



# Monitoring migrants' socioeconomic integration in Latin America and the Caribbean

A joint proposal by the OECD and UNDP

GFMD, Quito, 22 January 2020



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*





# Migrants' socioeconomic integration: a growing challenge for Latin American and Caribbean countries

---

- **The migration landscape in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) has rapidly changed over the last decade**, in particular due to the crisis in Venezuela
- Massive return to origin countries is unlikely in the short-to-medium term
- **Immigrants' integration is an increasing priority on the regional policy agenda**
- Many preconceptions shape public perceptions; it is thus crucial to provide policy makers and the public with solid facts and figures
- **Indicators of integration help not only monitor outcomes, but also focus policy intervention**



## What is the added value of the OECD/UNDP initiative?

---

- Develop a regional monitoring of indicators on the integration of immigrants and their children, including:
  - Extensive information on the demographic characteristics of immigrants and their children
  - Different areas of integration: employment, education, poverty, health
- Scale and scope of the indicators depend on the data nationally available
  - But basic comparative indicators in these areas should be available for most countries with significant recent migration
  - In Colombia and Chile, for instance, OECD has already worked with the underlying datasets
- Specific focus on outcomes of Venezuelan migrants



## Challenges: getting the data and choosing the right benchmark

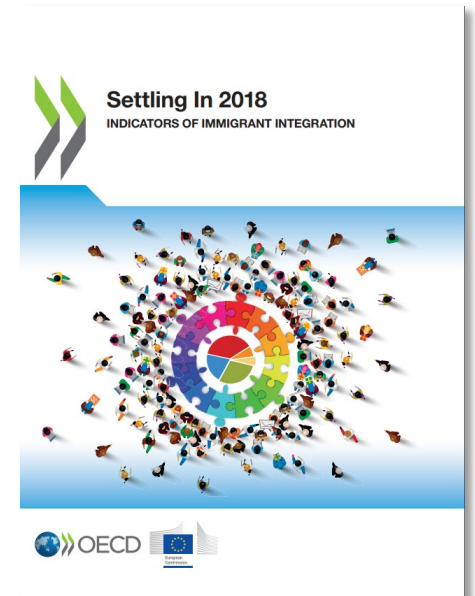
---

- **International comparisons of integration outcomes are challenging:**
  - Immigrant populations' characteristics vary across countries and change over time
  - Assessing the success of “integration” needs to take into account country-specific economic and social contexts
  - International comparisons often suffer from a lack of reliable and harmonised data across countries
  - ⇒ National data must be adapted to comply with common categories and definitions
- **However, international comparisons bring much added value to indicators at the national level:**
  - Benchmarks for assessing national performance and help interpret the magnitude of differences
  - Tool for promoting exchange of experience and for identifying shared concerns



## Why are OECD and UNDP well placed for doing this?

- OECD has extensive experience in analyzing and monitoring migrants' integration
  - Supported several member countries in setting up national indicator systems
  - Developed jointly with the European Commission the most comprehensive international comparison across all EU and OECD and selected G20 countries of the outcomes for immigrants and their children (**Settling In**), and their evolution over time
- UNDP has a global presence and supports member states to **mainstream migration into national and local development planning, and promote migrants' socioeconomic integration and social cohesion**
  - In LAC it provides support to countries that face migration & development challenges induced, in particular, by the Venezuelan migration crisis and transit migration in Central America





# How would the monitoring look like?



select host-country and immigrant group below - click indicator titles for more details

Germany

Foreign-born population

■ favourable/positive change  
 ■ less favourable/negative change  
 ■ slight difference/change  
 ■ no (comparative) data  
 ⓘ

| <b>Germany</b><br><small>Longstanding destination</small>  | Current outcomes for foreign-born population, 2017<br><small>colour: compared with OECD avg, values: %</small> | Foreign-born vs. native-born populations, 2017<br><small>colour: compared with OECD avg, values: % points</small> | 2006-2017 change for foreign-born population<br><small>colour: change over time, values: % points</small> |
|--|--|---|---|
| <a href="#">Employment</a>                                 | 67.3   | -8.7  | 7.9   |
| <a href="#">Unemployment</a>                               | 6.9  | 3.2   | -8.6  |
| <a href="#">Long-term unemployment</a>                     | 57.7   | -0.3  | 1.0   |
| <a href="#">Labour market participation</a>                | 72.3   | -6.6  | 2.0   |
| <a href="#">Working in low-skilled jobs</a>                | 19.3   | 13.8  | 2.9   |
| <a href="#">Overqualified workers</a>                      | 31.4   | 15.2  | 0.6   |
| <a href="#">Self-employed</a>                              | 9.3  | 0.4   | -0.3  |
| <a href="#">Advanced host country language proficiency</a> | 58.3   | -   | -   |
| <a href="#">Relative poverty</a>                           | 21.7   | 5.3   | 0.2   |
| <a href="#">Self-reported health status</a>                | 62.8   | -4.0  | 3.1   |
| <a href="#">Unmet medical needs</a>                        | 1.9  | 0.8   | -8.3  |
| <a href="#">Living in overcrowded housing</a>              | 12.8   | 6.9   | 4.7   |
| <a href="#">Living in substandard housing conditions</a>   | 15.5   | 0.9   | -   |
| <a href="#">Voter participation</a>                        | 73.5   | -12.2   | 1.5   |
| <a href="#">Acquisition of nationality</a>                 | 61.1   | -   | -9.4  |
| <a href="#">Perceived discrimination</a>                   | 10.9   | -   | -4.4  |
| <a href="#">Sense of belonging</a>                         | 83.3   | -2.4  | -   |