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Displacement Tracking
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GUYANA

1
INTRODUCTION

Traditionally Guyana has been a source of migrants to other English-speaking territories in the Caribbean, and further afield to the United States of America and Canada. However, the Latin America and Caribbean region is currently going through the largest population movement in its modern history due to the immense outflow of refugees and migrants from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (hereafter referred to as Venezuela). As part of this, Guyana is seeing an increase in the migration of Venezuelans and returning Guyanese into Guyana.

Within this context, the Government of Guyana expressed the need to monitor the current situation. Subsequently, IOM implemented the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) between May 2018 and October 2019. The DTM is designed to create a profile of the Venezuelan population and returning Guyanese nationals who previously resided in Venezuela and to obtain a better understanding of their migratory routes, economic and labor situation, living conditions and main protection needs. This analysis can inform stakeholders such as governmental entities and humanitarian actors use evidence-based decision making to support the population arriving from Venezuela. This compilation of data comes from several DTM rounds which were all funded by the US Department of State – Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BPRM) and implemented by IOM.

2.
METHODOLOGY

Surveys conducted according to the sex of the respondents
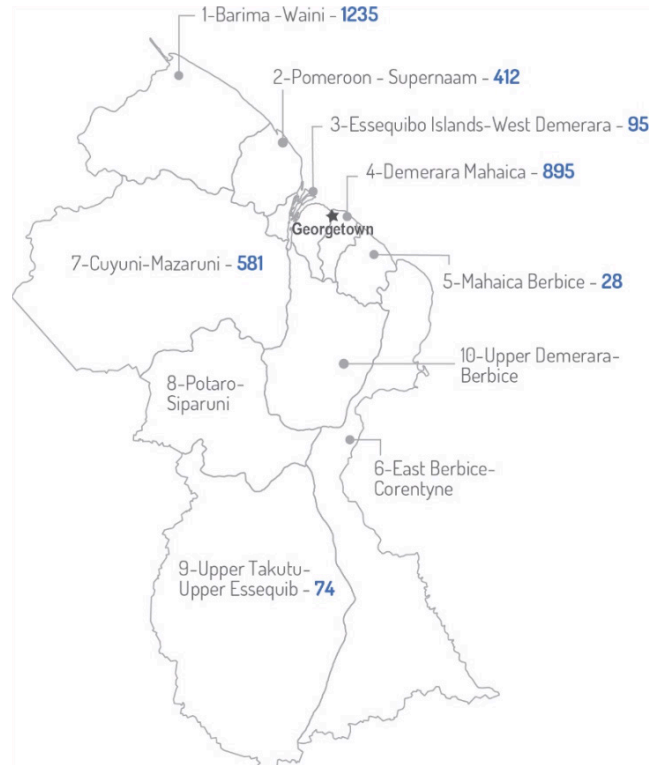
♀ **41%**

♂ **59%**
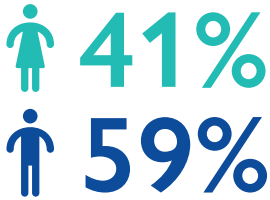
Total surveys: 3,320

DTM is a system used to track and monitor displacement and population mobility. It is designed to regularly and systematically capture, process and disseminate displacement information to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of displaced populations, whether on-site or en route.

In Guyana, IOM has conducted DTM surveys in Region 1 (Barima-Waini), Region 2 (Pomeroon-Supenaam), Region 3 (Essequibo Islands-West Demerara), Region 4 (Demerara-Mahaica), Region 5 (Mahaica-Berbice), Region 7 (Cuyuni-Mazaruni) and Region 9 (Upper Takutu-Upper Essequibo). These regions were chosen due to the increasingly high presence of Venezuelan nationals and Guyanese returnees. In Region 1, 1,235 surveys were conducted, 412 in Region 2, 95 in Region 3, 895 in Region 4, 28 in Region 5, 581 in Region 7, and 74 in Region 9, for a total of 3,320 surveys.

It should be noted that while initial surveys may have been done in one part of a region, at times it is necessary to return and conduct further surveys in a different part of the same region, as new information is received on where migrants are arriving and settling. Also, since convenience sampling was 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%.
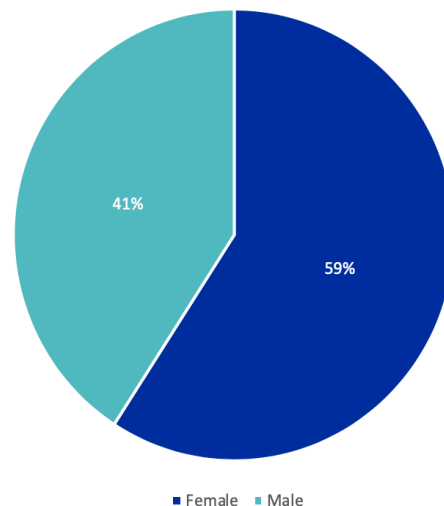

1-Barima -Waini - **1235**
2-Pomeroon - Supernaam - **412**
3-Essequibo Islands-West Demerara - **95**
4-Demerara Mahaica - **895**
Georgetown
7-Cuyuni-Mazaruni - **581**
5-Mahaica Berbice - **28**
10-Upper Demerara-Berbice
8-Potaro-Siparuni
6-East Berbice-Corentyne
9-Upper Takutu-Upper Essequib - **74**

2.
POPULATION PROFILE

Of the total population interviewed, 59 per cent of migrants interviewed were female and 41 per cent male.

GRAPH. N°1

Percentage of mobile population interviewed disaggregated by Gender

41%

59%

■ Female ■ Male

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TABLE N°1

Percentage of surveyed migrants disaggregated by gender and region

Region	Female	Male
Region 1	48%	52%
Region 2	64%	36%
Region 3	54%	46%
Region 4	63%	37%
Region 5	71%	29%
Region 7	73%	27%
Region 9	62%	38%

As can be appreciated from Table 1 above, the highest difference in percentage per gender was found in respondents in Region 7 where the majority of migrants surveyed were female (73%) . Region 1 had the closest balance of genders amongst the surveyed population with 48 per cent female and 52 per cent male.

The total population surveyed was classified into 4 distinct age ranges: 18 – 30 years, 31 – 45 years, 46 – 59 years, and 60 years and above. No one surveyed was below the age of 18 years old. Most of the surveyed population were between 18 – 30 years old (57%) and 31 – 45 years old (32%).
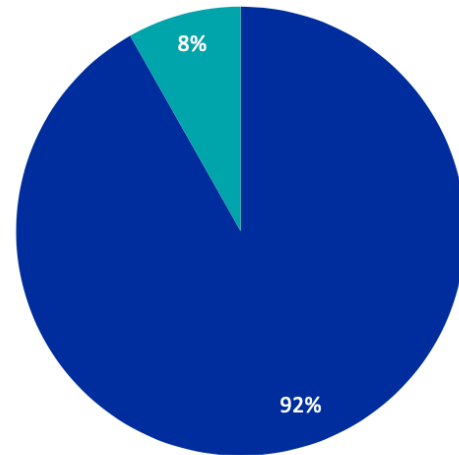
GRAPH. N°2

Percentage of migrants surveyed disaggregated by age and region.
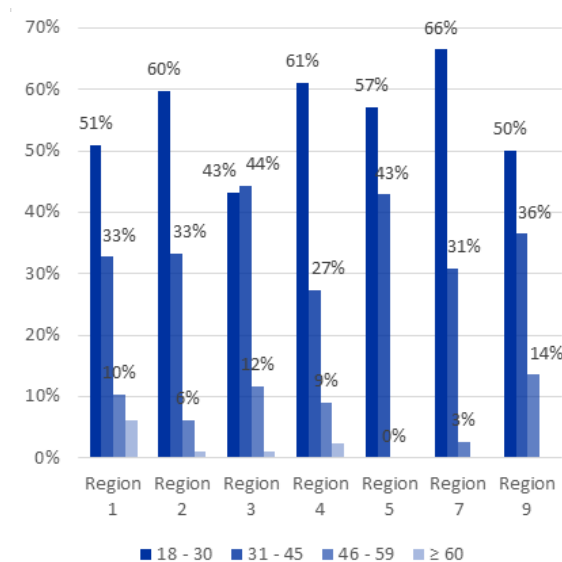
Overall 92 per cent of the surveyed population were Venezuelans, while 8 per cent were returning Guyanese.

GRAPH. N°3

Percentage of migrants surveyed disaggregated by nationality.

■ Venezuelan ■ Guyanese

In Region 1, most respondents were married, cohabitating or in a free union relationship, while in the other regions the majority were single.

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Table 2. Percentage of civil status of assessed migrants disaggregated by region.

Marital Status	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 7	Region 9
Divorced/Separated	1%	1%	6%	2%	4%	1%	0%
Married, free union or cohabitating	59%	29%	29%	37%	21%	12%	36%
Single	39%	69%	63%	59%	75%	87%	62%
Widowed	1%	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%	1%

Overall most respondents did not travel in groups (62%) with the exception of Region 5 where 64 per cent of migrants surveyed responded that they were traveling in a group. With regards to traveling with family, the results fluctuated depending on the region. In Regions 1, 4 and 9, the majority of migrants surveyed said that they were traveling with family, while in Regions 5, and 7 the majority said that they were not traveling with family. In Regions 2 and 3 the majority of migrants declined to give a response.
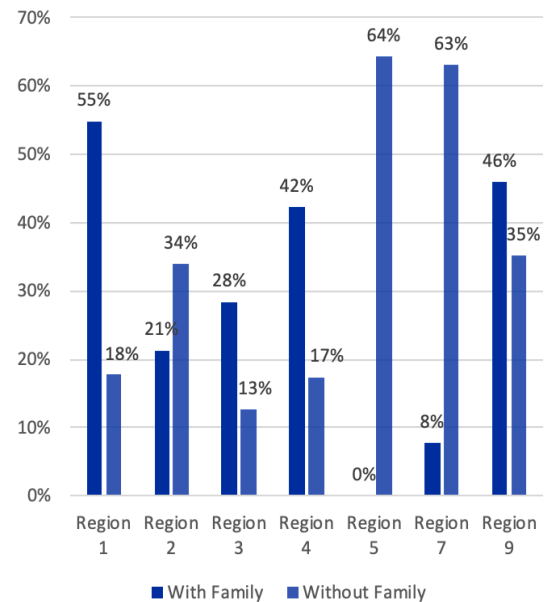
Percentage of migrantes travelling in groups by regions.

■ No ■ Yes ■ Rather not answer
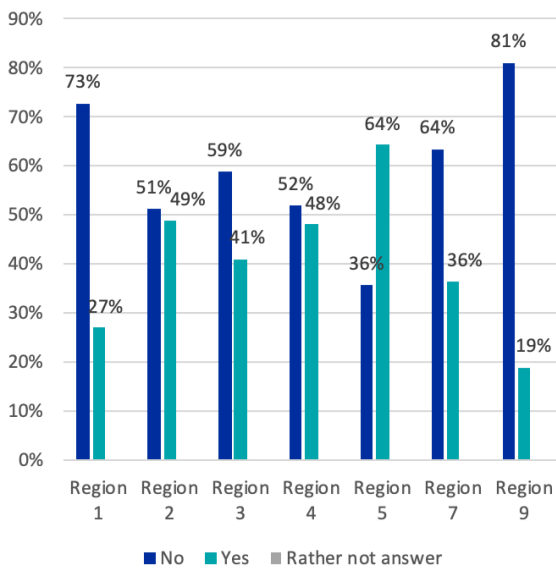
Percentage of migrants who travelled with or without family disaggregated by region
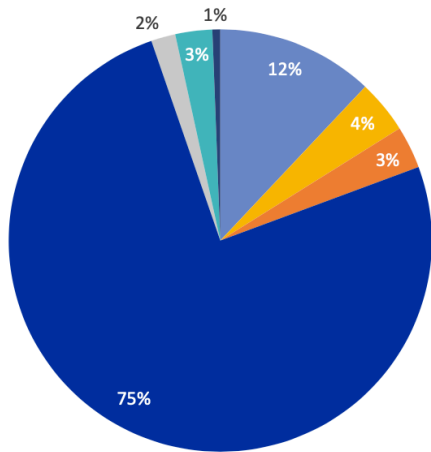

■ With Family ■ Without Family

An additional 1,665 persons accompanied the migrants surveyed across all regions. They were mainly the Son/Stepson or Daughter/Stepdaughter of the interviewee.

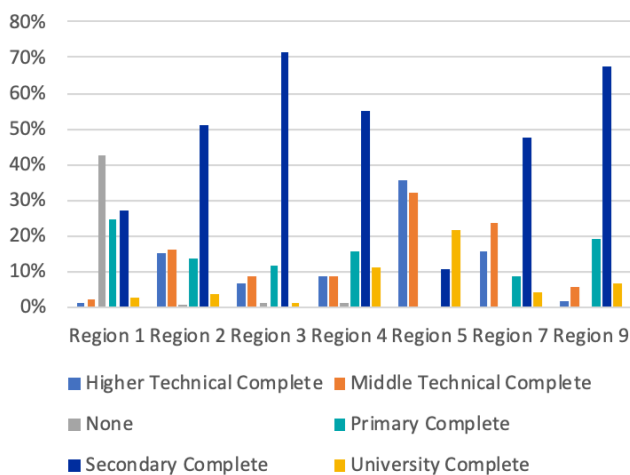**Percentage of accompanying persons disaggregated by relationship type.**

- ■ Partner/Spouse
- ■ Parent
- ■ Brother/Step-brother, Sister/Step-sister
- ■ Son/Stepson, Daughter/Stepdaughter
- ■ Grandchild
- ■ Other relative
- ■ No relation

In Regions 2, 3, 4, 7, and 9 most respondents reported that their highest level of education is Secondary Level education (Region 2, 51%; Region 3, 72%; Region 4, 55%; Region 7, 48%; Region 9, 68%). However, in Region 1 the majority (43%) reported that they did not have any education and in Region 5 the largest share had Higher Technical education. (36%). It should be noted that while Region 4 has the highest number of migrants who reported that they have completed University level education (99), Region 5 has the highest percentage (21%).

GRAPH. N°7

Percentage of education level of migrants surveyed disaggregated by region

- ■ Higher Technical Complete
- ■ Middle Technical Complete
- ■ None
- ■ Primary Complete
- ■ Secondary Complete
- ■ University Complete

3. MIGRATION STATUS

Both Venezuelan nationals and Guyanese returnees surveyed in each region were asked about their current migration status.

In Region 1, 61 per cent of the migrants surveyed indicated that they were without a regular migration status, the highest percentage of all regions. Regions 7, 5 and 9 had the highest percentages of migrants with the government-granted Stay Permit at 76 per cent, 71 per cent, and 64 per cent respectively. Region 4 had the highest percentage of migrants reporting that they had double nationality (36%), while Region 5 also had the highest percentage of migrants who had been granted some form of visa (Tourist, Work, etc.) at 29 per cent.

GRAPH. N°8

Percentage of migration statuses among migrants by region.

- ■ Visa (Tourist, Work, etc)
- ■ Double Nationality
- ■ Stay Permit
- ■ Without regular migration status
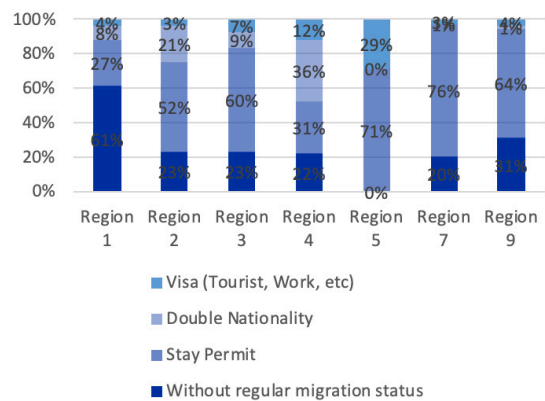
Overall, 37 per cent of the Venezuelan population surveyed reported that they do not have regular migration status. For the remainder, 45 per cent indicated that they have been granted a Stay Permit by the government of Guyana and 12 per cent indicated that they have double nationality. Even among those who reported that they have Guyanese nationality, 30 per cent are without a regular migration status, 7 per cent have been granted a Stay Permit by the government of Guyana and 56 per cent have double nationality (Guyanese and Venezuelan).
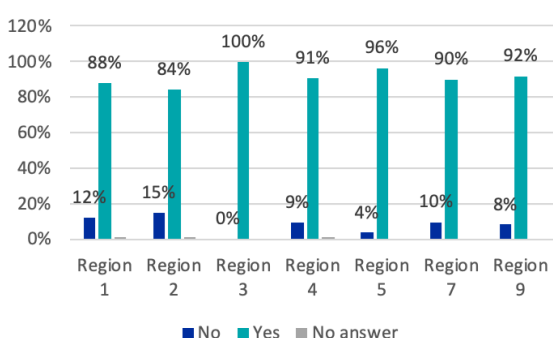
TABLE. N°3

Percentage of migration statuses among migrants disaggregated by nationality.

Migration Status	Guyanese	Venezuelan
Without regular migration status	30%	37%
Stay Permit	7%	45%
Double Nationality	56%	12%
Visa (Tourist, Work, etc)	6%	6%

When asked about identification documents, most respondents across all regions reported that they have some form of identification. Most migrants across all regions indicated that they have a National Identification Card: 85 per cent in Region 1, 83 per cent in Region 2, 91 per cent in Region 3, 76 per cent in Region 4, 93 per cent in Region 5, 88 per cent in Region 7 and 85 per cent in Region 9. The highest percentage of migrants who reported that they had Passports was in Region 4 with 15 per cent. Region 2 had the highest percentage of migrants who did not give an answer to this question with 16 per cent.

GRAPH. N°9

Percentage of migrants with identification documents by region.

TABLE. N°4

Percentage of identification documents among migrants in Regions 1, 2, and 3

| Type of ID	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3
National Identity Card	85%	83%	91%
No Documents	2%	0%	0%
No Answer	12%	16%	1%
Passport	1%	2%	8%

TABLE. N°5

Percentage of identification documents among migrants in Regions 4, 5, 7 and 9.

Type of ID	Region 4	Region 5	Region 7	Region 9
National Identity Card	76%	93%	88%	85%
No Documents	0%	0%	1%	0%
No Answer	9%	4%	9%	8%
Passport	15%	4%	2%	7%

4. MIGRATION ROUTE

State of origin

Overall, 58 per cent of migrants surveyed reported that they came from Bolívar and 28 per cent that they came from Delta Amacuro. Across all regions most of the migrants surveyed stated that they originated from the Venezuelan state of Bolívar. The exception was respondents in Region 1 where the majority indicated that they are from the state of Delta Amacuro.
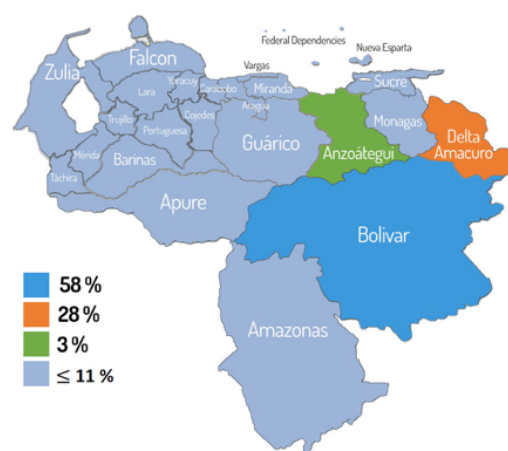
Intended Destination

Overall, 98 per cent of migrants surveyed indicated that Guyana is their intended destination. Only 2 per cent reported that Venezuela was their final destination.

In Region 2, 81 per cent indicated that Pomeroon-Supernaam (Region 2) is their intended destination.

In Regions 5 (Mahaica-Berbice), 7 (Cuyuni-Mazaruni) and 9 (Upper Takutu-Upper Essequibo), 89, 94, and 100 per cent respectively indicated the regions that they were currently in as their intended destination.

In contrast, most respondents in Regions 3 and 4 reported that they want to move to reach their final intended destination. In Region 4, 21 per cent indicated Demerara-Mahaica (Region 4) was their intended destination, and 72 per cent reported that it was Georgetown. In Region 3, 94 per cent reported that Pomeroon-Supernaam (Region 2) was their intended destination.

GRAPH. N°10

**Percentage of intended destination for interviews conducted in Regions 1, 2 and 3.**
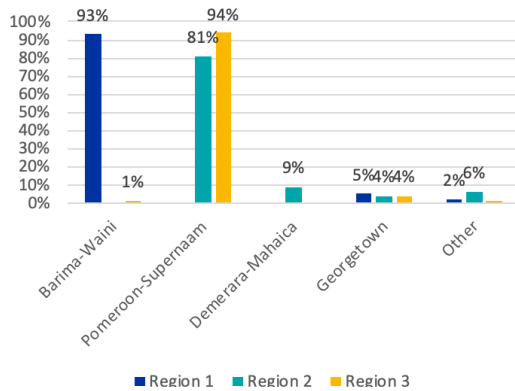
TABLE. N°6

Percentage of amount paid by migrants to arrive in Regions 1, 2, and 3.

Costs during trip	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3
0	62%	2%	0%
Under 100	4%	0%	1%
100 - 200	19%	41%	25%
200 - 300	9%	44%	72%
300 - 400	5%	11%	2%
Over 400	2%	2%	0%

GRAPH. N°11

Percentage of intended destination for interviews conducted in Regions 4, 5, 7, and 9.
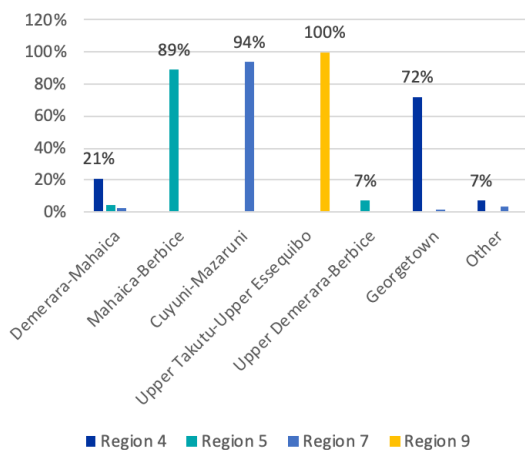
TABLE. N°7

Percentage of amount paid by migrants to arrive in Regions 4, 5, 7, and 9.

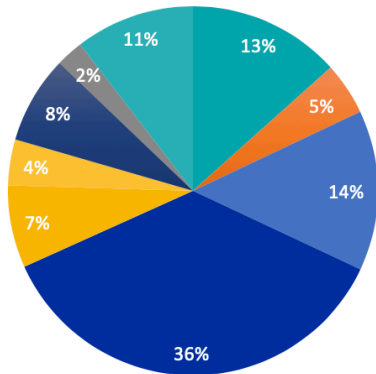| Costs during trip	Region 4	Region 5	Region 7	Region 9
0	2%	0%	1%	8%
Under 100	6%	0%	0%	31%
100 - 200	50%	4%	8%	54%
200 - 300	13%	71%	57%	7%
300 - 400	13%	25%	24%	0%
Over 400	16%	0%	10%	0%

Information and assistance needed

Respondents were asked to list three types of information or support most needed, and to rank these needs by priority. The greatest first priority need as was Income Generation/Employment (36%). Income Generation/Employment was also the highest need in second priority (31%). As a third priority the need for Secure Shelter/Accommodation was the most frequently stated (25%).

Cost incurred during the trip

Nearly all respondents (93%) paid 400 USD or less during the trip and more than half (52%) paid between 100 and 300 USD. However, 24 per cent reported that they paid $0 to arrive in Guyana. This was the highest in Region 1, which borders Venezuela, where 62 per cent of migrants reported that they paid $0 to arrive in Guyana. Meanwhile 16 per cent of migrants surveyed in Region 4 indicated that they paid over $400 to arrive, which was the highest percentage across all regions.

Percentage of information and assistance most needed as a first priority across all regions.

- Document Assistance
- Education and Training
- Food
- Income Generation/Employment
- Legal Assistance
- Medical Care
- NFI (clothes, personal care, etc)
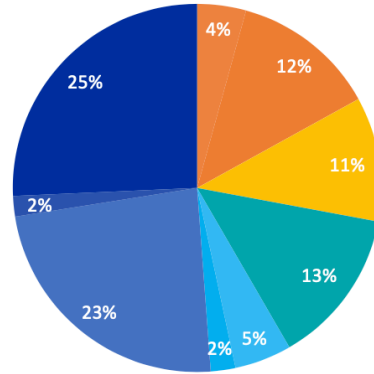- Safety and Security
- Secure Shelter/Accomodation

Percentage of information and assistance most needed as a first priority across all regions.

- Document Assistance
- Education and Training
- Food
- Income Generation/Employment
- Legal Assistance
- Medical Care
- NFI (clothes, personal care, etc)
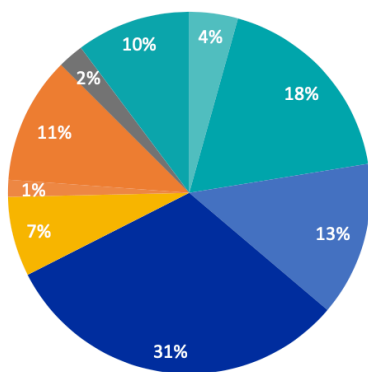- Safety and Security
- Secure Shelter/Accomodation

Percentage of information and assistance most needed as a second priority across all regions

- Document Assistance
- Education and Training
- Food
- Income Generation/Employment
- Legal Assistance
- Medical Care
- NFI (clothes, personal care, etc)
- Safety and Security

5.
SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND LABOUR SITUATION

Employment status

The surveyed population were asked questions regarding their employment status before and after migrating to Guyana.

Before migration, 40 per cent of respondents stated that they were Independent/Self-employed, 29 per cent reported that they were Unemployed, and 26 per cent stated that they were Employed.

After migration the unemployment rate increased to 38 per cent, 33 per cent reported that they were Independent/Self-Employed, and 26 per cent employed.

The unemployment rate increased across all regions after migration, with the exception of Regions 5 and 7. In Region 5, unemployment decreased from 18 per cent to 0 per cent and in Region 7 it was reduced from 24 per cent to 4 per cent. In both of these regions, migrants stated that they are currently Independent/Self-employed (64% and 86% respectively). Region 4 had the highest percentage of employed migrants (64%). Region 1 had the highest percentage of respondents reporting that they were unemployed (66%).

Percentage of Employment Status before migration in Regions 1, 2, and 3

Employment status - Before migration	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3
Employee	14%	15%	22%
Independent/Self-employed	39%	51%	39%
Other	1%	1%	3%
Retired	1%	1%	0%
Student	2%	1%	3%
Unemployed	43%	30%	33%

TABLE. N°9

Percentage of Employment Status before migration in Regions 1, 2, and 3

Employment status -Before migration	Region 4	Region 5	Region 7	Region 9
Employee	60%	25%	7%	42%
Independent/ Self-employed	17%	57%	67%	35%
Other	1%	0%	1%	0%
Retired	1%	0%	0%	1%
Student	9%	0%	1%	8%
Unemployed	12%	18%	24%	14%

TABLE. N°10

Percentage of Employment Status after Migration in Regions 1, 2, and 3

Employment status - After migration	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3
Employee	9%	21%	27%
Independent/Self-employed	24%	39%	22%
Other	0%	5%	0%
Retired	1%	1%	0%
Student	0%	0%	0%
Unemployed	66%	34%	51%

TABLE. N°11

Percentage of Employment Status after migration in Regions 4, 5, 7, and 9

| Employment status - After migration	Region 4	Region 5	Region 7	Region 9
Employee	64%	36%	8%	28%
Independent/Self-employed	10%	64%	86%	23%
Other	1%	0%	1%	0%
Retired	1%	0%	0%	0%
Student	0%	0%	0%	0%
Unemployed	23%	0%	4%	49%

Across all regions 75 per cent of migrants said that they had never been Underpaid/Unpaid for services rendered, with only 5 per cent saying that they had been. However, it should be noted that 19 per cent declined to answer this question.

In total, 30 per cent of respondents indicated that they are sending resources to Venezuela from Guyana. Of these, 70 per cent indicated that they are sending money, 13 per cent food, 8 per cent indicated medicine and 9 per cent a combination of all three.

Percentages for type of resources being sent by surveyed migrants across all regions.

Percentage of information and assistance most needed as a second priority across all regions

- Money
- Food
- Medicine
- Combination
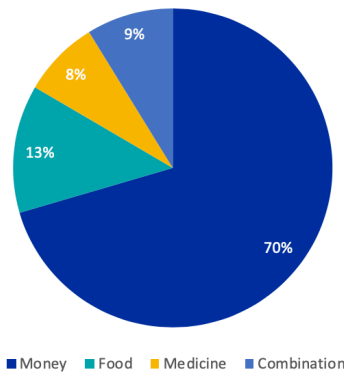
Among surveyed women, 24 per cent had at least one child, 10 per cent reported that they were single mothers and five per cent that they were pregnant.

Health

Respondents were also asked questions related to health. Most migrants (59%) surveyed reported that they do not have access to health services.

The highest percentage of migrants who said they do not have access to health services came from Regions 5, 9, and 1 with 89 per cent, 77 per cent and 65 per cent respectively.

Five per cent of migrants reported that they had a chronic medical condition or disability while three per cent indicated that they require daily medication.
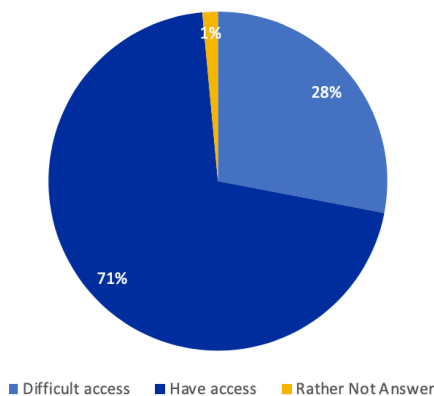
12 per cent of migrants indicated that they had suffered some infectious or contagious disease in the past year.

Nutrition

In the area of nutrition, 28 per cent of migrants across all regions stated that they have difficultly accessing food.

Percentage of surveyed migrants with access to food across all regions.
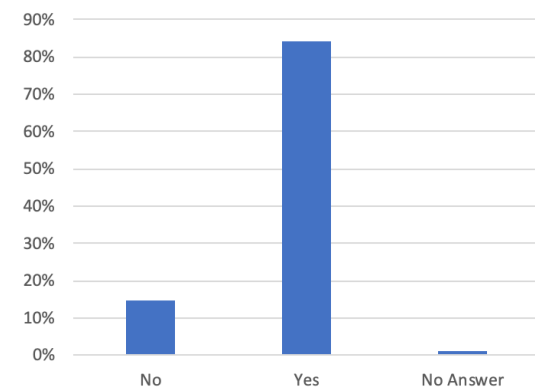

- Difficult access
- Have access
- Rather Not Answer

6. PROTECTION RISKS

Personal security

Respondents were asked during the survey if they felt safe. 84 per cent replied in the affirmative while 15 per cent stated that they did not

Percentage of respondents that are feeling safe or not across all regions.

Discrimination

Migrants were also asked if they had experienced any form of discrimination during their journey. 76 per cent replied No, while 24 per cent replied Yes.

There was a notable difference in terms of these respondents' nationality: 94 per cent of those that experienced discrimination had Venezuelan nationality, with the remainder being returning Guyanese. The majority of both groups cited their nationality as the reason for discrimination.

Education

Of the interviewed population, 26 per cent indicated that they were traveling with children that are of school age. However, of this 26 per cent, 70 per cent stated that their children do not have access to education.

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6.
SUMMARY

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

• 3,320 surveys were conducted across Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 9.

• These surveys were carried out during the period of May 2018 to October 2019.

• 59 per cent of those interviewed were female, and 41 per cent were male.

• 57 per cent of the surveyed population were between 18 and 30 years old and 32 per cent between 31 and 45 years old.

• 58 per cent of migrants across all regions reported that they were single and 40 per cent that they were married.

• In Region 1, 43 per cent of migrants had no education. In regions 2, 3, 4, 7 and 9 most respondents had Secondary level education (51%, 72%, 55%, 48% and 68% respectively). In Region 5, 36 per cent had completed Higher Technical level education.

• 42 per cent of migrants interviewed across all regions had been granted a government Stay Permit, and 37 per cent were without a regular migration status.

• 58 per cent of migrants interviewed originated from the state of Bolívar, while 28 per cent came from Delta Amacuro.

• Income-generating activities and employment weres the main primary need.

• 38 per cent of respondents reported that they were unemployed, and 33 per cent that they were Independent or Self-employed.

• 24 per cent of respondents had experienced some form of discrimination.

• 26 per cent of migrants indicated that they are traveling with children that are of school age. Of these, 70 per cent stated that their children did not have access to education.

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