

## INTRODUCTION

Increasingly high migration in South America is of special interest to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) whose objective is to promote safe, orderly and regular migration based on the respect for the rights of migrants.

A large portion of the migrant population in the region comes from Venezuela, and Guyana is one of the destination countries. For this reason, the Government of Guyana expressed the need to monitor the current situation, and IOM has sought to generate data to assist governmental entities and humanitarian actors develop concrete actions for the benefit of the mobile Venezuelan population.

The purpose of this analysis, based on the implementation of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) between November 2018 and December 2018, is to create a profile of the Venezuelan population, along with returning Guyanese nationals who previously resided in Venezuela, to inform decision-making, as well as to obtain a better understanding of their migratory routes, economic and labor situation, living conditions and main protection needs. This round of the Displacement Tracking Matrix was funded by the US Department of State – Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BPRM) and implemented by IOM.

## I. METHODOLOGY

The DTM is a system to track and monitor displacement and population mobility.<sup>1</sup> It is designed to regularly and systematically capture, process and disseminate information to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of displaced populations, whether on-site or en route. The DTM plays an essential role in providing primary data and information on displacement, both in country and at regional and global levels. IOM utilizes the DTM to gain in-depth knowledge on the migration process.

Thus far, IOM has conducted DTM surveys in Region 1 (Barima-Waini), Region 4 (Demerara-Mahaica), and now in its latest iteration, Region 2 (Pomeroon-Supenaam) and Region 7 (Cuyuni-Mazaruni). These regions were chosen due to the increasingly high presence of Venezuelan nationals and Guyanese returnees. Interviews were conducted in Region 2 and Region 7 between November and December 2018, and a total of 602 persons (334 in Region 2 and 268 in Region 7) were interviewed in several communities.

It should be noted that since convenience sampling was

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used, the results are only indicative of the characteristics of the surveyed population. It is not possible to establish a probabilistic generalization for all Venezuelan citizens or Guyanese returnees in the country. Additionally, in some graphics, due to rounding, the sum of the percentages may not be 100%.

## II. POPULATION PROFILE

Of the total population interviewed, 67 per cent of persons interviewed are female and 33 per cent are males.

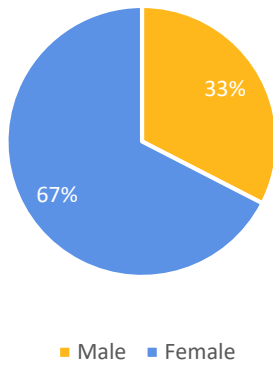
In Region 2 (Pomeroon-Supenaam), 70 per cent of the interviewed population are females and 30 per cent males. In Cuyuni-Mazaruni (Region 7), 64 per cent of the interviewees are females while 36 per cent are males.

Table 1. Percentage of surveyed individuals disaggregated by sex and regions

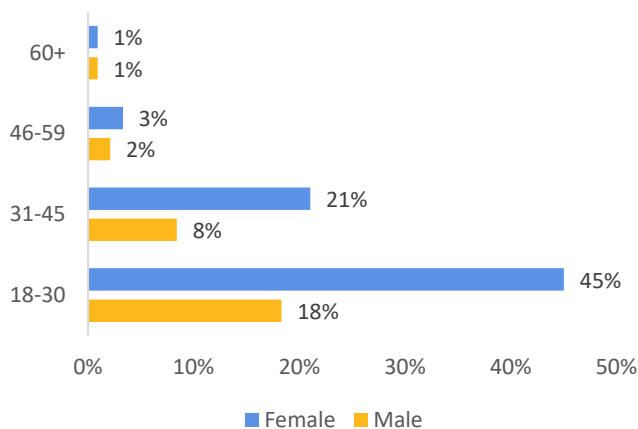
Gender	Region 2	Region 7
Male	30%	36%
Female	70%	64%

<sup>1</sup> Source: <https://www.globaldtm.info/global>, September 2018

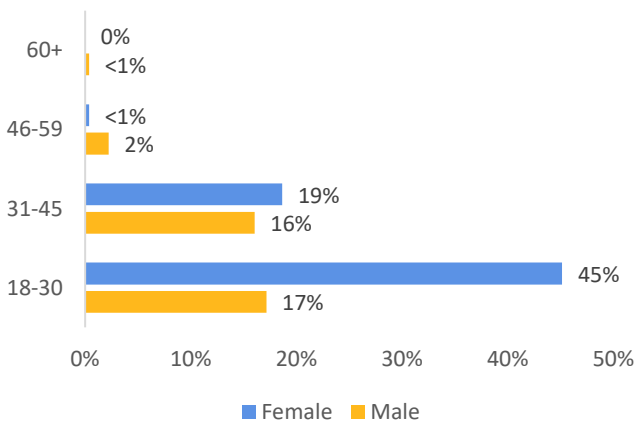
Graph 1. Percentage of mobile population interviewed disaggregated by Gender



Graph 2. Percentage of interviewed population in Region 2 disaggregated by gender and sex



Graph 3. Percentage of interviewed population in Region 7 disaggregated by gender and sex

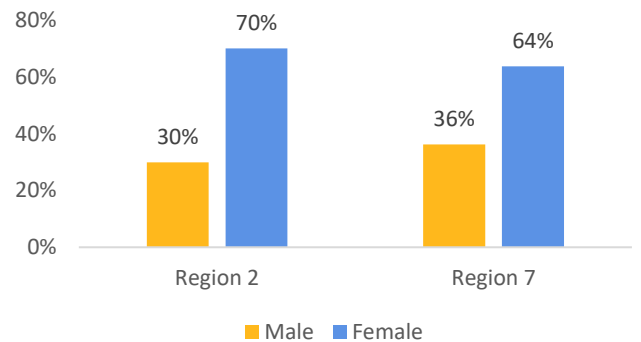


Overall, 95 percent of the interviewed population are Venezuelans (33% Male and 67% Female) while 5 per cent are returning Guyanese (27% Male and 73% Female).

Table 2. Percentage of surveyed individuals disaggregated by region and nationality

Nationality	Region 2	Region 7	Total
Guyanese	9%	1%	5%
Venezuelan	91%	99%	95%

Graph 4. Percentage of Venezuelan nationals interviewed disaggregated by Region and Gender



Of the interviewed population in Region 2, 63 per cent are between the ages 18-30, 29 per cent between 31-45, 5 per cent between 46-59 and 2 per cent 60 years and older.

In Region 7, 62 per cent of the mobile population interviewed are between the ages of 18-30, 35 per cent between 31-45 and almost 3 per cent between the ages of 46-59. Overall, a greater percentage of the interviewees are females between the ages of 18-45 years old.

In total between the two regions, 63 per cent are between the ages of 18 and 30, 32 per cent are between 31 and 45 and approximately 6 per cent are older than 45 years.

Table 3. Percentage of interviewees disaggregated by sex and age range

Gender	18-30	31-45	46-59	60+
Male	18%	12%	2%	1%
Female	45%	20%	2%	<1%

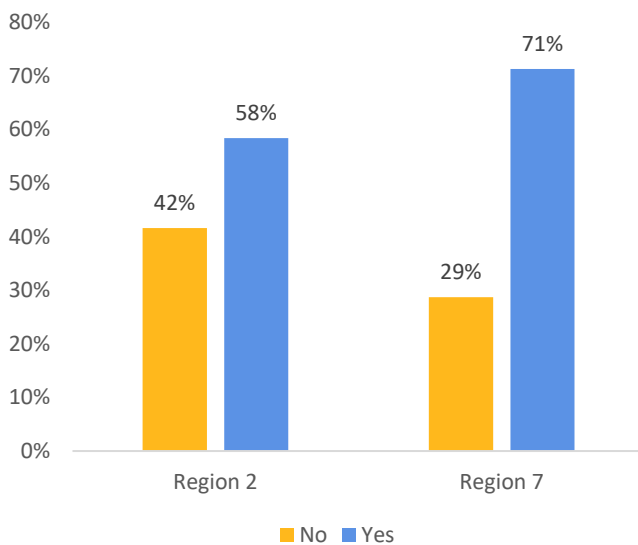
In both Region 2 and Region 7, most interviewees are single. In Region 2, approximately 65 per cent are single compare to 84 per cent in Region 7. In Region 2, 34 per cent are married, cohabitating or in a free union relationship in comparison to 16 per cent in Region 7.

**Table 4. Percentage of civil status of assessed individuals disaggregated by regions**

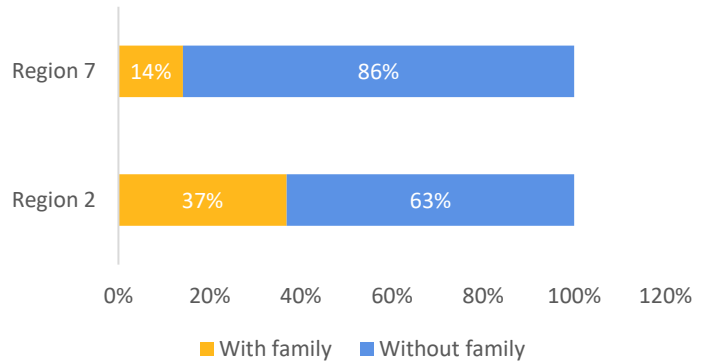
Civil Status	Region 2	Region 7
Widowed	1%	0%
Divorced, separated	1%	1%
Married, free union or cohabitating	34%	16%
Single	65%	84%

The interviewed population mostly travelled in groups (58% in Region 2 and 71% in Region 7). 86 per cent of those interviewed in Region 7 travelled without family compared to 63 per cent in Region 2. In contrast, 37 per cent travelled with family members in Region 2 in comparison to 14 per cent in Region 7.

**Graph 5. Percentage of interviewees travelling in groups by regions.**



**Graph 6. Percentage of respondents who traveled with or without family disaggregated by region**



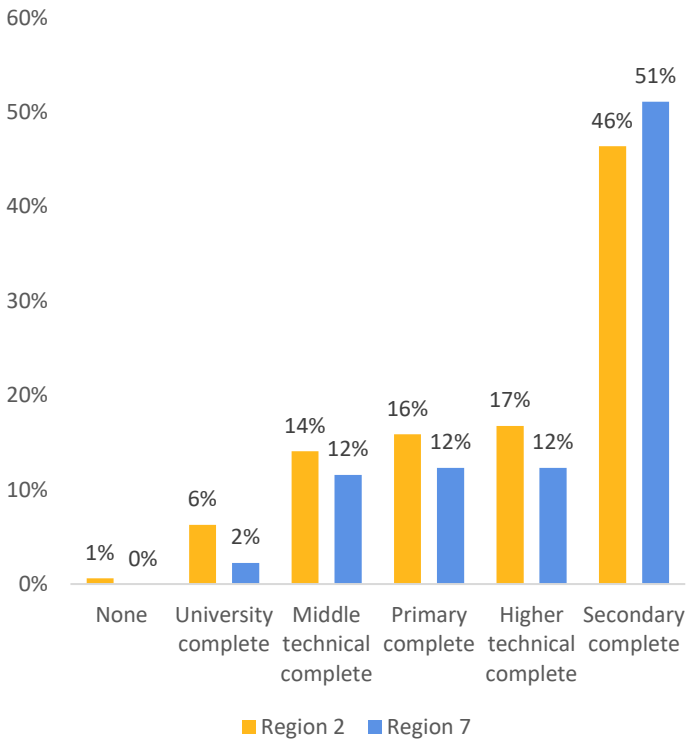
An additional 57 persons accompanied the interviewees with the majority being identified as son/stepson, daughter/stepdaughter.

**Table 5. Number of accompanied persons disaggregated by relationship and gender**

Accompanying persons	Total	Male	Female
brother / step- brother, sister / step-sister	1	0	1
father / mother	2	0	2
another relative	5	1	4
husband / partner	6	6	0
son / stepson, daughter / stepdaughter	43	22	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>28</b>

In Region 2 and Region 7, most of the interviewees possessed secondary education (46% in Region 2 and 51% in Region 7). In Region 2, 17 per cent has completed higher technical school, 14 per cent middle technical education, 16 per cent have only completed primary school and 6 per cent have university education. In Region 7, 12 per cent possess higher technical education, 12 per cent have completed middle technical, 12 per cent primary school and 2 per cent university level education. Only 1 per cent of the interviewed population did not complete any formal education.

Graph 7. Percentage of education level possessed by interviewees disaggregated by regions



### III. MIGRATION STATUS

The mobile population which included Venezuelan nationals and Guyanese who lived in Venezuela were interviewed in Region 2 and Region 7, and asked about their current migration status. In Region 2, 41 per cent of the respondents have the 3-months stay permit, 26 per cent indicated that their migration status is irregular and 20 per cent have dual nationality.

In contrast, 57 per cent of respondents in Region 7 indicated that they have the 3-months stay permit while 40 per cent indicated that their migration status is irregular.

Table 6. Percentage of migration statuses among interviewees disaggregated by regions

Migration status	Region 2	Region 7
3 Months Stay - In Progress	1%	0%
No Response	5%	1%
Tourist visa	6%	1%
Double Nationality	20%	1%
Without regular migration status	26%	40%
3 Months Stay	41%	57%

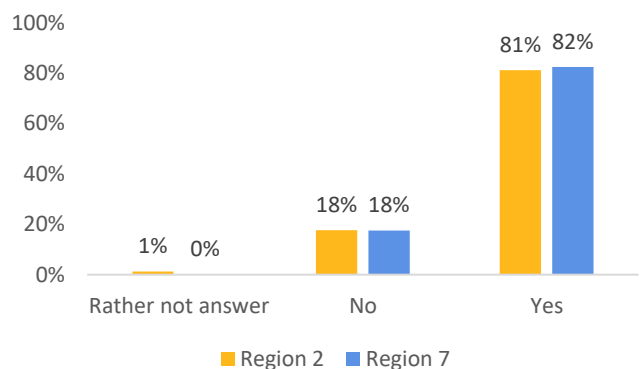
Overall, 34 per cent of Venezuelans interviewed are without regular migration status, 50 per cent have the Government of Guyana stay permit, while 8 per cent of Venezuelans nationals interviewed have double nationality. Of those that indicated that they have Guyanese nationality, 12 per cent do not have documentation to prove such, 18 per cent claimed to have stay permits and 70 per cent have both double nationality (Guyana and Venezuelan).

Table 7. Percentage of migration statuses among interviewees disaggregated nationalities

Migration status	Guyanese	Venezuelan
Double Nationality	70%	8%
Stay permit	18%	50%
Tourist visa	0%	4%
No response	0%	3%
Without regular migration status	12%	34%

When asked if they possessed identification documents, 81 per cent of those interviewed in Region 2 responded positively compared to 82 per cent in Region 7. Ninety-six per cent of those interviewed in Region 2 have their National Identification Card and 4 per cent have Passports while 99 per cent of respondents in Region 7 have their National Identification Card and the remaining 1 per cent have Passports.

Graph 8. Percentage of surveyed with identification documents by regions



**Table 8. Percentage of Identification documents among interviewed population**

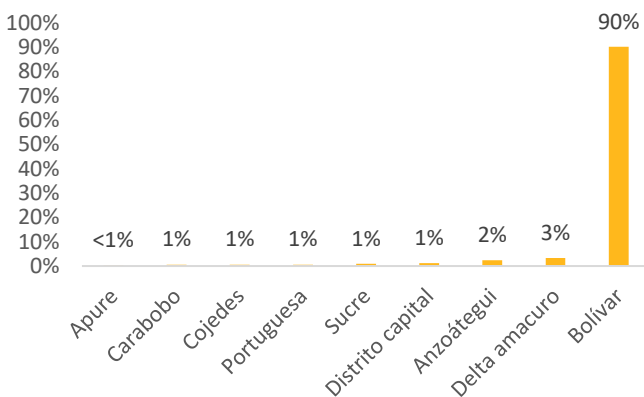
Type of ID	Region 2	Region 7
Passport	4%	1%
National Identity Card	96%	99%

**IV. MIGRATION ROUTE**

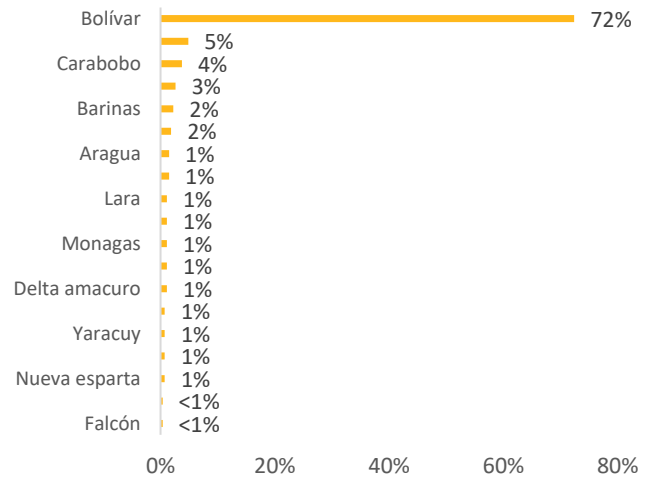
**State of origin**

In Region 2, most of the interviewed population originated from Bolívar (90%) among others such as Delta Amacuro (3%), Anzoategui (2%), Distrito Capital (1%), Sucre (1%), Portuguesa (1%), Cojedes (1%), Carabobo (1%) and Apure (1%). Similarly, in Region 7, most of the interviewees originated from Bolívar (72%) followed by Anzoategui (5%), Carabobo (4%), Distrito capital (3%), Barinas (2%), Portuguesa (2%) among others. Ninety-nine per cent of those interviewed in Region 2 travelled to Guyana by sea compared to 97 per cent in Region 7.

**Graph 9. Percentage of state of origin for interviews conducted in Region 2**



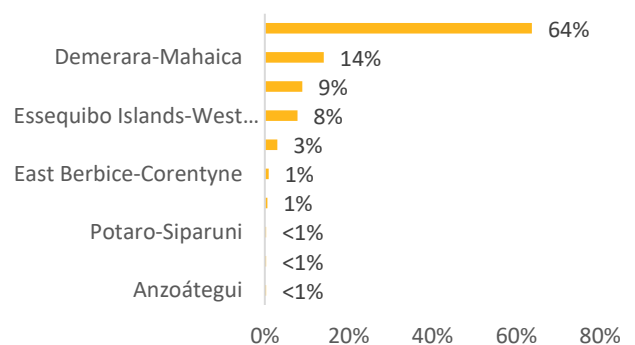
**Graph 10. Percentage of state of origin for interviews conducted in Region 7**



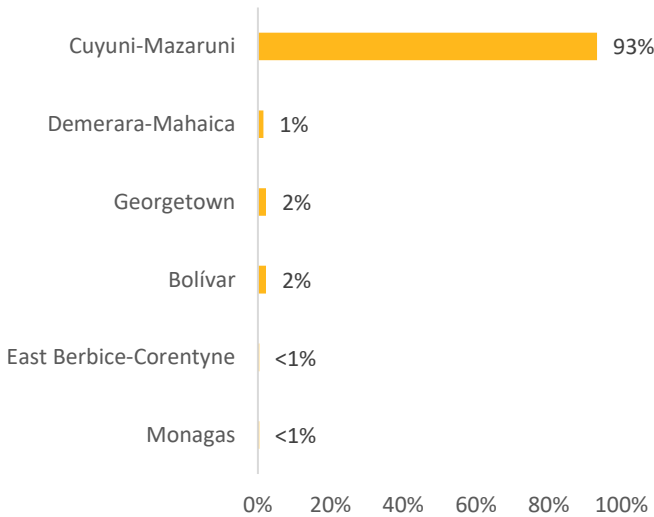
**Intended Destination**

In total, 98 per cent of persons interviewed stated that Guyana was their intended destination. Of those interviewed in Region 2, 64 per cent selected Pomereroon-Supenaam (Region 2) as their final destination, 14 selected Region 4 (Demerara-Mahaica) and 9 per cent specifically identified Georgetown as their final destination. In Region 7, 93 per cent selected Cuyuni-Mazaruni (Region 7) as their intended destination. An additional 3 per cent selected Region 4 as their intended destination with 2 per cent specifically choosing Georgetown.

**Graph 11. Percentage of intended destination for interviews conducted in Region 2**

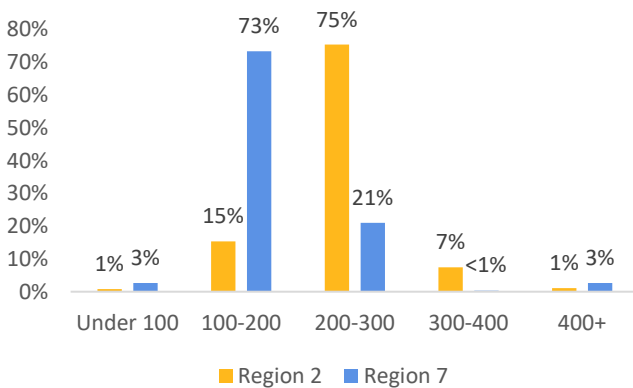


Graph 12. Percentage of intended destination for interviews conducted in Region 7



### Cost incurred during the trip

Graph 13. Amount paid by surveyed individuals to arrive in the regions (in USD)



Based on interviews conducted in Region 2, 75 per cent of Venezuelan nationals and returning Guyanese that travelled to Pomeroon-Supenaam paid between 200-300 USD to arrive in Guyana. For Region 7, the cost for 73 per cent that travelled to Cuyuni-Mazaruni paid between 100-200 USD to arrive in Guyana.

### Information and assistance needed in the regions

The mobile population were asked to list three types of information or support most needed. Overall, respondents

indicated that employment or income generating activities was their greatest need (36% in Region 2 and 44% in Region 7).

Table 9. Percentage of information or support most needed by surveyed individuals in Region 2 and Region 7

Information/Assistance Needed (First)	Region 2	Region 7
None	0%	0%
Other	1%	0%
Safety and security	1%	1%
Medical care	2%	1%
Education and training	3%	3%
<b>Legal assistance (including migration status)</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>14%</b>
<b>Nfi (clothes, personal care, etc)</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Food</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>16%</b>
<b>Secure shelter/accomodation</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>Document assistance</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>Income generation / employment</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>44%</b>

Respondents in both regions listed Non-Food Items (NFIs) and education and training as secondary need in addition to income generation and employment activities. In Region 2, 19 per cent of those interviewed requested NFI assistance compared to 22 per cent in Region 7. In Region 7, 27 per cent indicated education and training as a needed compared to 16 per cent Region 2.

Table 10. Percentage of information or support second most needed by surveyed individuals in Region 2 and Region 7

Information/Assistance Needed (Second)	Region 2	Region 7
Safety and security	0%	1%
None	1%	0%
Other	1%	0%
Medical care	1%	0%
Legal assistance (including migration status)	7%	7%
Document assistance	7%	3%
Secure shelter/accomodation	8%	7%
<b>Food</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Education and training</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>27%</b>
<b>Nfi (clothes, personal care, etc)</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>Income generation / employment</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>24%</b>

Income generation or employment activities was again mentioned as a top needed when participants were asked about the type of information or assistance second most needed. Respondents in Region 7 requested education and



training as important need. In Region 2, Non-Food Item (19%), Education and training (16%) and Food (13%) were selected among other important needs.

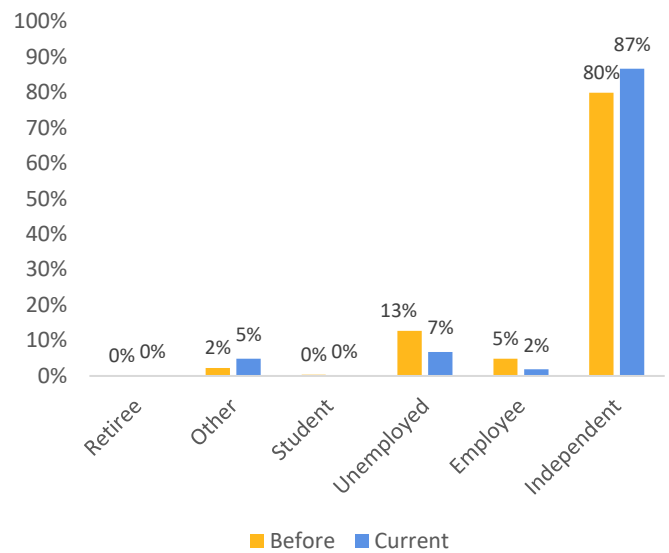
Of those interviewed in Region 2, 55 per cent worked independently before arriving in Guyana, 21 per cent employees, 19 per cent unemployed and 2 per cent were students.

In contrast, 44 per cent of those interviewed in Region 2 are currently working independently, 32 per cent currently unemployed while 15 per cent are employed.

In Region 7, 80 per cent worked independently before arriving in Guyana, 5 per cent were employees and 13 per cent unemployed.

In comparison, 87 per cent currently work independently in Guyana compared, 7 per cent of those interviewed are unemployed and 2 per cent are employees.

**Graph 15. Percentage of employment status of interviewees in Region 7 before and after arriving in Guyana**



Of those interviewed in Region 2, 97 per cent indicated that they received payments for work done compared to 99 per cent in Region 7. forty-four per cent of the interviewed population in Region 7 is sending resources back to their country of origin compared to 25 per cent of those interviewed in Region 2.

**Table 11. Percentage of information or support third most needed by surveyed individuals in Region 2 and Region 7**

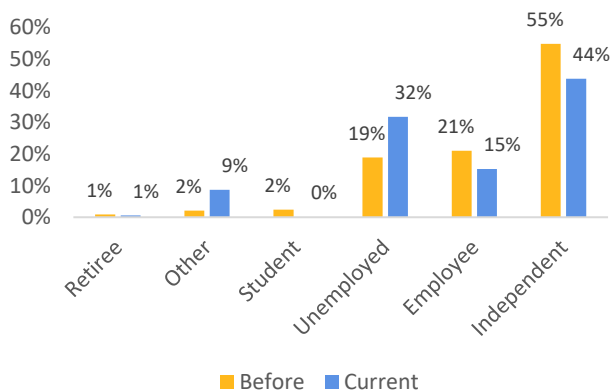
Information/Assistance Needed (Third)	Region 2	Region 7
Other	0%	0%
Safety and security	1%	0%
None	1%	1%
Medical care	2%	0%
Legal assistance (including migration status)	4%	5%
Document assistance	7%	12%
<b>Education and training</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>Income generation / employment</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>23%</b>
<b>Food</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>21%</b>
<b>Secure shelter/accomodation</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Nfi (clothes, personal care, etc)</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>59%</b>

Non-Food Items (59%), Food (21%), Income generating or employment (23%) and Education and training (22%) were again among the top needs of the interviewed population in Region 7. In comparison, Non-Food Items (26%), Shelter and accommodation (21%) and food items (15%) were the top needs selected among the interviewees.

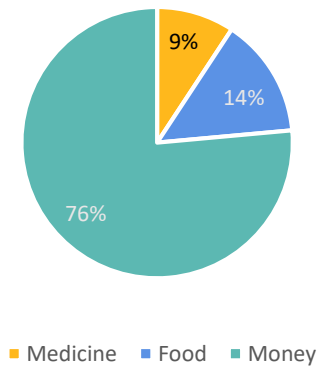
**V. ECONOMIC AND LABOR SITUATION**

**Employment status**

**Graph 14. Percentage of employment status of interviewees in Region 2 before and after arriving in Guyana**



Graph 16. Percentages for type of resources being sent by surveyed individuals for both Region 2 and Region 7



In Region 2, 70 per cent of the interviewed population is sending money back to their country of origin while in Region 7, 81 per cent is sending money. 18 per cent of mobile population in Region 2 is sending food and 11 per cent medicine. In Region 7, 11 per cent is sending food and 8 per cent medicine.

## VI. PROTECTION RISKS

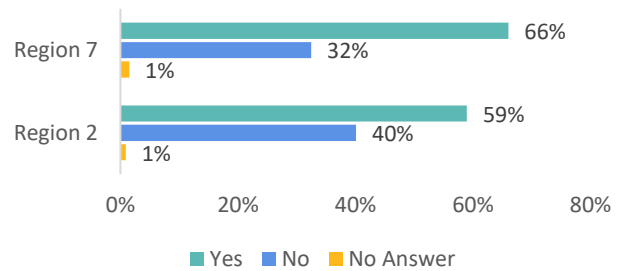
- Two per cent of women interviewed had at least one child.
- Two per cent of the women interviewed are single mothers.
- Two per cent of women interviewed are pregnant.

### Health

- Thirty-nine per cent of those interviewed in Region 2 indicated that they did not have access to health services compared to forty-three per cent in Region 7.
- Five per cent of interviewees identified specific health conditions while three per cent indicated that they required daily medical attention.
- Fourteen per cent mentioned that they had suffered some infectious or contagious disease over the past year.

- In the area of nutrition, thirty-two per cent of those interviewed in Region 7 do not have access to food compared to forty per cent of those interviewed in Region 2.

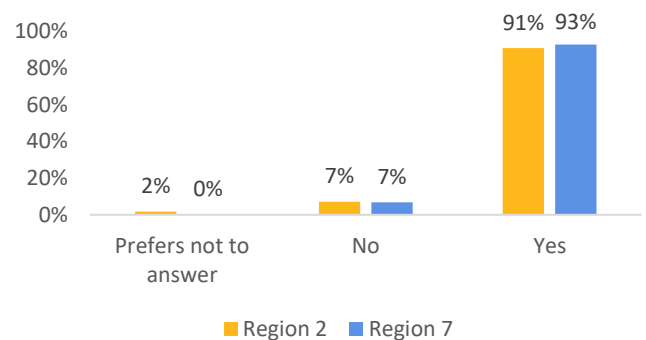
Graph 17. Percentage of surveyed individuals with access to food disaggregated by Regions



### Personal security

Participants were asked during the interview if they felt safe during their journey. In both regions, the majority of the surveyed population felt safe (91% in Region 1 and 93% in Region 7) during their journey.

Graph 18. Percentage of respondents that felt safe during their journey disaggregated by regions

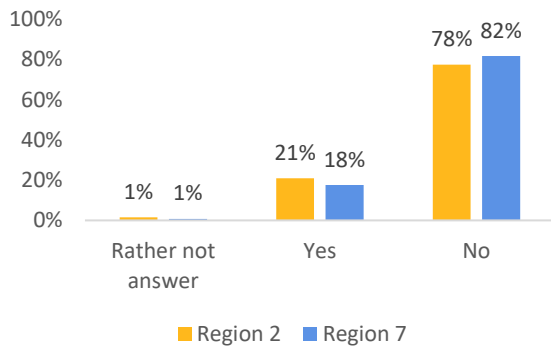


### Discrimination

Interviewees were also asked if they experienced any form of discrimination during their journey. In Region 2, 21% responded “yes” in comparison to 18 per cent that responded “yes” in Region 7.

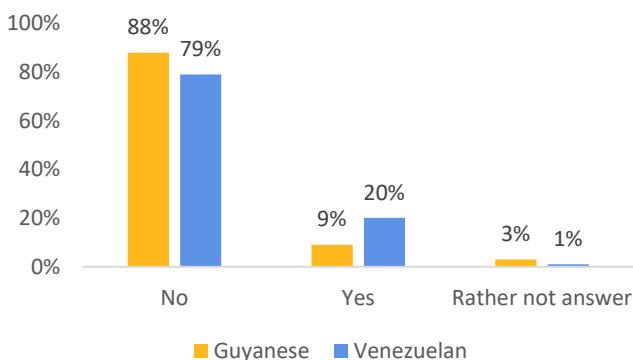


Graph 19. Percentage of interviewed population that experienced some form of discrimination disaggregated by Regions



In terms of nationality, 20 per cent of those that experienced some form of discrimination are Venezuelans while 9 per cent are returning Guyanese. In total, 19 per cent of the interviewed population experienced discrimination (both Venezuelans and Guyanese that lived in Venezuela) and both groups cited their nationality as the reason for discrimination.

Graph 20. Percentage of interviewed population that experienced some form of discrimination disaggregated by nationality



## Education

Eleven per cent (67 individuals) of the interviewed population travelled with children that requires access to education, yet 75 per cent (50 individuals) do not have access to education.

## VII. Summary

It is important to reiterate that convenience sampling was used and the results are only indicative of the characteristics of the surveyed population. It is not possible to establish a probabilistic generalization for all Venezuelan citizens or Guyanese returnees in the country.

- 602 Interviews were conducted in Region 2 and Region 7 combined.
- Sixty-seven per cent of those interviewed are females and thirty-three per cent males.
- Sixty-three per cent of those interviewed in Region 2 are between the ages of 18-30 compared to sixty-two in Region 7.
- Eighty-four per cent of the interviewed population are single in Region 7 compared to sixty-five in Region 2.
- Fifty-one per cent of the mobile population in Region 7 have secondary education forty-six in Region 2.
- Forty-one per cent of interviewees in Region 2 and fifty per cent in Region 7 have the 3-months stay permit.
- Forty per cent of those interviewed in Region 7 do not have the 3-months stay permit compared to twenty-six per cent in Region 2.
- Ninety per cent of the interviewed population in Region 2 originated from Bolívar state compared to seventy-two per cent for Region 7.
- Income generating activities and employment is a primary need among the interviewees.
- Eighty-seven per cent of the interviewees in Region 7, work independently.
- Thirty-two per cent of the interviewees in Region 2 are unemployed.
- Twenty-one per cent in Region 2 and eighteen per cent in Region 7 of interviewees have experienced some form of discrimination.
- Sixty-seven individuals travelled with at least one child to Region 2 and Region 7, and fifty individuals indicated that they do not have access to education for their children.

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