MIGRATION FLOWS REPOR IN CENTRAL AMERICA, NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

N°6 (JANUARY - MARCH, 2018)

IOM REGIONAL OFFICE IN SAN JOSE - COSTA RICA



MESOAMERICAN MIGRANTS

MIGRANTS WHO WERE RETURNED TO THE NORTHERN TRIANGLE OF CENTRAL AMERICA (NTCA)

In the first quarter of 2018, Guatemala reported the highest growth in the number nationals returned, with an increase of 48% over 2017, while Honduras reported an increase of 29%. However, El Salvador experienced a decrease of 38%, registering 3,563 fewer returnees. Forced and voluntary returns were mainly from Mexico (54.2%) and the United States (45.7%).



Source: Human Mobility Information Management Initiative in the Northern Triangle, IOM

CENTRAL AMERICAN MIGRANTS DETAINED¹ BY MEXICAN IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES BY NATIONALITY.



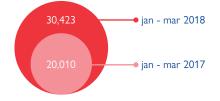
During the first quarter of 2018, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Honduras registered an increase in the number of their nationals presented before Mexican immigration authorities compared to the first quarter of 2017. Particularly in the case of Guatemalans and Hondurans, there was a significant increase of 67% and 82.3% respectively. In contrast, Belize, El Salvador and Nicaragua, experienced a decrease for this quarter compared with the first quarter of 2017.

Source: Mexican Secretariat of the Interior

CENTRAL AMERICAN MIGRANTS DETAINED¹ BY MEXICAN IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES BY NATIONALITY.

The cumulative total of Central American migrants showed an increase of 52% in the period January to March of 2018, compared to the same period of 2017.

Source: Mexican Secretariat of the Interior

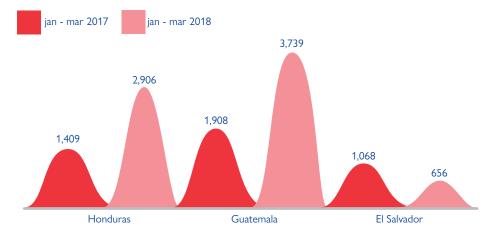


1. Events of migrants detained by Mexican immigration authorities.



BOYS AND GIRLS FROM THE NTCA DETAINED BY MEXICAN IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES.

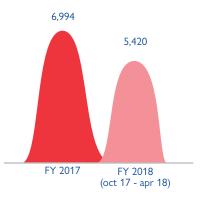
Of those boys and girls from NTCA presented before Mexican immigration authorities, boys and girls from Honduras registered the largest increase of 106.2%. In the case of Guatemala, there is an increase of 96%. Presentations of boys and girls from El Salvador, in contrast, decreased by 38.6%.



Source: Mexican Secretariat of the Interior

UNACCOMPANIED BOYS AND GIRLS FROM THE NTCA AND MEXICO INADMISSIBLE² AT THE SOUTHWEST BORDER OF THE UNITED STATES.

The number of unaccompanied boys and girls from countries of the NTCA and Mexico that have been declared inadmissible at the border for the fiscal year 2018 already represent 77.5% of those registered for 2017.



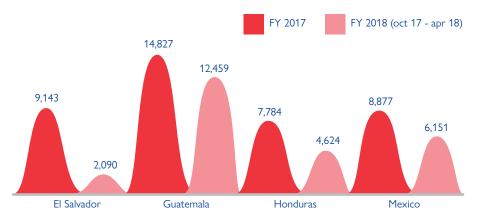
Source: US Customs and Border Protection

2. Individuals who are inadmissible are not permitted by law to enter or remain in the United States.

3. The fiscal year in the United States begins on October 1st and ends on September 30th.

APPREHENSIONS OF UNACCOMPANIED MIGRANT BOYS AND GIRLS FROM THE NTCA AND MEXICO AT THE SOUTHWEST BORDER OF THE UNITED STATES

Apprehensions of unaccompanied migrant boys and girls from the NTCA countries and Mexico for the first seven months of the fiscal year 2018 have reached 62.3% of the total registered in 2017. In the same period, there was a significant reduction in the number of apprehensions of Salvadorans boys and girls, accounting for just 22.9% of the total figure for 2017.



Source: US Customs and Border Protection

IN THE PRESS:

"MIGRANT CARAVAN ARRIVES AT THE MEXICO - UNITED STATES BORDER"

By mid-March, according to BBC World, a caravan of migrants formed by about 2000 people started in Honduras. This caravan, named "Refugee Caravan 2018" crossed the border between Guatemala and Mexico on March 26th, and by the end of April, between 300 and 400 people who participated in this journey arrived in Tijuana, at the border of Mexico with the United States.

Source: BBC World: <u>http://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-america-latina-43614027</u> El País: <u>https://elpais.com/internacional/2018/04/29/mexico/1525033999_476242.html</u>

FAMILY UNITS⁴ INADMISSIBLE AT THE SOUTHWEST BORDER OF THE UNITED STATES.

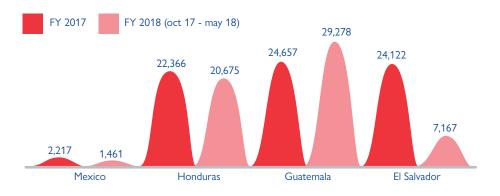
The number of family units coming from countries of the NTCA and Mexico declared inadmissible in the United States, during the first seven months of the fiscal year 2018, has already exceeded the total amount for the fiscal year 2017 for all nationalities, except for El Salvador. The most visible growth is in the case of Mexico, that has already outgrown the total of the fiscal year 2017 by 27.4%.



Source: US Customs and Border Protection

FAMILY UNIT APPREHENSIONS AT THE SOUTHWEST BORDER OF THE UNITED STATES

For fiscal year 2018, the case of Guatemalan families stands out: four months before the end of this fiscal year, the number has already outgrown the total of fiscal year 2017. Family units registered from Honduras and Mexico have decreased compared to fiscal year 2017, so far, the decrease for this year accounts for 34% and 8% respectively. present numbers that represent 75.2% and 57.5% respectively. The most notable change are registers of El Salvador where a decrease of 70% for this periods is observed.



Source: US Customs and Border Protection

4. Family Unit represents a family group consisting of at least one adult and a child or adolescent traveling together (either a child under 18, a parent or legal guardian).

OUTCOMES OF DEPORTATION PROCEEDINGS FOR NATIONALS FROM COUNTRIES OF THE NTCA AND MEXICO IN IMMIGRATION COURTS OF THE UNITED STATES⁵

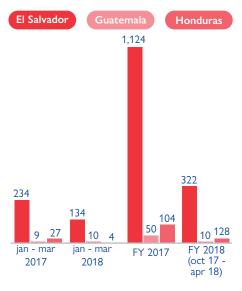
During the first half of fiscal year 2018, Mexican nationals registered the highest amount of deportation proceedings completed. However, nationals from El Salvador registered the least amount. In the first half of fiscal year 2018, cases completed (by nationality) represent between 55-62% of the total of the total number of cases from 2017, indicating similar rates to 2017.



Source: Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse

ASYLUM SEEKERS FROM CENTRAL AMERICA ADMITTED IN THE UNITED STATES

Refugee admissions in the United States for nationals from countries of the NTCA show a decrease in the first three months of 2018 compared to the first quarter of 2017, except for the case of Guatemala. Salvadorans reflect the greatest decrease in refugee admissions, although up to April 2018, Salvadorans had the highest percentage of refugee admissions compared to the fiscal year 2017, at 28.6%.



Source: Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration

5. Counts are based upon each case an Immigration Court completes and the date of the judge's decision or administrative closure. The data shows the figures for the issuance of orders for removal or voluntary return.



VENEZUELAN MIGRANTS

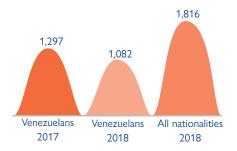
VENEZUELANS IN IRREGULAR STATUS IN PANAMA.

During the first quarter of 2018, Panamanian authorities detained more than double the number of Venezuelans detained during the first quarter of last year. Representing an increase of 120.6%



Source: National Migration Service of Panama.

DEPORTATIONS AND VOLUNTARY RETURNS⁶ OF VENEZUELANS IN PANAMA.



During the first quarter of 2018, Venezuelan migrants were at the top of the list of nationalities with the highest number of deportations and voluntary returns from Panama, reaching 59.6% out of the total for this year. Venezuelan cases in the first quarter of 2018, have already reached 83.4% of the total number of cases in 2017.

Source: National Migration Service of Panama.

REGULARIZATION OF VENEZUELANS IN PANAMA.

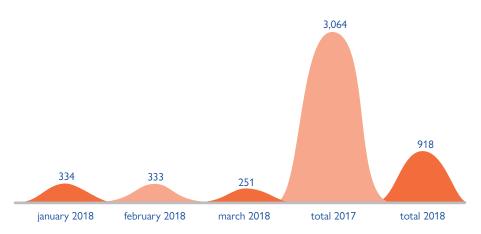
Legalizations include ordinary and extraordinary stay permits issued. This year, Venezuelans have most benefited from these permits, with 46.7% of the total of legalizations issued during the first quarter of this year; which represents 40.4% of the total legalizations granted to this population in 2017.



Source: National Migration Service of Panama.

6. Regulation of Law N.3 that creates the National Migration Service of Panama defines voluntary return as "It is the authorization granted to the irregular migrant to leave the country, after payment of the corresponding administrative sanctions and the costs of moving to the country of destiny"

VENEZUELANS ASYLUM REQUESTS IN COSTA RICA.

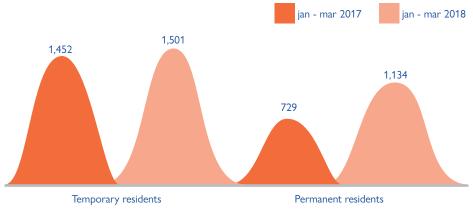


During the first quarter of 2018, the largest number of asylum requests in Costa Rica was filed by Venezuelans. So far, the trend for 2018, does not indicate greater variations with respect to 2017.

Source: General Directorate of Migration of Costa Rica.

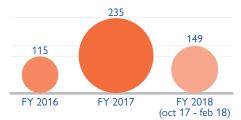
PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY RESIDENT CARDS ISSUED BY MEXICO TO VENEZUELANS.

The number of permanent resident cards issued to Venezuelan nationals in first quarter of 2018 Mexico increased 55.7% from the first quarter of 2017 to the same period of 2018. Of temporary resident cards issued, a small increase of 3.4% was observed.



Source: Mexican Secretariat of the Interior

OUTCOMES OF DEPORTATION PROCEEDINGS IN IMMIGRATION COURTS OF THE UNITED STATES

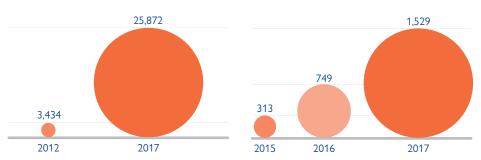


From October 2017 to March 2018, only half of the fiscal year, the number of the cases completed equal 68.4% of the total cases completed in 2017.

Source: Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse

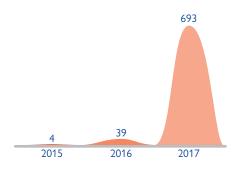
VENEZUELANS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

According to the second National Survey of Immigrants (ENI in Spanish) in the Dominican Republic, for the period from 2012 to 2017 the Venezuelan migrant stock grew by 653%, a sevenfold increase. Residence permits⁷ issued to Venezuelan migrants in the Dominican Republic show a steady increase from 2015 to 2017, registering an increase of 388.5% during this period.



Source: General Directorate of Migration of the Domincan Republic

VENEZUELAN ASYLUM REQUESTS IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.



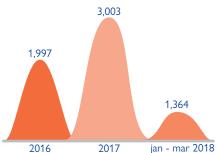
From 2015 to 2016, asylum requests by Venezuelans in Trinidad and Tobago grew by 875%. The most noticeable increase was in 2017, with a growth of 17 times over 2016.

Source: Immigration Division Trinidad & Tobago

7. The number of residence permits issued for Venezuelans in Dominican Republic for 2017 does not include August.

VENEZUELANS THAT HAVE EXCEEDED THEIR LEGAL STAY IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO WITHOUT LEAVING THE COUNTRY

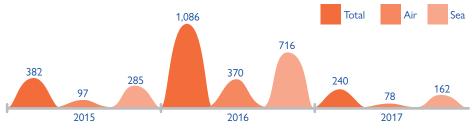
In the period of 2016 to 2017, the number of Venezuelans that exceeded the length of stay allowed in Trinidad and Tobago grew by 150.9%. Until March 6th 2018, the total of these cases registered, outgrew the total of 2016, and represented 45.4% of the total for 2017.



Source: Immigration Division Trinidad & Tobago

VENEZUELAN REGULAR ARRIVALS TO ANGUILLA DURING THE PERIOD OF 2015 – 2017 BY AIR AND BY SEA

When observing the regular flows of Venezuelan migrants to Anguilla for the last three years, it reached its highest level in 2016, when the number was twice as high as in 2015, and four times higher than in 2017. It is worth noting that these flows occurred mainly by sea during the three years observed. Of the total arrivals to Anguilla during this period, 68% were by sea and only 32% by air.



Source: Immigration Department Anguilla

EN LA PRENSA:

"VENEZUELANS SEEK TO MIGRATE TO THE NEIGHBORING ISLANDS OF THE CARIBBEAN THROUGH RISKY JOURNEYS"

On January 10th, the trip from Venezuela to Curaçao by raft cost the lives of 6 migrants and around 20 more migrants disappeared.

Source: BBC World <u>http://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-america-latina-42911478</u>

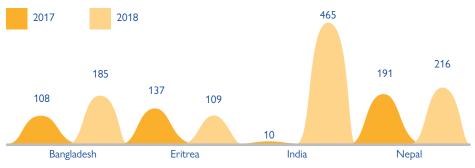


EXTRA-REGIONAL MIGRANTS:

ASIANS AND AFRICANS

EXTRA-REGIONAL DETAINED IN THE BORDER OF PANAMA WITH COLOMBIA (DARIEN).

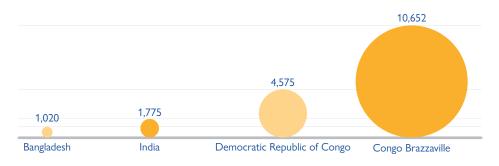
Extra-regional migrant detentions increased notably during the first quarter of 2018 compared to the same period in 2017. Regarding migrants from India, the increase was of 4550%. Other nationalities also show an increase, except for Eritrea with a decrease of 20%.



Source: National Migration Service of Panama.

ENTRY AND TEMPORARY STAY PERMITS ISSUED BY THE GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF MIGRATION OF COSTA RICA.

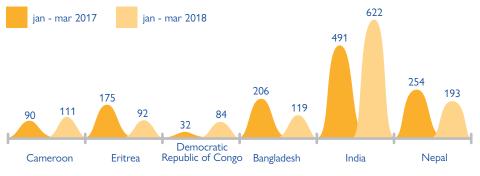
As of April 2018, Costa Rica issued the highest number of entry and transit permits for persons with claims of coming from Africa, particularly from Congo Brazzaville and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.



Fuente: Dirección General de Migración y Extranjería Costa Rica

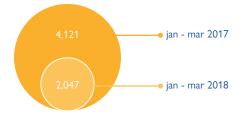
EXTRA-REGIONAL MIGRANTS PRESENTED BEFORE MEXICAN IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES

Comparing the first quarter of 2018, with that of 2017, there was noted growth of migrant flows from India. Likewise, presentations increased for nationals from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, (162.5%) and Cameroon (23.3%).But noteworthy is the decrease in the number of presentations of Eritrean nationals, which decreased by 47.4%, similar to the cases of Bangladesh (42.2%) and Nepal (24%).



Source: Mexican Secretariat of the Interior

REFUGEE ADMISSIONS FOR PERSONS FROM AFRICA IN THE UNITED STATES.



The number of refugees from Africa admitted in the United States during the first quarter of 2018 reduced by more than half compared to the same period for 2017.

Source: Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration

OUTCOMES OF DEPORTATION PROCEEDINGS FOR INDIAN NATIONALS IN IMMIGRATION COURTS OF THE UNITED STATES.



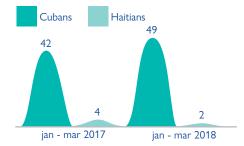
From October 2017 to February 28th, 2018, the total deportation procedures of Indian nationals reached 92.3% of 2016 levels and 62.8% of 2017 levels. Considering that during the fiscal year 2018, about 106 cases are completed per month, most probably the total amount of deportations proceedings completed during this fiscal year will significantly increase.

Source: Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse

CUBANS AND HAITIANS

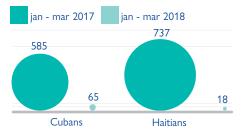
RESIDENCE PERMITS APPROVED IN PANAMA FOR CUBANS AND HAITIANS

In Panama, a modest increase can be observed in the number of residence permits issued for nationals from Cuba and Haiti. When comparing residence permits issued during the first quarters of 2017 and 2018, there is a growth of 16.7% for Cubans.



Source: National Migration Service of Panama

CUBANS AND HAITIANS PRESENTED BEFORE MEXICAN IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES.

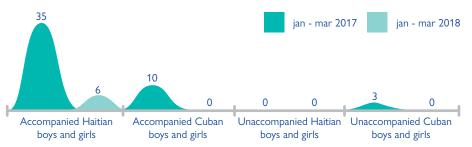


Presentations of nationals from Cuba and Haiti before Mexican immigration authorities have decreased drastically compared to the first quarter of 2017. Cuban presentations from January to March 2018 reduced by 88.9%. Even more substantial was the decrease in the presentations of Haitians, which fell by 97.5%

Source: Mexican Secretariat of the Interior

EVENTS OF BOYS AND GIRLS PRESENTED BEFORE MEXICAN IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES BY NATIONALITY

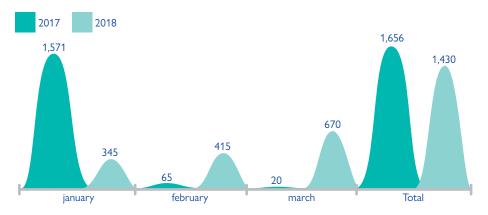
Instances of accompanied and unaccompanied boys and girls of Haitian and Cuban origin during the first quarter of 2018 have been minimal. In 2017 a total of 13 presentations were counted for accompanied and unaccompanied Cuban boys and girls, while this year no cases have been registered. The decrease in the presentations of Haitian boys and girls is also notable, particularly of accompanied boys and girls, which decreased by 82.9%.



Source: Mexican Secretariat of the Interior.

CUBANS INADMISSIBLE AT THE SOUTHWEST BORDER OF THE UNITED STATES.

The total number of Cubans inadmissible in the southwest border of the United States from January to March decreased by 13.6% from 2017. This could be related to the suspension of the "wet foot, dry foot" policy as of January, 2017.

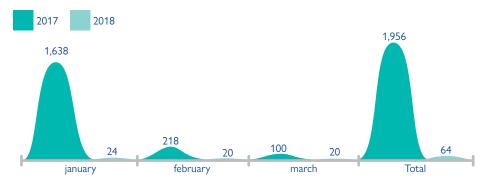


Source: US Customs and Border Protection.

HAITIAN INADMISSIBLE AT THE SOUTHWEST BORDER OF THE UNITED STATES.

Official figures reveal a drop in the number of Haitians inadmissible at the southwest border of the United States. A decrease of 96.7% is observed in the first quarter of 2018 compared with the first quarter of 2017.

The elimination of the "Temporary Protection Status" TPS for nationals from Haiti, could account for the drop of Haitians trying to enter into the United States.



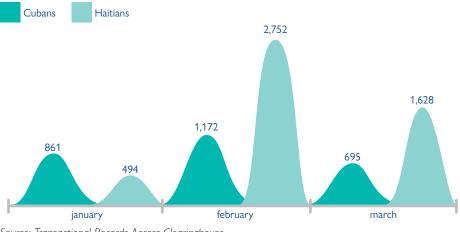
Source: US Customs and Border Protection.



OUTCOMES OF DEPORTATION PROCEEDINGS FOR CUBAN AND HAITIAN NATIONALS IN IMMIGRATION COURTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

The deportation proceedings completed in the United States Immigration Courts for nationals of Haiti and Cuba show an important increase between fiscal years 2016 and 2017. In the case of Cubans, the increase was 36.1%. In the case of Haitians, the increase is even more evident, at 457% with 2258 more cases completed in fiscal year 2017 over 2016.

Furthermore, in the first five months of fiscal year 2018, the deportation proceedings completed for both Haitians and Cubans represented, 59% of the total for each during fiscal year 2017. This could indicate an increasing trend in the number of deportation proceedings completed for these nationalities.

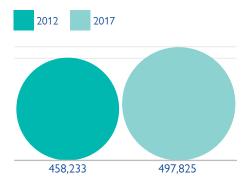


Source: Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse

STOCK OF HAITIAN MIGRANTS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

The number of people born in Haiti and based in the Dominican Republic increased by 8.6% from 2012 to 2017. According to the National Survey of Immigrants in the Dominican Republic, people born in Haiti represent 87.2% of the country's migrant population.

Source: ENI 2017



CREDITS:

DOCUMENT PREPARED BY THE IOM REGIONAL OFFICE FOR CENTRAL AMERICA, NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN.

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