10M Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) May: 6 IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)

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

Source for irregular entries:

<u>National Migration Service</u>

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: 

GIFMM 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 and land.

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: Federal Police of Brazil

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

10) Paraguay: Regular entries and exits of Venezuelans, all

Source: General Migration Directorate of Paraguay.

11) Bolivia: Regular entries and exits of Venezuelans, all borders. Source: General Migration Directorate (DIGEMIG) of Bolivia.

12) Argentina: Regular entries and exits of Venezuelans, all

Source: National Migration Directorate (DGM) of Argentina.



**MOVEMENTS REPORT** 

# **APRIL - JUNE 2022**



## **REGIONAL TRENDS AND KEY FINDINGS**

The second guarter of 2022 saw a significant increase in irregular northward movements of Venezuelan refugees and migrants transiting through Central America and Mexico, the majority with the intention to reach the United States. As reported in the <u>R4V Special Situation Report for</u> Central America, Mexico and Colombia, due to new and existing visa requirements in now all countries of Central America and Mexico, Venezuelan refugees and migrants have increasingly resorted to irregular and often life-threatening movements to reach their intended destinations. For example, in June 2022 alone, Panama's National Migration Service (SNM) reported 11,359 entries of Venezuelans from Colombia through the Darien Gap, representing almost three times as many entries as reported for the entire <u>first quarter of 2022</u> (4,182). More than half of Venezuelans on these northward routes departed directly from Venezuela, rather than leaving other host countries in the region.

Meanwhile, in terms of return movements to Venezuela, no notable increase was observed in movements from Colombia to Venezuela: monthly exits from Colombia to Venezuela hovered between 13,500 to 14,900 from February through June, while the number of pendular movements along the Colombian and Venezuelan border decreased from April through June. Exits from Brazil, meanwhile, slightly increased in the second quarter (4,154 on average for April through June) compared to the first quarter (3,532 on average for January through March).

Further south, movements northwards also increased from Ecuador to Colombia, as did those from Chile to Peru, while movements southwards from Ecuador to Peru decreased, and movements southwards from Peru to Bolivia and Chile also decreased. Ecuador noted a significant increase in monthly exits of Venezuelans to Colombia during the second quarter of the year (averaging 18,951 exits per month) compared to the first quarter (averaging 3,485 exits per month), while Peru noted a significant increase in entries from Chile (rising to 8,048 per month in June from 1,600 in February).

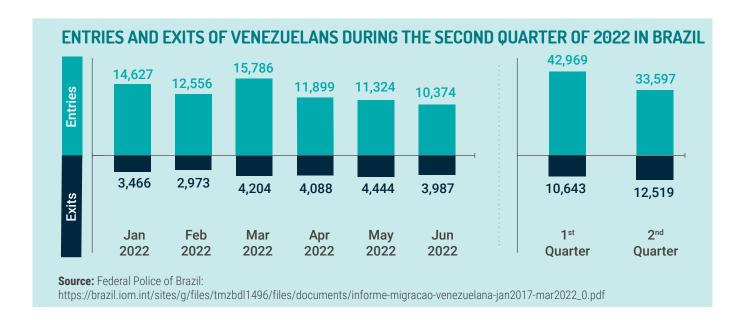
See below for more detailed information.

#### BRAZIL

Brazil saw a decrease in monthly entries from Venezuela during the second quarter of the year, following the temporary increase associated with Venezuela's reopening of its border with Brazil in March 2022 (15,786 entries in March alone). The monthly **regular entries** reported by the *Federal Police* for April (11,899), May (11,324) and June (10,374) are more in line with monthly averages prior to March, reflective of a stabilization of arrival flows. In terms of **regular exits**, the number of Venezuelans leaving Brazil remained stable during the second

quarter of the year, averaging 4,173 per month (4,088 in April, 4,444 in May and 3,987 in June) which was slightly higher than the monthly average for the first quarter of the year (3,548 per month).

Irregular movements remained negligible, given that the reopened borders, available regularization pathways and access to asylum processes provide sufficient avenues for Venezuelans to enter Brazil through regular border crossings.



## **CHILE**

On 15 April, the Government of Chile lifted its state of emergency that had been in place since February in order to stabilize the irregular arrivals of refugees and migrants in four northern regions of the country. That notwithstanding, a notable military presence remains visible in the area. While local authorities and media predicted an increase in subsequent arrivals, data from the Colchane Transitory Shelter suggested that arrivals of refugees and migrants decreased in April (to 3,000 people assisted that month, down from over 5,000 assisted per month since December 2021). (See also below, data from Peru noting a sharp decrease in monthly exits of Venezuelans to Chile from March to April, remaining stable through June, and a significant increase in departures of Venezuelans from Chile to Peru, up to 8,048 in June from 1,747 in April).

In June, information published by the Investigative Police (PDI) revealed that 31,920 refugees and migrants had self-reported and indicated that they had entered Chile irregularly since the beginning of the year. While not disaggregated by nationality, most new entries are Venezuelans (an estimated 75-80% of all refugees and migrants, according to R4V partners' observations).

On 16 May, an 83-year-old Venezuelan man <u>died</u> while crossing the border to Colchane (Chile) from Pisiga (Bolivia). While the exact cause of death remains unknown, the man reportedly suffered from hypertension. This marks the <u>seventh</u> death of a refugee or migrant (the fourth from Venezuela) in 2022 while in transit through the harsh terrain and weather conditions to reach Chile.

# **COLOMBIA**

The trend of decreased entries to Colombia from Venezuela after seasonal highs at the beginning of the year continued throughout the reporting period. Reductions in total **entries** of Venezuelans via land, river, air and sea borders (including regular<sup>1</sup> and irregular<sup>2</sup>) in April (40,906), May (39,075) and June (37,992) confirm the downward trend previously observed during the first three months of the

year (see <u>R4V Movements Report: First Quarter</u> 2022). During the second quarter, this decrease was attributable almost entirely to a reduction in **irregular** entries from Venezuela (which dropped from 13,130 in March to 8,808 in April, 6,654 in May and 6,656 in June), while **regular** entries via all land, river, sea and air borders remained stable. Average monthly entries of Venezuelans to Colombia (both

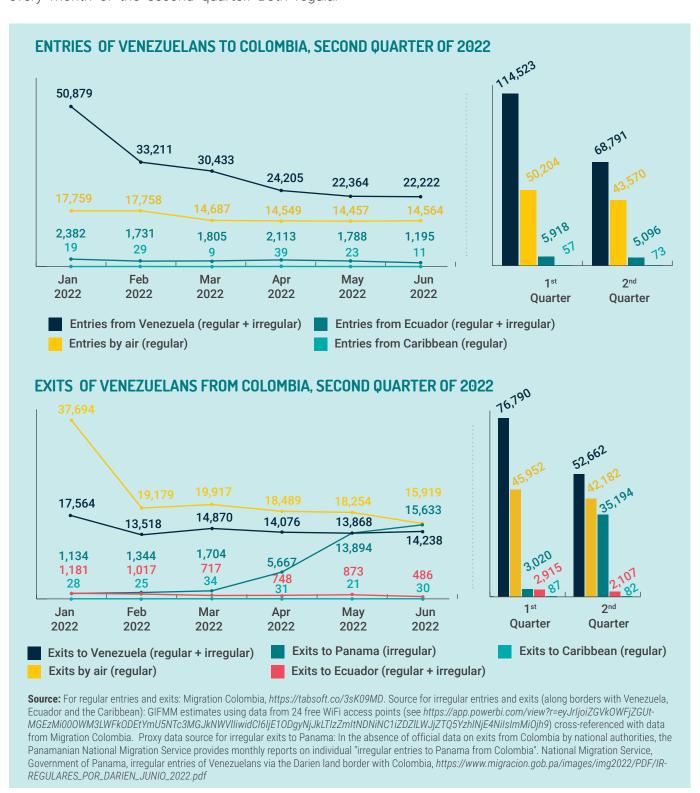
<sup>[1]</sup> Regular entries are based on data from Migracion Colombia. Available here: https://tabsoft.co/3sK09MD

<sup>[2]</sup> Data collection is limited to those refugees and migrants who voluntarily connect to one or more of 35 free WiFi access points provided by the IOM network 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.

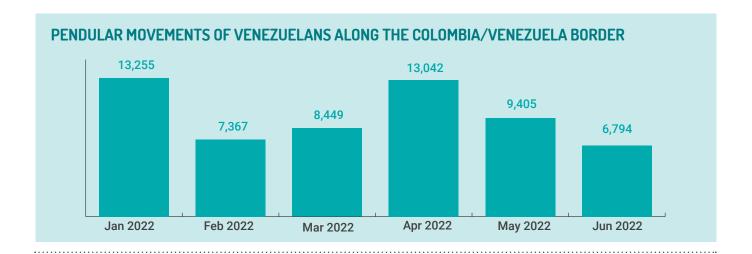
regular and irregular) were 56,901 per month in the first quarter, and only 39,177 per month in the second quarter.

Meanwhile, **exits** from Colombia<sup>3</sup> also remained largely stable from February through June (after the sharp drop in air departures previously reported from January to February) with the exception of exits to Panama, which increased dramatically every month of the second quarter. Both regular

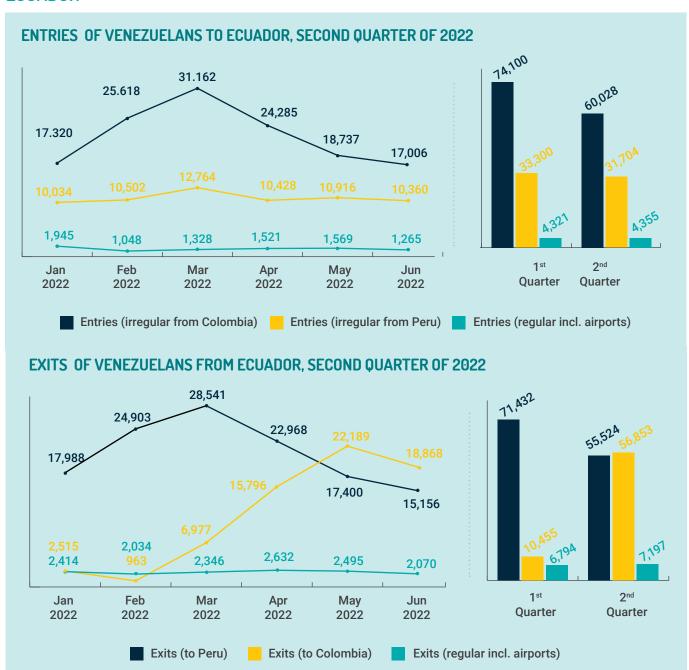
and irregular **returns** to Venezuela from Colombia remained stable and modest, which totaled 14,076 in April, 13,878 in May, and 14,238 in June (consistent also with February and March monthly total returns). There was a decline in pendular movements over the last three months, from 13,042 in April, to 9,405 in May, and 6,794 in June (after a sharp increase from March to April).



<sup>[3]</sup> This does not currently include exits from Colombia to Panama via land, river and sea routes, but does include exits from Colombia to Venezuela, Ecuador and the Caribbean via land, river and sea, and exits via air from Colombia to all destinations.



# **ECUADOR**



**Source:** Regular and irregular entries and exits of Venezuelans by air and land. Source for regular entries and exits: Ministry of Government, https://www.mi-gracion.gob.ec/. Source for irregular entries and exits: GTRM Border Monitoring and Population Profiling System, https://www.r4v.info/es/document/gtrm-ec-uador-analisis-del-sistema-de-monitoreo-de-fronteras-y-caracterizacion-de-flujos.

Data from Ecuador showed a significant increase in south-to-north movements during the second quarter of the year, with an increase in irregular exits north towards Colombia, and a decrease in irregular exits south towards Peru.4 According to the R4V National Platform in Ecuador (GTRM) Border Monitoring and Profiling System, the average number of exits to Colombia from Ecuador from April through June was 18,951 per month, a stark increase from the 3,485 per month from January through March. Meanwhile, after exits from Ecuador to Peru initially increased every month of the first guarter of the year (reaching a high of 28,541 in March) they then dropped every month of the second quarter (reaching a low of 15,156 in June). GTRM interviews with refugees and migrants intransit from April documented motivations for this increase in south-north movements, with more Venezuelans reporting leaving countries such as Chile and Peru and expressing their intention to either stay in Ecuador or continue their journeys

toward Colombia, Venezuela or the United States. Up until April, the United States had not previously been reported as an intended destination country in similar surveys undertaken in Ecuador. Meanwhile, the number of entries to Ecuador decreased every month (34,713 in April, 29,653 in May and 27,366 in June) after initially increasing every month during the first quarter. **This decrease in entries is due to a decline in entries from Colombia (with 30% fewer entries reported in June in contrast to April)** as entries from Peru were stable throughout the same period (averaging 10,568 per month).

According to the GTRM, the reductions in both entries and exits in June may partially be linked to the *national strike in Ecuador*, which took place between 13 to 30 June, initiated by the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE). The strike resulted in limitations on mobility and transportation throughout the country, and increases in acts of xenophobic violence.

# **PERU**

Data from Peru showed a significant decrease in exits to the south, towards Bolivia and Chile, an increase in entries from Chile, and a decrease in entries from Ecuador, all consistent with a slowing of Venezuelan movements to the **south.** This was most visible through estimates of irregular entries and exits made by the R4V National Platform in Peru (GTRM),<sup>5</sup> where an overall decrease was noted both in terms of irregular entries and irregular exits in comparison to the first three months of the year. According to estimates by the GTRM, the total number of Venezuelan refugees and migrants who irregularly entered Peru during the second quarter of 2022 (104,340) was 27% lower in comparison to the first quarter (143,400). Nevertheless, irregular entries from Chile actually increased in this time period, while irregular entries from Ecuador decreased: average monthly entries from Ecuador were just 27,568 per month during the second quarter, compared to 44,083 per month during the first guarter; while

average monthly entries from Chile more than doubled, from 2,583 in the first quarter to 5,156 in the second quarter, reaching a high of 8,048 in June. Meanwhile, 69% of Venezuelans surveyed by an R4V partner after entering through the northern border in May indicated their intention to remain in Peru, while 30% planned to travel to Chile. A similar pattern was observed for exits, with total irregular exits from Peru decreasing from the first guarter (94,000) to the second quarter (76,288), but with the most marked reductions in exits to Chile (dropping to 4,362 per month in the second guarter, from 8,858 per month in the first quarter) and to Bolivia (dropping to 4,185 exits in June, after monthly declines from a high of 10,354 exits in March). May marked an important shift in movement dynamics along the Peruvian - Chilean border, being the first time in 2022 that entries from Chile were higher than exits from Peru, corresponding with the reopening of the land border with Chile in May. By June, entries from Chile (8,048) were double the exits from Peru

<sup>[4]</sup> Despite the reopening of borders in Ecuador, the vast majority of refugees and migrants from Venezuela continue to enter and exit Ecuador irregularly, due to an inability to meet visa requirements. According to data from the Ministry of Government in Ecuador, monthly regular entries of Venezuelans in April, May and June of 2022 were never greater than 260, while monthly regular exits ranged from 2K to 2.6K.

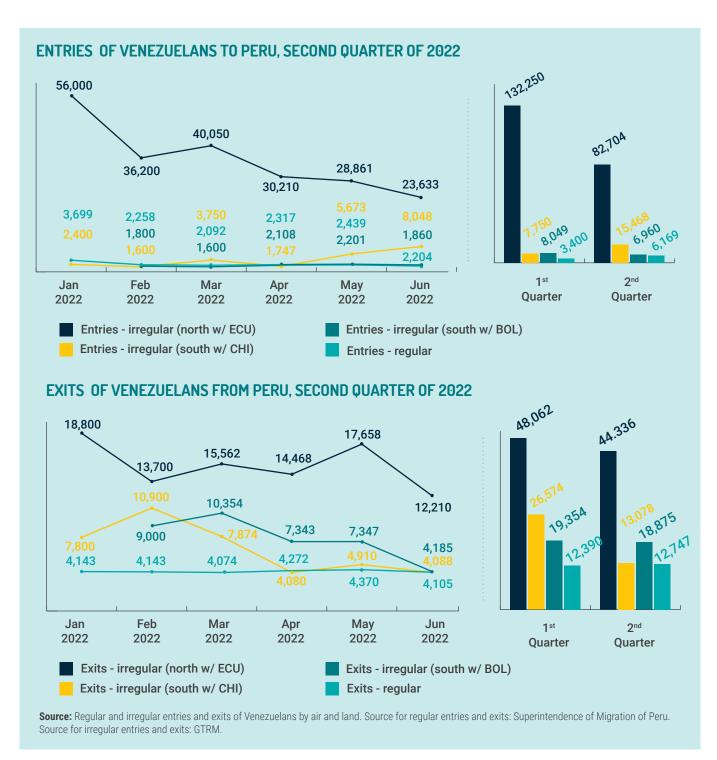
<sup>[5]</sup> According to data from the Superintendence of Migration in Peru, regular arrivals and departures of Venezuelans remained similar to previous months, with regular entries in April (2,317) May (2,439) and June (2,204) and regular exits in April (4,272) May (4,370) and June (4,105) on par with data from the first quarter of 2022.

(4,088). All of that points to a slowing of population movements south from Peru and a gradually developing trend in northward movements.

Social conflicts in Peru in April, which led to the declaration of a state of emergency as well as a nationwide curfew on 5 April, are also believed to have had a dampening effect on population movements, which rose again in May compared to April. In addition, the decrease in entries and exits in June (the lowest flows estimated so far this year) also correspond to the timing of political events in neighbouring countries, including protests in Ecuador and presidential elections in Colombia.

Finally, 32 foreigners in irregular situations, mainly Venezuelan women, were <u>deported</u> in April after being accused of engaging in sex work. A <u>report of the Ombudsperson's Office</u> concluded in June that the deportations had violated the fundamental rights of the people involved, including due process of law.

Meanwhile, 264 Venezuelans were <u>returned</u> from Peru to Venezuela on 15 May, through the Venezuelan Ministry of Foreign Affairs' "Plan Vuelta a la Patria".

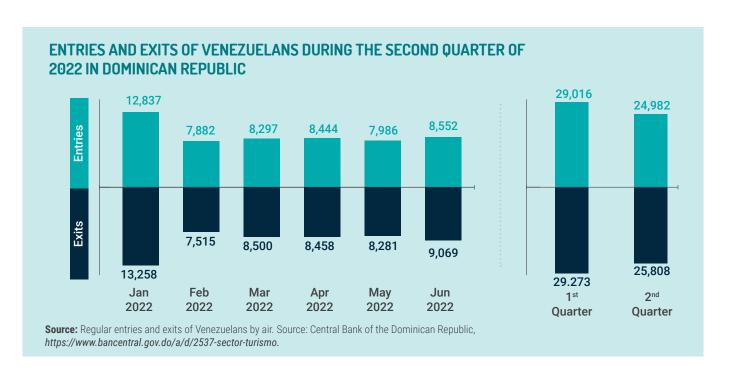


## **CARIBBEAN SUB-REGION**

The Dominican Republic *reported* a slight decrease in both regular entries (24,982) and exits (25,808) of Venezuelans in the second quarter of 2022, in comparison to the first three months of the year (29,016 entries, 29,273 exits) indicating an overall stabilization of movements following the peak of arrivals and departures in December and January. The number of Venezuelans who regularly entered the country by air in June (8,552) is on par with

registered entries in April (8,444) and May (7,986). Departures in June (9,069) represented a very small increase compared to April (8,458) and May (8,281).

In Aruba, Curacao and Trinidad and Tobago, deportations and repatriations of Venezuelans were reported, according to R4V partners.

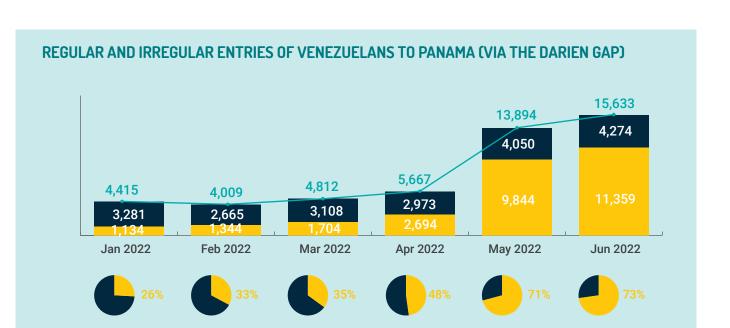


#### CENTRAL AMERICA AND MEXICO SUB-REGION



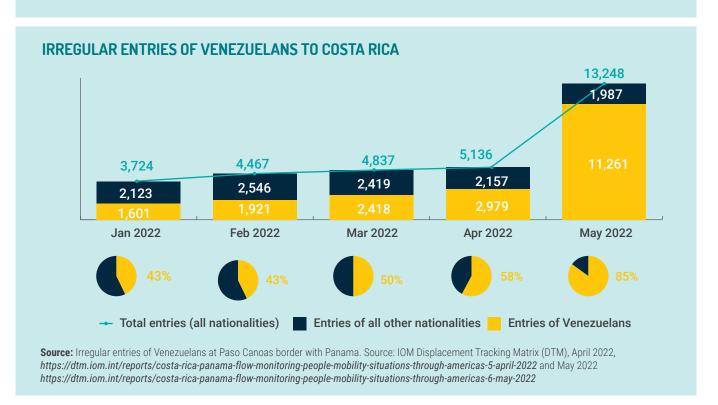
**Source:** Regular entries of Venezuelans by air and irregular exits of Venezuelans by land, as estimated by "encounters" along the U.S. / Mexico border. Source for regular entries: Ministry of Government,

http://portales.segob.gob.mx/work/models/PoliticaMigratoria/CEM/Estadisticas/Boletines\_Estadisticos/2022/Boletin\_2022.pdf. Source for irregular exits: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/nationwide-encounters.



**Source:** Panama: Irregular entries of Venezuelans via the Darien land border with Colombia, and regular entries and exits of Venezuelans via air. Source for irregular entries: National Migration Service, <a href="https://www.migracion.gob.pa/images/img2022/PDF/IRREGULARES\_POR\_DARIEN\_JUNIO\_2022.pdf">https://www.migracion.gob.pa/images/img2022/PDF/IRREGULARES\_POR\_DARIEN\_JUNIO\_2022.pdf</a> Source for regular entries and exits: National Migration Service, <a href="https://www.migracion.gob.pa/inicio/estadisticas">https://www.migracion.gob.pa/inicio/estadisticas</a>.

→ Total entries via the Darien gap (all nationalities) Entries of all other nationalities Entries of Venezuelans



As reported in the <u>R4V Special Situation Report for Central America</u>, <u>Mexico and Colombia</u>, new and existing visa requirements,<sup>6</sup> coupled with limited integration opportunities in host countries, have de facto pushed Venezuelans to increasingly resort to irregular pathways in order to transit north to reach their intended desitinations, largely the

United States. These irregular movements have continuously been reported as being extremely dangerous, especially at key points such as the Darien Gap, the irregular border crossings between Panama and Costa Rica, and the border area with Mexico and the United States.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>[6]</sup> Mexico began to require a visa for Venezuelans to enter as of 21 January, and Costa Rica required a visa as of 21 February.

<sup>[7]</sup> See, e.g., Human Rights Watch, Mexico/Central America: New Visa Restrictions Harm Venezuelans, 5 July 2022, <a href="https://www.hrw.org/ews/2022/07/05/mexico/central-america-new-visa-restrictions-harm-venezuelans">https://www.hrw.org/ews/2022/07/05/mexico/central-america-new-visa-restrictions-harm-venezuelans</a>.

In Panama, the number of Venezuelans crossing the Darien Gap has increased significantly in the second quarter of the year, with entries in May (9,844) and June (11,359) over triple and quadruple respectively the entries registered in April (2,694), according to data from the National Migration Service (<u>SNM</u>). In June, 73% of all refugees and migrants crossing the Darien Gap were Venezuelan (71% in May).

Similarily, Costa Rica observed a dramatic increase in irregular entries of Venezuelans in <u>May</u> (when an estimated 85% of the 13,248 refugees and migrants who entered via Paso Canoas were Venezuelan nationals, according to an R4V partner's monitoring survey, compared to 58% Venezuelans out of a total of 5,136 who entered in <u>April</u>). There was also a decrease in regular entries of Venezuelans to Costa Rica in April (709) and May (675) after a sharp drop from February (1,730) corresponding

with the introduction of the visa requirement for Venezuelans, according to data from the General Directorate of Migration and Foreigners (DGME).

In Mexico, a renewed significant increase was reported in the number of irregular exits of Venezuelans to the United States, according to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (*CBP*) data on "encounters" with Venezuelans attempting to enter from Mexico. Such encounters increased sharply in June (13,194) compared to May (5,089) and April (4,107) although they did not reach the high previously registered in January (22,779) prior to the imposition of the visa requirement. Meanwhile, the number of Venezuelan new asylum applications in Mexico dropped from March (1,384) to April (908) and then rose again gradually in subsequent months through June (1,612).9

#### **SOUTHERN CONE**

Data from Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay show a slight increase in entries and exits of refugees and migrants from Venezuela, in the current context of open borders in the four countries. Uruguay was the only country in the Southern Cone with a constant trend of positive monthly net entries of refugees and migrants from Venezuela throughout 2022.

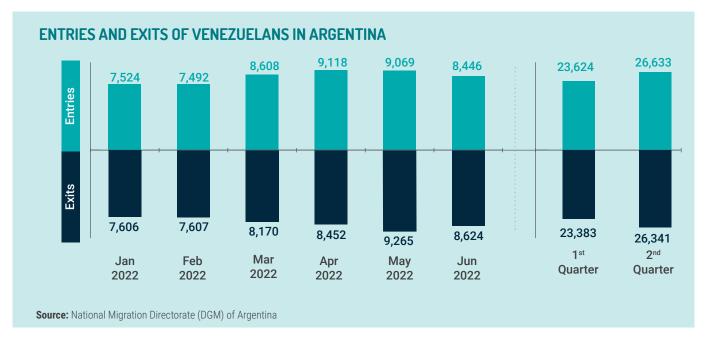
In Bolivia, June recorded the highest number of regular entries in 2022 (1,301 people) with a total of 3,102 in the second quarter, in comparison to 3,225 in the first three months of the year. Regarding irregular entries through the Desaguadero border with Peru, R4V partners observed a 16% drop in April compared to March, followed by another 15% drop in May. As of June 2022, there were 23,006 Venezuelan refugees and migrants in Bolivia, 9,230 of them in transit. Some 65% of this population was estimated to be in an irregular situation. R4V partners received reports of criminal groups that smuggle Venezuelans from Bolivia into Chile, leaving many abandoned in the desert.

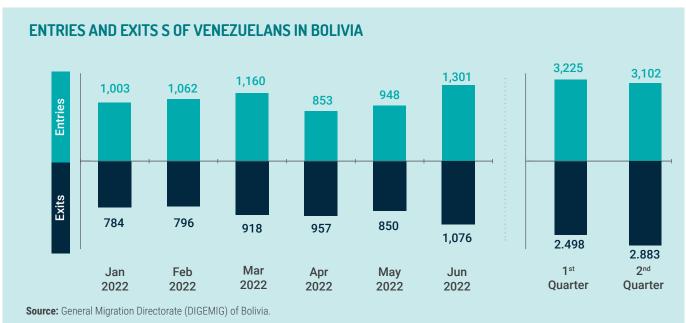
Argentina showed slight month-by-month increases of regular Venezuelan arrivals in April, May and June, reaching a total of 26,633 arrivals and 26,341 exits in this period, resulting in a balance of 292 more entries than exits in the second quarter of 2022, according to data from the National Migration Directorate. Entries by land increased through border crossings such as Tancredo Neves in Misiones province, on the border with Brazil, only surpassed by entries via air to Buenos Aires.

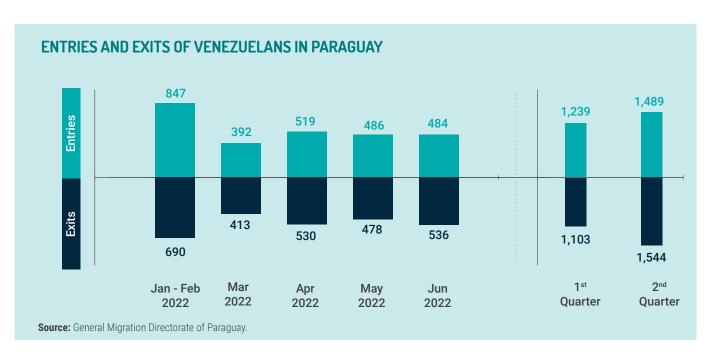
In Paraguay, downward trends in entries were observed in June compared to the peaks of April. Data revealed a slight increase in both regular entries (1,489) and exits (1,544) of Venezuelans in the second quarter of 2022, in comparison to the first quarter (1,239 entries and 1,103 exits).

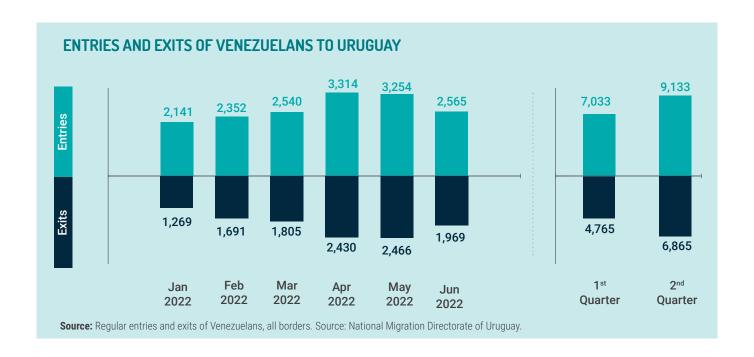
<sup>[8]</sup> The number of "encounters" does not equal the number of individuals who attempted to cross the border, as a given individual may attempt to cross multiple times (and will be counted as multiple "encounters") in a given month. The recidivism rate for January through March 2022 was on average 28%, according to data from CBP.

<sup>[9]</sup> Data from the Mexican Migration and Refugee Commission (COMAR), number of new asylum applications registered by Venezuelans per month,









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