The Scope of Transnational Economic Engagement in Latin America and the Caribbean

- 45 million migrants; 90 percent integrating a hemisphere wide labor force and 10 percent migrant minors with school needs;
- 60 percent are in the United States—down from 70 percent in 2000 even considering the large inflow from 2019 to 2022
- 30 million remittance senders connecting household to household home economics;

### TABLE 1: TRANSNATIONAL ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Senders</th>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Trade</th>
<th>Households with migrants</th>
<th>Remittances as percent of GDP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>8,451,583.64</td>
<td>26,866,510,755.00</td>
<td>11,156,090,401</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>9,595,993</td>
<td>58,497,102,400</td>
<td>12,666,711,095</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America</td>
<td>6,337,961.85</td>
<td>39,639,052,607.00</td>
<td>8,366,109,638</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caribbean</td>
<td>4,613,696.5</td>
<td>20,588,979,059.0</td>
<td>6,090,079,357</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>28,999,235.22</td>
<td>145,591,644,821.00</td>
<td>38,278,990,493</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TABLE 2: GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN MIGRANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Origin \ Destination</th>
<th>United States</th>
<th>Canada</th>
<th>Europe</th>
<th>Latin America and the Caribbean</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>World</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caribbean</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The scale, composition, and nature of migration in the Americas has changed drastically since 2015

**Scale—**
1. Migrants from LAC increased from 33 million in 2015 to 45 million in 2022—five million of which since 2020.
2. Migration flows to the United States have more than doubled to over 5 million people annually in 2021 and 2022.
3. The sustained increases in the past two years are exceptional, given that migration inflow to the United States in 2019 was large, to nearly a million. The US captures 70 percent of all LAC.
4. Migration to Chile, Costa Rica, Panama, the DR, has also increased in large numbers. With these countries capturing more than 20 percent of all migrants from LAC. Chile is now host to 1.42 million migrants. 17 percent of all migration originates in 8 countries.
5. Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Mexico and Panama have become destination and transit countries for hundreds of thousands of migrants.

**Composition—**
1. The composition of migration has also changed: Demographically people on the move are half adults, and half families and unaccompanied children: 5 percent of all migrants entering the US in 2022 are unaccompanied minors;
2. More kids are leaving every year than the annual increment of matriculation in high school in Central America: Guatemala’s matriculation is declining since 2018.
3. This inflow to the United States is composed of migrants from Mexico, Central America—with significant increases from Nicaragua—and Ecuador as well as refugees from Venezuela, Cuba and Haiti.

**The nature—**
1. The factors explaining current migration are more complex and include political crises, economic insecurity, violence, weak social protection systems, COVID-19 contagion, low vaccination rates, and natural disasters.
2. The nationalities with higher migration inflows are those coming from more politically unstable or repressive countries, like Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua and Venezuela.
3. The economic impact of these flows are now 5 percent of Latin America and the Caribbean’s national income.

**Solutions—**
1. Successfully addressing solutions to the increasing numbers of migrants into the United States and other countries within the LAC region will require interventions that can have a regional as well as a country-by-country approach.
2. The challenge is that the region is leading with non-cooperative partners and players.
3. These solutions include:
   - Humanitarian assistance
   - A development and democratization strategy: labor migration is here to stay
   - Regularization and migrant inclusion efforts: labor migration is here to stay
   - Transnational city strategies
4. Regardless of how people arrive, labor migrant integration of LAC to the global economy is the common denominator.

https://www.thedialogue.org/analysis/international-migration-from-latin-america-the-caribbean-in-numbers/