



Displacement Tracking Matrix

GUYANA - FLOW MONITORING SURVEYS OF VENEZUELAN NATIONALS IN MABARUMA, REGION ONE





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International Organization for Migration 107 -108 Duke Street UN Common House Kingston, Georgetown Guyana, South America

Tel.: +592 -225-375 E-mail: iomguyana@iom.int Website: www.iom.int

This DTM activity was funded by the US Department of State – Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BPRM) and implemented by IOM. As convenience sampling was used, the results are only indicative of the characteristics of the surveyed population.

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1.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The location of this round of DTM is Barima Waini, here after referred to as Region One, which is located in the northern part of Guyana and borders the Delta Amacuro region of Venezuela. These two regions are connected by a series of rivers incluthe dingg Imbotero, Amacuro, Barima and Aruka rivers.

The following areas were identified as flow monitoring points: Mabaruma, Kumaka, Imbotero, Smith's Creek, Hobo Hill, Khan Hill, Whitewater, Blackwater, Kamwatta and Yarakita.

The analysis of all the data collected has led us to the following analysis. The results are only indicative of the characteristics of the surveyed population.

Population Profile

- Total number of respondents were 298 Venezuelans.
- Fifty-two per cent were male and 48 per cent were female.
- The civil status of respondents was 55 per cent single, 44 per cent married and one per cent divorced and widowed respectively.
- In terms of the respondents' education level, 51 per cent reported that they had not received any education. Twenty-seven per cent of respondents had only completed primary education, followed by 17 per cent who had completed secondary school and three per cent who attained university level education. Among those that did not have any education, a higher proportion of female than male respondents aged 18-24 were represented (7% vs 4% respectively).

Migration Route and Status

- The most frequently reported Venezuelan state of origin was Delta Amacuro (84%) followed by Bolivar (8%), Monagas (6%) and Zulia (1%).
- It was reported that 71 per cent of respondents travelled alone, 21 per cent travelled with their family and 8 per cent travelled in a non-family group. Among those respondents who reported travelling alone, we observed that a higher proportion of female than male respondents between 18 and 24 years old travelled alone (11% vs 8%), that more than half of respondents who travelled alone had no education (58%) and that 16 per cent of them had no regular migration status.
- When asked about time spent in Mabaruma, 33 per cent mentioned that they had stayed more than a year, followed by 32 per cent who had stayed more than a month, 22 per cent between one and four weeks and 14 per cent less than a week. In terms of the cost of the trip, almost half of respondents (41%) paid nothing to reach Mabaruma.
- Almost half of all respondents (49%) claimed an irregular migration status while 45 per cent claimed that they had an

entry permit and 6 per cent claimed to have dual nationality. Among those with irregular migration status, we observed that most were male (69%), 69 per cent mentioned not having any formal education, 56 per cent were unemployed at the time of the interview, and most respondents that have an irregular migration status have been for a longer period of time in Guyana than those that have been for a shorter period of time (33% have been in Guyana for more than a year).

Economic and Labour Situation

- Fifty-seven per cent of respondents claimed that they were unemployed before migrating. After migration, an even greater majority of respondents reported that they were unemployed (73%). It was observed that a higher proportion of female than male respondents between 18 and 24 years old were unemployed after migration (12% on contrast to 9%) and that the vast majority of those unemployed had economic dependents (80%).
- The great majority (96%) of respondents reported that they were not sending resources back to Venezuela and 82 per cent of respondents have economic respondents. Both facts highlight the possible hardship that Venezuelan migrants who lack employment endure when trying to support their families back home (in average for both groups 74% were unemployed).

Health Access

- The vast majority of respondents do not have access to health services (71%). Respondents residing in remote areas have stated they do not have access to health care because of the geographic location of these health facilities.
- When respondents were asked about where they seek assistance when they have a health situation, 65 per cent mentioned a public hospital and 32 per cent reported "other," which may mean that they rely on herbal medical practices.
- Seven per cent of respondents reported having a chronic or motor/sensorial medical condition, 5 per cent said that they had contracted a contagious disease and 24 per cent mentioned that in the last year they had felt anger and/or worried.
- Three per cent of Venezuelan migrants and refugees interviewed in Mabaruma reported that they had had COVID-19 symptoms.

Needs and Assistance

- Thirty-four per cent of respondents stated that their need for food was their first priority, while 32 per cent said their top prioity was income generation or employment and 15 per cent mentioned safety and security.
- As a second priority, 41 per cent of respondents expressed



needing income generation, 28 per cent were in need of food and 11 per cent wanted education and training.

- As a third priority, 29 per cent stated they needed education and training, 18 per cent wanted food and 17 per cent needed accommodation.
- Eighty-two per cent reported having access to food only once a day, followed by 14 per cent who said that they had access to food twice a day and 1 per cent that claimed access only every other day. Among those respondents who reported having only access to one meal a day, it was observed that more than half were between 25 to 44 years old (57%) and 79 per cent were unemployed.

Protection

Twenty-eight per cent of respondents said they felt unsafe.
 When asked about discrimination, eight per cent said they had
 experienced discrimination during the journey while two per
 cent said that they had suffered violence. The discrimination
 experienced was based on their nationality (92%), followed
 by sexual orientation and economic status (4% respectively).

2. CONCEPT

Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean are currently experiencing the largest population movement in modern history due to the immense outflow of migrants and refugees from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (hereafter referred to as Venezuela). As a result of the Venezuelan situation and Guyana's proximity, it has also affected. There is an increase in the movement of migrants from Venezuela into Guyanese territory.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is currently assisting the Government of Guyana and other humanitarian actors in monitoring the situation using the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM).

The DTM is a system to track and monitor displacement that is designed to create a profile of the migrant population and to obtain a better understanding of their migratory routes, migration status, economic and labour situation, health situation, livelihoods and main protection needs. This analysis allows stakeholders to use evidence-based decision making to support the population arriving from Venezuela, as well as the receiving communities. This report uses data from a DTM round carried out in and around the outskirts of Mabaruma (Region one), between January and February 2021. It was funded by the US Department of State – Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BPRM) and implemented by IOM.

3.

INTRODUCTION

Regional Profile

Barima Waini (hereafter referred to as Region One, see Image 1) is the official name of Region One and is one of the ten administrative divisions of Guyana. Mabaruma is currently the only town in this region and is led by a mayor. The population of Region One is estimated to be 26,941 (2012 Census) and is made up of mainly Indigenous people including Arawaks, Caribs and Waraos.

Geography

Region One is located in the North West of Guyana and borders the Delta Amacuro region of Venezuela. Both countries are connected by a series of rivers, including the Aruka, Imbotero, Amacuro and Barima rivers. The climate is characterized by heavy rainfall throughout the year due to the dense Amazon rainforest. The area of this region is approximately 20,333 Km sq.

Economy

Region One is an area known for Agriculture, Farming, Fishing and Livestock. Cassava cultivation is performed by many residents and remains the main means of earning a livelihood.

Migration

Pendular migration amongst persons living in Region One and Delta Amacuro Venezuela has always been a feature. Boats are the main source of travel. Due to the ongoing crisis in Venezuela, there has been an increase in the number of persons, both indigenous and non-indigenous, migrating from Venezuela to this region of Guyana in particular.

COVID-19 Situation

In the beginning of January 2021, the total number of cases in Region one was 1097, while the accumulated caseload for Guyana was 7317. A number of national COVID-19 guidelines were issued by the National COVID-19 taskforce, which had significant socioeconomic impact on Region One. Below is a list of some of these guidelines¹

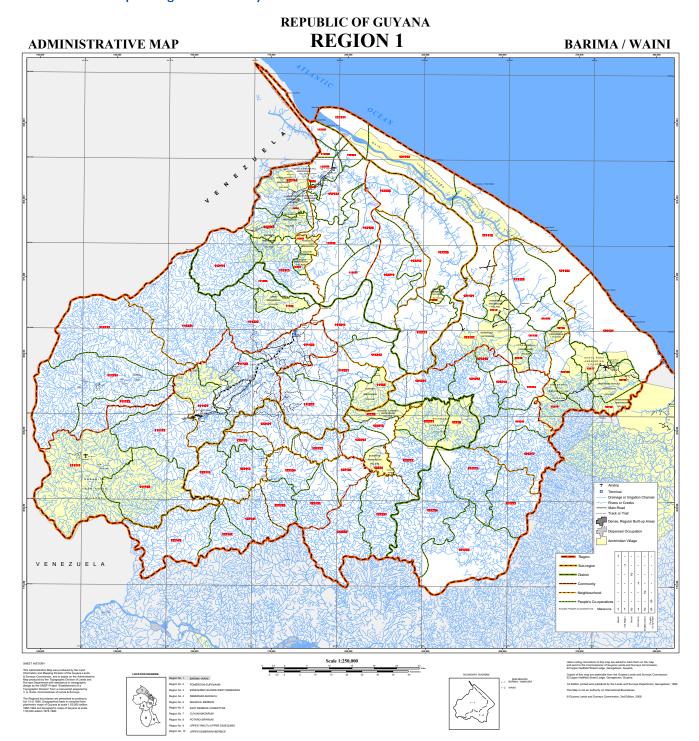
- 1. Restrictions on public gathering
- 2. Closure of Bars and night clubs
- 3. Partial opening of restaurants
- 4. Closure of schools
- 5. Curfew from 10:30 PM to 04:00 AM





IMAGE I.

Administrative map of Region One in Guyana







4. METHODOLOGY

Situational Analysis

Before beginning the data collection process, a situational analysis was conducted. This analysis involved key members of the IOM team meeting with different stakeholders to understand the complexity of the migrant situation, flow monitoring points, their needs and gaps in the response, in order to improve collaboration and integration. Meetings were held with the following actors:

- Mayor, Regional Chairman (RC) and Regional Executive Officer (REO)
- Village councils / Toshaos
- Regional Medical Officer (RHO)
- · Regional Engineer
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Once the flow monitoring points were identified, awareness of IOM's presence was made, the data collection process began.

Sampling Size

Snowballing was chosen as the preferred method of obtaining the sample and was used at every location visited. The overall sample size came from the sum of the samples taken in each individual location.

Data collection

Data collection spanned a period of 14 days, between January and February 2021 and involved 4 IOM enumerators, two male and female. All enumerators had been trained in data collection techniques, PSEA and protection referral mechanisms. Faceto-face interviews were conducted with participating and consenting migrants. All COVID-19 Guidelines were followed, including social distancing and the wearing of face masks.

Coverage

A number of locations were identified from the situational analysis as flow monitoring points. These locations are Mabaruma, Kumaka, Imbotero, Smith's Creek, Hobo Hill, Khan Hill, Whitewater, Blackwater, Kamwatta and Yarakita.

Limitations and Constraints

The topography of the landscape presented significant transportation challenges; vehicular transportation was used where necessary and boats were used to access the locations on the riverbanks.

Language barriers presented significant barriers; many of the migrants are of Warao origin and did not speak English or Spanish.

5. POPULATION PROFILE



298 Respondents

GRAPH 1.

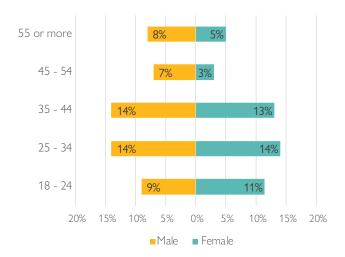
Gender of Respondents



As Graph 1 shows, almost the same percentage of women and men were surveyed during this round (48% and 52% respectively).

GRAPH 2.

Age and Gender disaggregation of Respondents



The Venezuelan population surveyed in Mabaruma during this round is characterized by being young and with little weight of people on retirement ages. More than half of respondents surveyed were between 25 and 44 years old (55%). Of these, 28 per cent are between 25 and 34 years old, while 27 per cent are between 35 and 44 years old. Taking into account

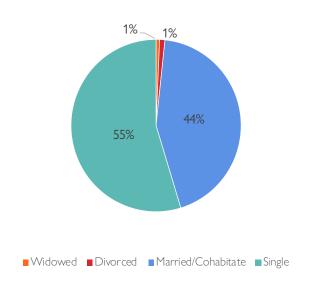


the current COVID-19 pandemic context, it is important to stress that eight per cent of the respondents were male over 55 years old and five per cent were females over 55 years old.

education with a higher proportion of males than females (16% and 11% respectively). Lastly 17 per cent had completed secondary school and 3 per cent have attained university level education.

GRAPH 3.

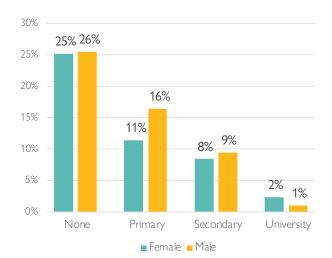
Civil Status of Respondents



Respondents were also asked about their civil status: 55 per cent stated they were single, 44 per cent said they were married or cohabiting, one per cent were divorced and one per cent were widowed (Graph 3).

GRAPH 4.

Education level of Respondents by sex



As seen in Graph 4, half of the respondents (51%) reported that they had not received any level of education. At the same time, 27 per cent of respondents had only completed primary

GRAPH 5.

Respondents that reported not having any level of education by age groups and sex



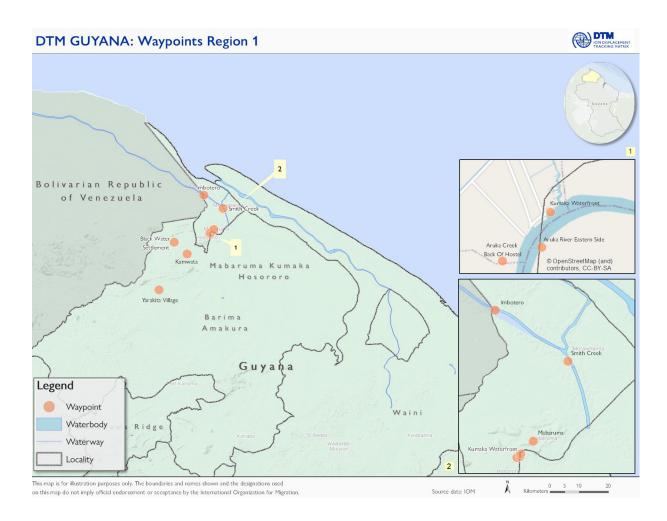
Closely reviewing the group of respondents that had no level of education, most of them were concentrated in the age groups of 25 to 44 years old (59% in total). It is worth highlighting that a higher proportion of female than male respondents aged 18-24 did not receive any education (7% and 4% respectively) while in contrast more male than female respondents aged 55 or more years old had no education level (11% and 8% respectively).



6. MIGRATION ROUTE AND STATUS

IMAGE 2.

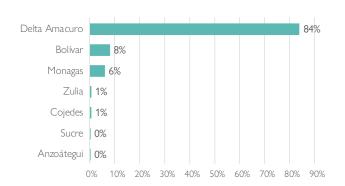
Map of Venezuela showing the Flow Monitoring Points



The map shows some of the major flow monitoring points where interviews were done with respondents, the vicinity of these areas with those of Venezuela, the series of rivers and how they connect the two countries.

GRAPH 6.

Venezuelan states where most respondents came from

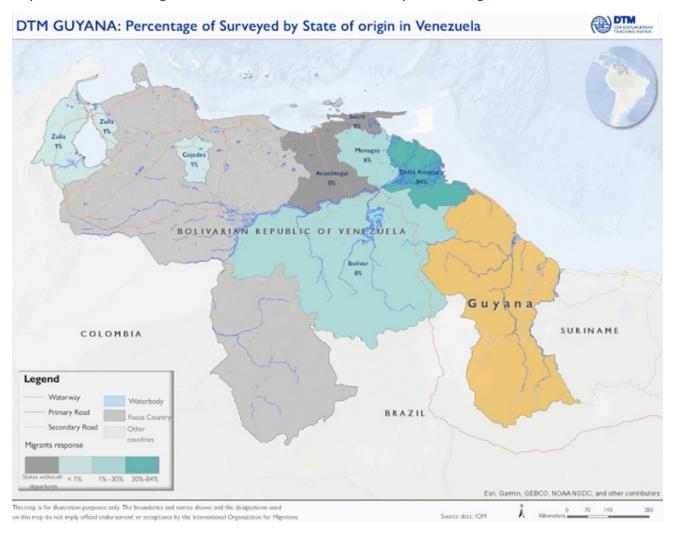


As shown in Graph 6 above and Image II (below), the most frequently reported state of origin was Delta Amacuro (84%) followed by Bolivar (8%), Monagas (6%) and Zulia (1%).



IMAGE 3.

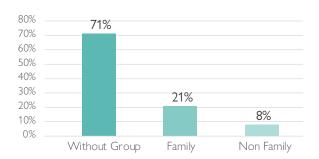
Map of Venezuela showing the location of the states where the respondents originated.



The map shows that the majority, 84 per cent of the respondents came from the Delta Amacuro state of Venezuela due to its close proximity to Region one.

GRAPH 7.

Who did respondents travel with?

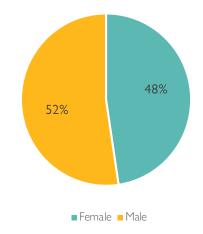


When respondents were asked who they traveled with, 71 per cent reported travelling alone, 21 per cent travelled with their family and 8 per cent travelled in a non-family group.

Taking a closer look at the group of those respondents that reported travelling alone, we can observe the following:

GRAPH 8.

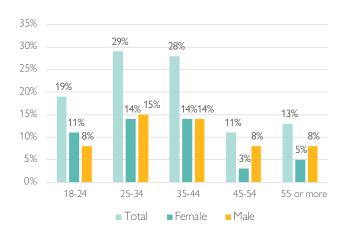
Respondents that reported travelling alone by sex





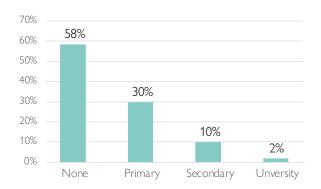
GRAPH 9.

Respondents that reported travelling alone by age groups and sex



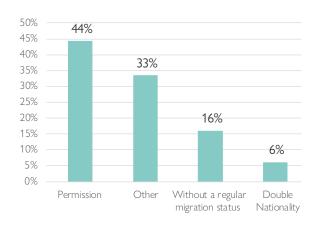
GRAPH 10.

Respondents that reported travelling alone by level of education completed



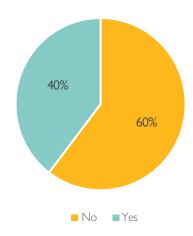
GRAPH 11.

Respondents that reported travelling alone by migration status



GRAPH 12.

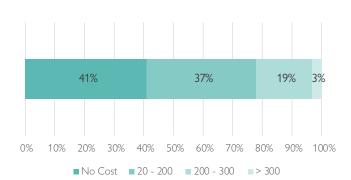
Respondents that reported travelling alone, have they experienced difficulties during the journey?



Almost the same proportion of male and female respondents reported travelling alone (52% and 48% respectively). In terms of age groups, it is important to highlight that a higher proportion of female than male respondents between 18 and 24 years old travelled alone (11% vs 8%) while on the contrary, more male than female respondents over 45 years old travelled alone (16% vs 8%) (Graph 9). More than half of respondents that travelled alone had no level of education (58%) and 16 per cent of them had no regular migration status. Lastly, 40 per cent of those that travelled alone announced experiencing difficulties during the journey (Graph 12).

GRAPH 13.

Cost of the trip to Guyana paid by Respondents



As Graph 13 shows, almost half of respondents (41%) paid no cost to reach Mabaruma, 37 per cent paid between 20 to 200 USD, 19 per cent reported paying between 200 to 300 USD and 3 per cent paid more than 300 USD. It is important to note that all Venezuelan migrants that were interviewed claimed that they had arrived by river.



GRAPH 14.

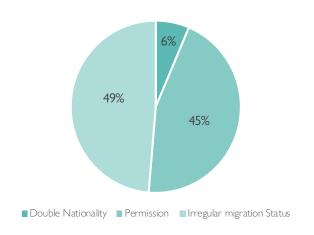
Time spent in Guyana by Respondents



Respondents were asked about how long they had stayed in Mabaruma. Thirty-three per cent mentioned that they had stayed more than a year, followed by 32 per cent that stayed more than a month, 22 per cent between 1 and 4 weeks and 14 per cent less than a week (Graph 14).

GRAPH 15:

Migration status of Respondents

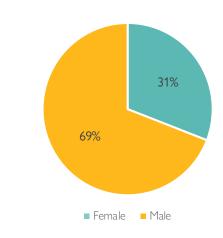


At the same time, as seen in Graph 15, almost half of all respondents (49%) expressed having an irregular migration status while 45 per cent claimed having an entry permit and 6 per cent having double nationality.

Since almost half of the respondents mentioned having an irregular migration status, it is important to analyze with more detail this specific population segment. The following was observed:

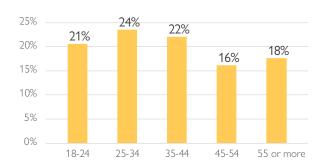
GRAPH 16.

Respondents that reported having an irregular migration status by sex



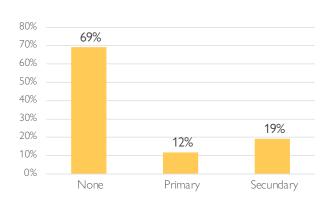
GRAPH 17.

Respondents that reported having an irregular migration status by age groups



GRAPH 18.

Respondents that reported having an irregular migration status by level of education completed

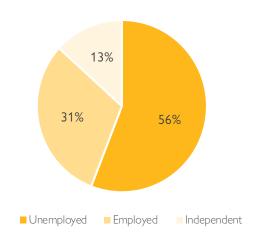






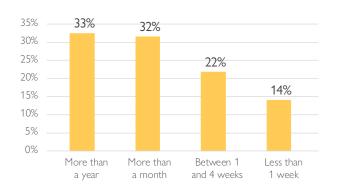
GRAPH 19.

Respondents that reported having an irregular migration status by current employment status



GRAPH 20.

Respondents that reported having an irregular migration status by level of education completed

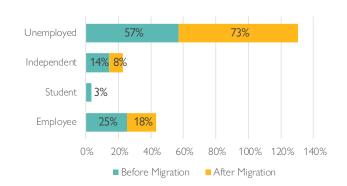


Most of respondents that reported having an irregular migration status were male (69%) and were between 18-44 years old (Graph 16 and 17). In terms of their education level (Graph 18), 69 per cent mentioned not having received any sort of education, followed by 19 per cent that had a secondary level of education and 12 per cent that finished primary school. At the same time, more than half of respondents without a regular migration status announced being unemployed at the time of the interview (56%), in contrast with 31 per cent that were employed and 13 per cent that worked independently (Graph 19). Lastly, it is important to note that most respondents that have an irregular migration status have been for a longer period of time in Guyana than those that have been for a shorter period of time. As shown in Graph 20, 33 per cent of respondents with an irregular migration status have been in Guyana for more than a year while 32 per cent have been in Guyana for more than a month.

7. ECONOMIC AND LABOUR SITUATION

GRAPH 21.

Employment status of respondents before and after migrating to Guyana.

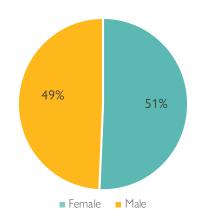


As seen in Graph 21, before migration, 57 per cent of respondents were unemployed, 25 per cent were employed, 14 per cent worked independently and 3 per cent were students. After migration, it is important to note that that the great majority of respondents reported that they were unemployed (73%), which shows an increase of 16 per cent in the respondents' unemployment rate before compared to after migrating. The proportion of those employed after migration also falls to 18 per cent as well as those working independently to 8 per cent.

The substantial increase in the unemployment rate of respondents after migration leads us to take a closer look to understand the composition of this specific group.

GRAPH 22.

Respondents that are unemployed after migration by sex







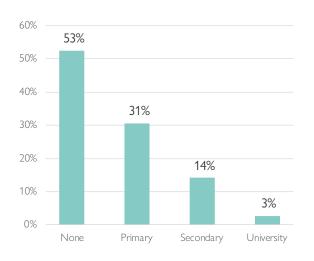
GRAPH 23.

Respondents that are unemployed after migration by age groups and sex



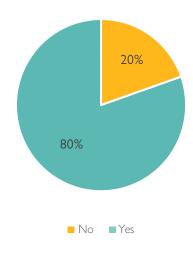
GRAPH 24.

Respondents that are unemployed after migration by level of education completed



GRAPH 25.

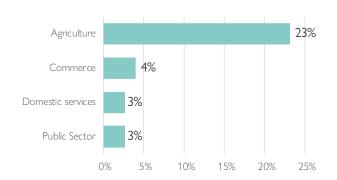
Respondents that are unemployed after migration, do they have any economic dependents?



There is no significant difference between the proportion of female and male respondents that are unemployed after migration (51% vs 49%). Most of those unemployed are between 18 to 44 years old (total of 77%). It is important to stress the fact that a higher proportion of female than male respondents between 18-24 years old are unemployed after migration (12% on contrast to 9%). In terms of their education level, half of the respondents that reported being unemployed after migration had not received any education (53%), followed by 31 per cent that had completed a primary level, 14 per cent that had completed a secondary level of education and 3 per cent that had a university degree (Graph 24). Lastly, the vast majority of those unemployed have economic dependents (80%). This highlights the challenges that Venezuelan migrants and refugees in Guyana might face to support their own families.

GRAPH 26.

Top 4 of employment areas of respondents before migrating to Guyana

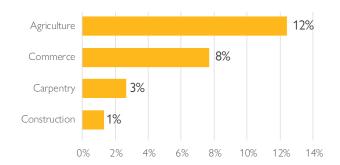


Of the surveyed population, the employment areas before migration, 23 per cent of respondents that reported working in the agriculture sector, four per cent in commerce and three per cent in domestic services and public sector respectively (Graph 26).



GRAPH 27.

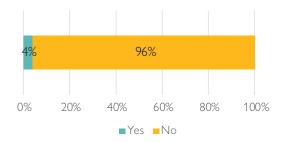
Top 4 of employment sector of respondents after arriving in Guyana



After migration, data obtained from respondents showed that the agriculture sector was again one of the most mentioned (12%), followed by commerce (8%), carpentry (3%) and construction (1%).

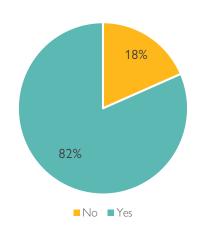
GRAPH 28.

Are you sending any resources back to your home country?



GRAPH 29.

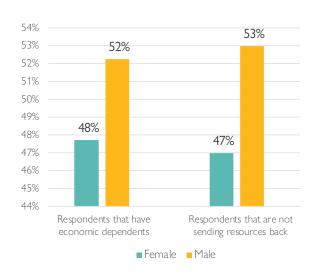
Respondents that have economic dependents



As seen in Graph 28, the data shows that the vast majority (96%) of respondents reported that they were not sending resources back to Venezuela in contrast to only four per cent that did. However, as Graph 29 shows, 82 per cent of respondents have economic respondents. Both of these graphs highlight the possible hardship that Venezuelan migrants surveyed in Mabaruma are experiencing by finding themselves unable to support their families due to their unemployment and irregular migration status.

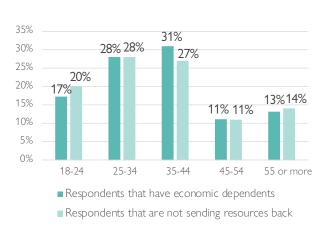
GRAPH 30.

Respondents that have economic dependents and are not sending resources back home by sex



GRAPH 31.

Respondents that have economic dependents and are not sending resources back home by age groups

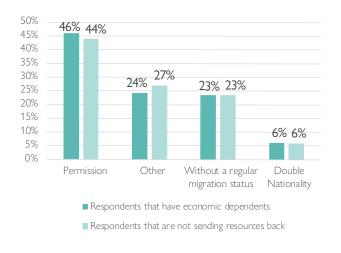






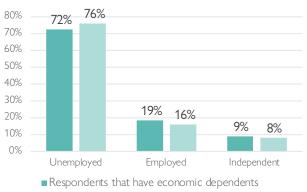
GRAPH 32.

Respondents that have economic dependents and are not sending resources back home by migration status



GRAPH 33.

Respondents that have economic dependents and are not sending resources back home by current employment status



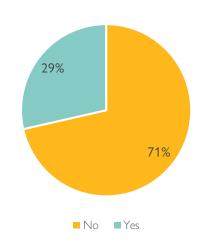
Respondents that are not sending resources back

The composition in terms of sex of both groups, those respondents that have economic dependents and those that are not sending resources back home, has no significant differences. Fifty-two per cent that have economic dependents were male while 48 per cent were female. In a similar way, 53 per cent of respondents that do not send resources back were male while 47 per cent were female. In terms of age groups, for both groups the majority were between 25 to 44 years old (57% on average). Interestingly, for both groups, respondents that have economic dependents and those that are not sending resources back home, almost half of respondents had a regular permit to stay in Guyana (45% on average) (Graph 32). However, the vast majority of respondents of these two groups were unemployed in Guyana (74% on average). All of this emphasizes the fact that Venezuelan migrants and refugees in Mabaruma, despite having economic dependents that need their support and having a regular migration permit, struggle to send resources back home due to the high levels of unemployment rate they face in Guyana.

8. HEALTH ACCESS

GRAPH 34.

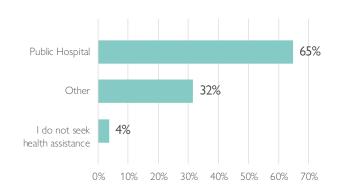
Do you have access to health services?



As Graph 34 shows, the vast majority of respondents do not have access to health services (71%). Guyana provides healthcare free of cost to all its citizens and migrants, the geographic location of these health facilities is the reason why respondents residing in remote areas have stated they don't have access.

GRAPH 35.

Where do you go when you have a health situation?

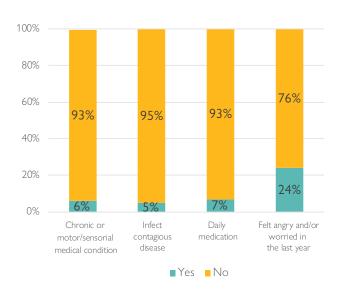


At the same time, when respondents were asked about the place where they seek assistance when they have a health situation, 65 per cent of them mentioned a public hospital, 32 per cent said other and 4 per cent reported not seeking health assistance. It could be possible that "other" is referring to herbal medicine centers since most of the respondents belong to indigenous communities, who rely on this type of medicine for healing.



GRAPH 36.

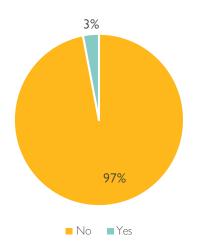
Respondents that reported having a chronic or motor/ sensorial medical condition, infect contagious disease, that require daily medication and that felt angry and/or worried in the last year



As Graph 36 displays, seven per cent of respondents reported having a chronic or motor/sensorial medical condition and five per cent announced having an infect contagious disease. At the same time, seven per cent reported requiring daily medication. Lastly, 24 per cent mentioned that in the last year they have felt anger and/or worried.

GRAPH 37.

Have you had COVID-19 symptoms?

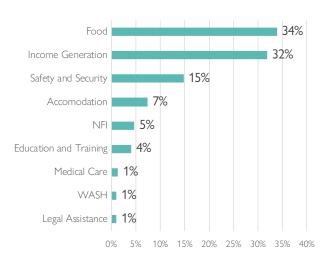


Three per cent of Venezuelan migrants and refugees that were interviewed in Mabaruma reported that they have had COVID-19 symptoms, as seen in Graph 36.

9. NEEDS AND ASSISTANCE

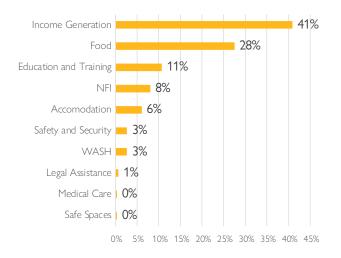
GRAPH 38.

Frist Priority need of Respondents



GRAPH 39.

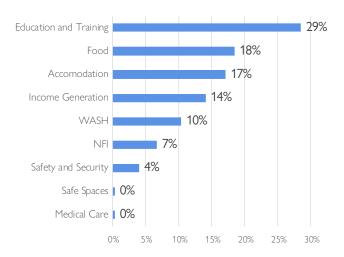
Second priority need of Respondents





GRAPH 40.

Third priority need of Respondents



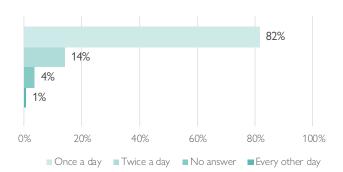
As Graph 38, 39 and 40 show, respondents were asked what their first, second and third priority needs were.

As a first priority, 34 per cent of respondents stated that they needed food, 32 per cent said income generation or employment and 15 per cent mentioned safety and security.

As a second priority, 41 per cent of respondents expressed that they needed income generation, 28 per cent were in need of food, 11 per cent wanted education and training and lastly, 8 per cent were in need of Non-Food Items (NFIs) (Graph 39).

As a third priority, 29 per cent stated they were in need of education and training, 18 per cent wanted food, 17 per cent needed accommodation, 14 per cent income generation and 10 per cent were in need of WASH (Graph 40).

GRAPH 41. Access to Food

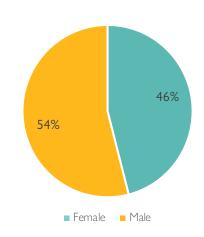


As seen in Graph 41, when asked about access to food, 82 per cent reported having access to food only once a day, followed by 14 per cent that said having access to food twice a day and one per cent that confirmed having access only every other day.

Taking a closer look at the group of respondents that reported having only access to one meal a day, one can observe the following:

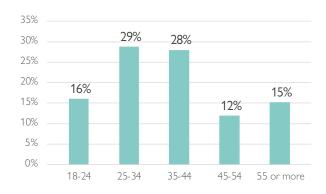
GRAPH 42.

Respondents that reported having access to one meal a day by sex



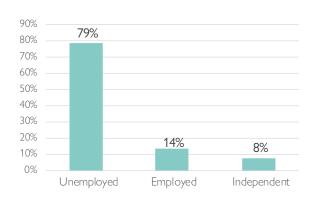
GRAPH 43.

Respondents that reported having access to one meal a day by age groups



GRAPH 44.

Respondents that reported having access to one meal a day by employment status





A higher proportion of male than female respondents reported having access to one meal a day (54% and 46% respectively). More than half of the respondents that have access to one meal a day were between 25 to 44 years old (57%). It is worth mentioning that 15 per cent of the respondents that have one meal a day are 55 years old or older, which exposes them as a vulnerable group to malnutrition. Lastly, 79 per cent of those with access to one meal a day were unemployed at the moment of the survey and 100 per cent of them confirmed that they had economic dependents.

10. PROTECTION

GRAPH 45.

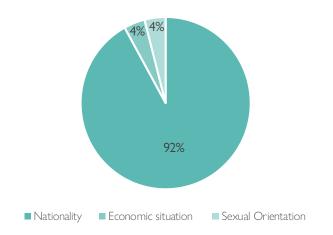
Protection Status of Respondents



Based on the interviews conducted, 70 per cent of respondents reported that they felt safe while 28 per cent said they felt unsafe and two per cent gave no answer. When asked about discrimination, 8 per cent said they had experienced discrimination during the journey while 2 per cent expressed, they had suffered violence (Graph 45).

GRAPH 46.

Reasons for Discrimination



Respondents stated that their nationality was the major reason for discrimination (92%), followed by sexual orientation and economic status (4% respectively).



