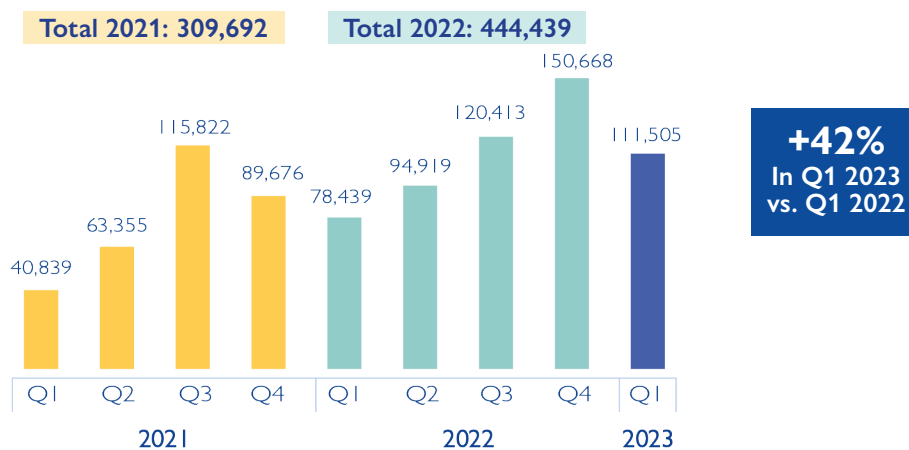


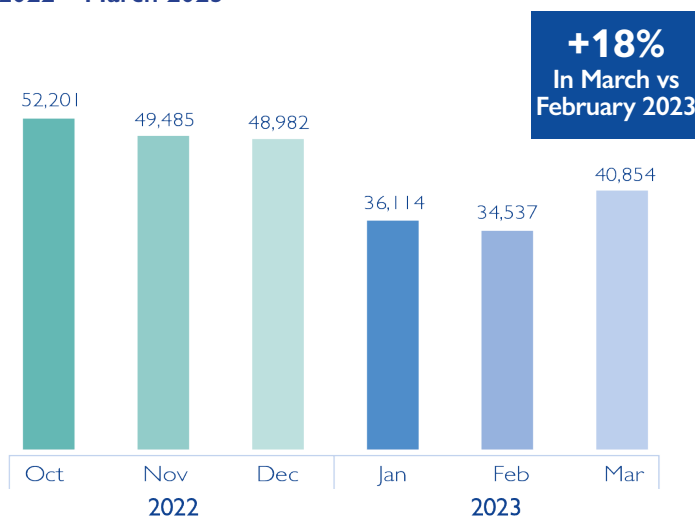


IRREGULAR MIGRATION IN MEXICO¹

1. Events of persons in an irregular migration situation registered by Mexican immigration authorities, by quarter (Q), 2021 – 2023 (through March)



2. Events of persons in an irregular migration situation registered by Mexican immigration authorities, by month, October 2022 – March 2023



» In 2022, the number of events of persons in an irregular migration situation increased by an average of 24% each quarter, peaking in Q4 with a historic record of 150,668 events, as well as a monthly historic record set in October at over 52,000. While the number of events recorded in Q1 2023 decreased by 39,163 (26%) when compared with Q4 2022, totals in Q1 2023 were still 42% higher than in Q1 2022. There was an increase of 6,317 events (+18%) between February and March 2023.

» Of all events recorded in Q1 2023, 58% corresponded to adult males, 24% to adult females, 10% to boys and 8% to girls, which is consistent with proportions witnessed in Q4 and the entirety of 2022.

¹ All figures and data in this section are sourced from: Migration Policy, Registry and Identity of Persons Unit (UPMRIP), *Monthly Migration Statistics Bulletin*, 2021, 2022 and 2023. Data in this section are preliminary and are subject to change. "Persons in an irregular migration situation" refers to foreigners for whom an administrative immigration procedure (PAM) was initiated by the National Institute of Migration (INM) for not accrediting their migration situation in the country per the National Migration Law, as well as those persons who are channeled by INM to national shelters of the System for the Integral Development of the Family (DIF).

3. Proportion (%) of events of persons in an irregular migration situation registered by Mexican immigration authorities, disaggregated by region/subregion of origin, 2022 – Q1 2023

95%

Of events recorded in Q4 2022 corresponded to nationals of Latin America and the Caribbean

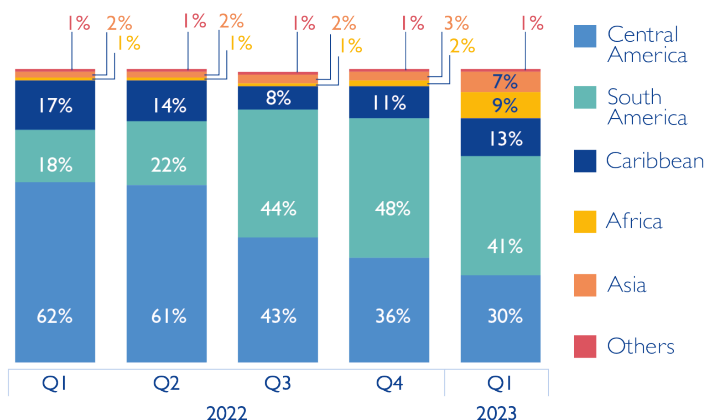
vs

84%

in Q1 of 2023

» **Most events of persons in an irregular migration situation identified in Mexico correspond to nationals of Latin America and the Caribbean.** During Q4 2022, this region accounted for 95% of the total events of migrants in an irregular situation identified in Mexico; however, this proportion decreased to 84% of the total in Q1 of 2023.

» **This shift was mainly due to an increase in the number of events of nationals of countries in Africa** registered in Q1 2023. In Q4 2022, 3,089 events corresponded to nationals of countries in Africa, increasing to 10,105 in Q1 2023 (+227%); likewise, the number of events of nationals of countries in Asia increased from 4,818 in Q4 2022 to 8,212 in Q1 2023 (+70%).



Note: percentages may not add up exactly to 100 due to rounding.

4. Events of persons in an irregular migration situation registered by Mexican immigration authorities, by top 8 countries of nationality, Q4 2022 and Q1 2023

Country of nationality	Total Q4 2022	Total Q1 2023	% of total events in Q4 2022 & Q1 2023	% change, Q4 2022 vs. Q1 2023
Venezuela	45,800	19,944	25%	-56%
Ecuador	16,039	14,883	12%	-7%
Honduras	15,749	12,771	11%	-19%
Guatemala	14,356	13,349	11%	-7%
Nicaragua	17,587	2,666	8%	-85%
Cuba	9,816	3,342	5%	-66%
Colombia	6,445	5,157	4%	-20%
Haiti	2,418	8,714	4%	+260%
Others	22,458	30,679	20%	+37%
Total	150,668	111,505	100%	-26%

» **Most of the main nationalities represented among events of persons in an irregular migration situation registered decreases between Q4 2022 and Q1 2023**, with the most pronounced decreases occurring among nationals of Venezuela, Nicaragua, and Cuba. However, the number of events of Haitian nationals more than doubled between Q4 2022 and Q1 2023.

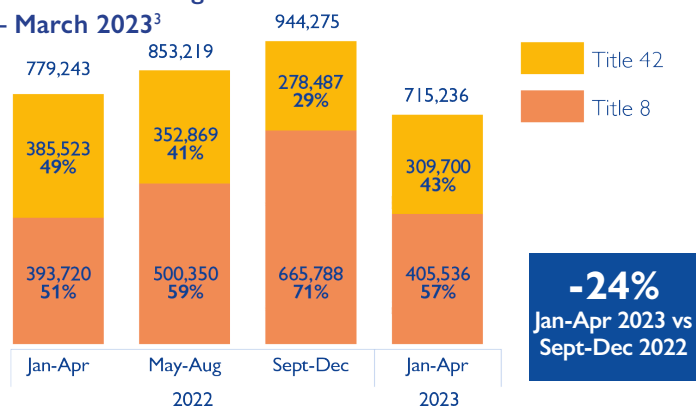
» Although not falling within the top 8 countries of nationality in the past six months, events of Brazilian (+212%) and Chilean (+202%) nationals identified among persons in an irregular migration situation increased significantly between Q4 2022 and Q1 2023, many understood to be persons of Haitian descent with nationality of these two countries.

» Among the principal countries of nationality in Africa identified in the past 6 months were Angola (3,158 events from Oct 2022 – Mar 2023), Mauritania (1,828 events in this period), and Senegal (1,620 events). Each of these countries of nationality saw notable increases between Q4 2022 and Q1 2023, at +228%, +935%, and +207%, respectively.

» **Among the principal countries of nationality in Asia identified in the past 6 months** were India (4,397 events from Oct 2022 – Mar 2023), China (2,745 events in this period), and Afghanistan (1,307 events). Events of nationals of India and China saw notable increases between Q4 2022 and Q1 2023, at +102% and +198%, respectively.

ENCOUNTERS ON THE SOUTHERN UNITED STATES BORDER²

5. Encounters registered at the southern United States border, total and by title of authority and trimester, January 2022 – March 2023³



» After a continual decline in the proportion of encounters represented by Title 42 Expulsions throughout 2022 (declining by as many as 20 percentage points between Jan-Apr and Sept-Dec), there was a large increase in the first 4 months of 2023.

» The number of encounters recorded in Jan-Apr 2023 was 8% lower than in the same period of 2022. The total number of encounters for Jan-Apr 2023 reflects the lowest levels recorded in any trimester period since the beginning of 2021.

» Encounters for April 2023 reached over 211,401, a 10% increase vs. March 2023.

6. Encounters registered on the southern United States border, by 7 main countries of nationality, evolution between trimesters, January 2022 – April 2023

January – April 2022		May – August 2022		September – December 2022		January – April 2023	
Nationality	Total / %	Nationality	Total / %	Nationality	Total / %	Nationality	Total / %
Mexico	302,891 (39%)	Mexico	260,647 (31%)	Mexico	236,355 (25%)	Mexico	273,628 (38%)
Cuba	93,270 (12%)	Guatemala	82,009 (10%)	Cuba	132,292 (14%)	Honduras	147,256 (21%)
Guatemala	73,373 (9%)	Cuba	80,973 (9%)	Nicaragua	108,741 (12%)	Venezuela	57,939 (8%)
Honduras	58,033 (7%)	Honduras	80,466 (9%)	Venezuela	71,932 (8%)	Colombia	57,003 (8%)
Nicaragua	53,442 (7%)	Venezuela	61,295 (7%)	Colombia	64,071 (7%)	Guatemala	55,689 (8%)
Colombia	42,020 (5%)	Colombia	58,867 (7%)	Guatemala	59,470 (6%)	Ecuador	29,383 (4%)
Venezuela	34,012 (4%)	Nicaragua	54,056 (6%)	Honduras	54,811 (6%)	Peru	25,759 (4%)

» The overall composition of the top 7 nationalities identified among encounters at the southern United States border remained unchanged between different trimesters in 2022, although the order of these 7 nationalities shifted during the course of the year, particularly with the increase in the proportion of encounters represented by Venezuelan nationals.

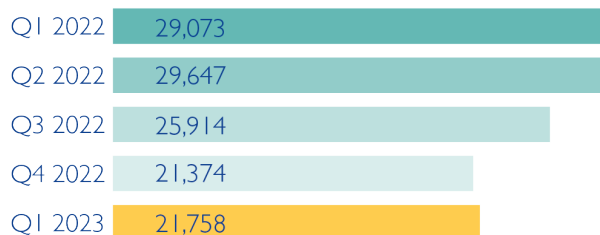
» Encounters of Honduran nationals jumped significantly in the first trimester of 2023 compared with any point of 2022. The number of encounters of Honduran nationals increased by 169% between September-December 2022 and January-April 2023. Honduran nationals represented 1 in 5 encounters recorded between January-April 2023.

» Both Ecuador and Peru appeared in the top 7 nationalities in the first 4 months of 2023, a notable change from 2022.

RETURNS⁴

7. Events of returns realized by Mexican immigration authorities, by quarter, 2022 – 2023 (Jan-Mar)

- » The number of events of returns realized by Mexican immigration authorities remained consistent between Q4 2022 and Q1 2023.
- » Over two-fifths (43%) of the events of returns realized in the first three months of 2023 corresponded to nationals of Guatemala, followed by Honduras (32%), Ecuador (8%), and El Salvador (6%).



² Source for this section: United States Customs and Border Protection (US CBP), [Nationwide Encounters](#), n.d. [accessed 7 May 2023].

³ "Encounters" refer to Title 8 apprehensions and inadmissibles (individuals deemed to not be lawfully present in the United States, or whose lawful admission is determined inadmissible, among others), as well as removals made under Title 42, which was active during the reporting period but came to an end as of 11 May 2022. While active, Title 42 permitted the realization of expedited removals to the country of last transit, and in some cases, to countries of origin, in the interest of public health. The data in this section refers to encounters and not people.

⁴ All figures and data in this section are sourced from: Migration Policy, Registry and Identity of Persons Unit (UPMRIP), [Monthly Migration Statistics Bulletin](#), 2022 and 2023.

8. Events of returns of Mexican nationals from the United States to Mexico, 2022 – 2023 (Jan-Mar)



» The number of events of returns of Mexican nationals from the United States to Mexico in Q1 2023 was 20% higher when compared with Q1 2022 and 19% higher when compared with Q4 2022.

» Females represented 16% of the return events realized in Q1 2023. A total of 7,636 return events of children and adolescents were recorded in the first three months of the year, representing 11% of all return events in this period.

IOM IN ACTION: A FOCUS ON DISAPPEARANCES



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a. Background

There is a strong nexus between disappearances and international and internal migration and mobility in Mexico. Since 2014, IOM's **Missing Migrants Project** has recorded incidents around the globe in which migrants and other people on the move have died or disappeared at state borders or in the process of migrating to an international destination. In Mexico, IOM recorded a total of 4,447 migrant deaths and disappearances at the United States – Mexico border between 2014 and mid-May 2023, including 158 in the first 5 months of 2023.⁵

People on the move are disproportionately at risk of disappearance in Mexico. This is not only because of difficult physical and environmental conditions faced in remote border areas, but also due to limited access to resources (financial and otherwise), a lack of social networks, misinformation, discrimination and xenophobia, and the perceived need to evade immigration and border operations, all factors which can increase their exposure to violence and crime linked to disappearances. Addressing disappearances in the context of migration was the 4th of 10 priority areas in the final report published by the Committee on Enforced Disappearances of the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights after its official visit to Mexico in 2022.⁶

b. IOM's response

Guided by Objective 8⁷ of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM), IOM's capacity-building work in Mexico is oriented in doing everything possible to help search for and locate missing migrants and internally displaced persons alive, extending not just to international migrants but also Mexican nationals on the move. The Organization also prioritizes enhancing the support to family members and loved ones of missing persons. IOM works closely with the National (CNB) and Local Search Commissions (CLBs), other member institutions of the National Search System (SNB), the Mechanism for Mexican Support Abroad in Search and Investigation Activities (MAEBI), and frontline stakeholders including consulates and civil society organizations in order to strengthen the national response.

In 2022 IOM performed mapping exercises with 13 CLBs to identify the challenges they face in activating and implementing search mechanisms for missing migrants. IOM also realized a Regional Forum on the Disappearance of Persons in the Context of Migration in Monterrey in August 2022 where the National Migration Institute (INM), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), UN Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, civil society, and various state authorities participated. In May and April 2023, the Organization planned a national encounter and 3 regional encounters with the CNB and other actors to identify ways to better identify missing migrants and internally displaced persons (IDPs) alive.

In 2023, IOM is also realizing an assessment of institutional and procedural gaps that hinder the exchange of personal data relevant to the search and identification of missing Mexican nationals abroad and creating materials on how to report missing migrants to the SNB, disseminating these along key migration routes. On a continual basis, IOM supports communication between migrant shelters, family members of missing migrants, and the CNB in order to improve the reporting process.

For more information and resources, consult IOM Mexico's <https://mexico.iom.int/es/datos-y-recursos>



5. IOM, *Missing Migrants Project – Americas*, n.d. [accessed 18 May 2023].

6. OHCHR CED, *Report of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances on its visit to Mexico under article 33 of the convention*, CED/C/MEX/VR/1 (recommendations), 16 May 2022. United Nations.

7. Save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants.