

ECLAC SUBREGIONAL
HEADQUARTERS
FOR THE CARIBBEAN

International migration and sustainable development in the Caribbean

An analysis of data
trends from 2000 to 2020

Daniel Leon
Abdullahi Abdulkadri



UNITED NATIONS



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Abstract

This study assesses international migration trends in 28 Caribbean countries from 2000 to 2020 and discusses the implications of these trends for different aspects of sustainable development in the subregion. It is well-documented that the Caribbean is a subregion that has exhibited net emigration, but this trend has intensified over the last two decades, with Global North regions representing the main destination of Caribbean emigrants. Although immigration to the Caribbean increased from 2000 to 2020, this increase was less substantial than that recorded for emigration from the subregion. By 2020, intra-Caribbean migration stocks accounted for just over half of all immigration stocks in the subregion, showing growing intra-Caribbean mobility of persons.

International migration trends in the Caribbean, particularly emigration from the subregion, have implications for the subregion's sustainable development, and these are reflected in indicators such as international financial flows, demographic dynamics, and labour productivity. In general, the high net emigrant stock of the Caribbean directly correlates with remittance inflows to the subregion. Furthermore, many countries of the subregion with ageing populations stand to gain from increased immigration as it rejuvenates their labour forces. However, with highly skilled labour constituting a large and growing proportion of the net emigrant stocks, the resulting brain drain in the Caribbean could have a more profound impact on the sustainable development of the subregion. Available data showed that most countries with net emigration during the period covered by this study experienced negative or stagnant labour productivity levels.

Considering the importance of quality data in assessing international migration trends, it is pertinent to collect, analyse, and disseminate international migration data in the Caribbean following international standards and best practices to facilitate optimal use of the subregion's international migration statistics. This study has revealed some advances and gaps among Caribbean countries in producing international migration data. Some Caribbean countries have included questions on international migration in their national censuses, household surveys, and labour force surveys. Nevertheless, gaps remain in collecting international migration indicators, especially those related to labour and international university student mobility. Leveraging administrative data, inter-agency coordination, and international cooperation can help countries improve the collection of international migration data, thereby enhancing national statistical capacity in the Caribbean.

Introduction

The Caribbean is experiencing a demographic transition characterized by declining birth and death rates and increasing life expectancy. In 2000, the subregion had an estimated total population of 39 million, which increased to 44 million in 2020. Over this 20-year interval, the population grew at a yearly average rate of 0.64 per cent, just less than half of the Latin American and the Caribbean yearly average population growth rate of 1.29 per cent. Over the same period, life expectancy increased from 67.4 to 70.8 years for males and 72.6 to 76.2 years for females, while the under-5 mortality rate decreased from 47 to 35 per 10,000 births. These population dynamics and the emigration of those in the economically active age bracket of 25 to 49 years have contributed to the rapid ageing of the Caribbean population, with the median age increasing from 24 years in 2000 to 31 years in 2020. By 2050, the median age in the Caribbean is projected to increase to 33 years, with persons 50 years and older representing a quarter of the total subregional population.¹

The demographic transition observed in the Caribbean is similar to that of advanced economies. This transition does not mirror the average population dynamics of many developing countries, particularly outside Latin America and the Caribbean, which stand to earn demographic dividends from such transitions. The proportion of the Caribbean population in the economically active ages has fluctuated around 33-36 per cent since 2000. However, the population of youth under 15 has been steadily declining, from 32 per cent in 2000 to 24 per cent in 2020. This circumstance necessitates that policies be developed to address the different facets of the demographic transition, given the importance of an active and healthy population to the economic growth and sustainable development of the subregion. Furthermore, the consequences of an ageing population for the pension, health care and elderly care systems of the Caribbean require timely policy interventions. In this scenario, the role of international migration and the contribution that it can make in producing demographic dividends for the Caribbean warrants analysis.²

Historically, the Caribbean people have exhibited international mobility, mainly characterized by emigration. The emigrant stock of the subregion increased during the first 20 years of the 21st century (IOM, 2017). The proportion of Caribbean nationals living abroad compared to the total population

¹ Calculations done by ECLAC based on data from United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division.

² A demographic dividend refers to the benefits that improved human capital and lower proportion of young dependents provide for the socioeconomic development of countries (see: <https://www.unfpa.org/demographic-dividend#o>).

remaining in the subregion, or emigrant stock, increased from approximately 16.6 per cent in 2000 to 21.6 per cent in 2020. Moreover, the proportion of immigrants in the Caribbean population, or immigrant stock, increased from about 3.2 per cent in 2000 to 3.7 per cent in 2020. The emigrant population of the Caribbean has primarily moved to North America and Europe. Nonetheless, intraregional migration in the Caribbean is appreciable. The intra-Caribbean immigrant stock increased from approximately 1.4 per cent in 2000 to about 1.9 per cent in 2020. By the end of the last decade, about 51 per cent of the Caribbean immigrant stock originated from within the subregion.

International migration, predicated on various reasons, including economic opportunities, family unification, educational motivations, and forced displacements, is of particular importance to the sustainable development of nations (IOM, 2022). Target 10.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) is to: "Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies." In addition, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (henceforth, Global Compact on Migration), approved by the UN General Assembly (UNGA) in 2018, recognizes the cross-cutting relevance of international migration to many SDGs. This non-binding global agreement establishes 23 objectives to promote safe, orderly, and regular international migration as a critical measure to help reduce global inequalities (UNGA, 2018).

The first objective of the Global Compact on Migration highlights the central role of data in international migration and calls on member States to: "Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies" (UNGA, 2018). This compact promotes strengthening "the global evidence base on international migration by improving and investing in the collection, analysis and dissemination of accurate, reliable and comparable data" (UNGA, 2018, para. 17). Data on international migration trends in the Caribbean provide critical insights into the impact of international migration, over time, on the different dimensions of sustainable development of the Caribbean. Indicators of international migration, such as emigrant and immigrant stocks, provide clues on the direct and indirect impacts of international migration on socioeconomic development indicators, such as remittances, foreign direct investments, demographic structures, and labour productivity.

This study presents an analysis of trends in international migration between 2000 and 2020 in 28 of the 29 member countries and associate member countries (AMCs) of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC), a subsidiary body of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).³ The first chapter provides the background to the study by outlining the importance of data in the analysis of international migration. This discussion includes but goes beyond the Global Compact on Migration by highlighting regional and subregional initiatives aimed at optimizing the benefits of demographic transitions. The second chapter examines trends in international migration in the Caribbean by analysing disaggregated data on immigrant and emigrant stocks based on countries of origin, intra- and extra-subregional destinations, and gender. The third chapter examines the relationship between international migration and sustainable development by examining how the net emigrant stocks of the Caribbean contribute to international financial inflows and changes in its demographic and labour structures. The fourth chapter discusses how countries can leverage statistics to strengthen the evidence base for advancing migration policies and the implementation of international agreements, such as the Global Compact on Migration. Lastly, chapter five provides a brief conclusion.

³ The member countries of the CDCC are Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago. The AMCs of the CDCC are Anguilla, Aruba, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Curaçao, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Montserrat, Puerto Rico, Turks and Caicos Islands, and the United States Virgin Islands. We excluded Sint Maarten from the analysis due to lack of disaggregated migration data for this AMC.

I. Background

International migration data provide crucial information in assessing the relationship between immigration and emigration trends on the one hand and sustainable development indicators on the other (World Bank, 2023a). One of these relationships is how large emigration stocks increase international financial inflows into the countries of origin, such as remittances and foreign direct investment (FDI). Remittances are monetary transfers by emigrants and diaspora in host countries to individuals in their countries of origin (Olivíe and Santillán O'Shea, 2022). In the 21st century, remittances have become a greater source of investment for Global South countries than official development assistance (ODA) and FDI. However, unlike ODA and FDI, remittances are not the subject of investment decisions by governments (Leon, 2023). Evidence from the Caribbean suggests that remittance inflows alter the consumption patterns of individuals, providing additional resources for household investments, such as in education, with substantial social impact (Stephenson and Wilsker, 2016). Previous studies in the Caribbean emphasized that many remittance recipients invest the foreign currency received from relatives living abroad and that such monetary receipts are not just used for consumption purposes (Alleyne, 2006; Alleyne, Kirton and Figueroa, 2008). These investments can positively impact social well-being by temporarily reducing poverty through its multiplier effects (Ekanayake and Moslares, 2020). Investing remittances into productive activities can bolster sustainable development prospects in the receiving countries by promoting economic growth, although evidence from the subregion suggests that this relationship is ambiguous (Deonanan and Ramkissoon, 2018).

The transnational social spaces created by Caribbean diasporas promote economic networks through associations like bi-national chambers of commerce and other social and economic associations, which help promote FDI in their countries of origin (Murat, Rinaldi and Pistorresi, 2011). This link between international migration and FDI is indirect, unlike remittances, where migrants are the agents directly producing and sending financial transfers to their countries of origin from their host countries. As for FDI, migrants act as intervening agents in promoting FDI to their countries of origin, but changes in these inflows can occur due to factors other than the agency of the migrants.

International migration can also affect the demographic and labour structure of small states, such as Caribbean countries, particularly considering the implications of an ageing population (ECLAC, 2022). Caribbean countries have been developing social security policies (such as non-contributory pension systems) to deal with the subregional trend of an ageing population (Quashie and Jones, 2022). However, as the proportion of the working-age population (persons between 15 and 64 years old)

shrinks due to net emigration and an ageing population, there is increasing pressure on social security systems. Immigration can help bolster the labour forces of countries with ageing populations. However, substantial immigration of economically active persons to countries with a relatively high youth population share can aggravate short-term socioeconomic pressures, such as high youth unemployment. For countries with a large child share of their population emigration can relieve short-term socioeconomic pressures.

Furthermore, international migration is related to changes in labour productivity, and depending on its trends, it can produce different outcomes. Immigration can rejuvenate the workforce and introduce new skills, thus promoting increased labour productivity (Peri, 2016). The literature links the experience of increased immigration in countries of the Global North to higher labour productivity, as inflows of working-age men and women replace the ageing labour force and increase the domestic stock of skilled labour (Marois, Bélanger and Lutz, 2020). However, substantial net emigration can adversely affect the labour productivity of a country if it results in brain drain. Highly skilled individuals from the Global South tend to face lower barriers to migrating countries of the Global North than lower-skilled ones, resulting in a loss of valuable human capital for the countries of origin. Return migrants may help make up for human capital losses due to brain drain since migrants tend to be, on average, more educated than the home population (Chen and others, 2022). However, the human capital brought in by return migrants might not always offset the loss of human capital as a result of brain drain, as the countries of origin may lose certain specialized skilled labour, such as those in the health sector, which returnee migrants may not necessarily possess (Rolle Sands, Ingraham and Salami, 2020).

The result of substantial human capital losses in the Caribbean due to net emigration can adversely affect the labour productivity of the subregion. Similarly, increasing immigration into countries with ageing populations can be a policy tool for realizing a demographic dividend to boost labour productivity. However, the skills brought or recently acquired by immigrants need to match the economic demands of host countries for immigration to positively impact labour productivity in host countries (World Bank, 2023a).

An assessment of migration trends in the Caribbean is essential to inform coordinated national and subregional policies and approaches to international migration for the sustainable development of the subregion. In establishing these trends, timely and comprehensive data on international migration are crucial due to the relationships between transnational mobility and different aspects of sustainable development (IOM, 2022). The collection and dissemination of up-to-date data are critical for the formulation and execution of policies that harness the positive impacts of international migration on sustainable development, as established in the 2018 Global Compact on Migration (UNGA, 2018).

At the regional level, Chapter F of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development accounts for the need to measure international migration trends and migration policies, as this phenomenon produces interconnected outcomes on multiple SDGs, such as those related to the reduction of poverty and inequality, and the promotion of decent work and economic growth (SDGs 1, 8, and 10) (ECLAC, 2013). At the subregional level, existing protocols for the movement of persons provide unique opportunities. The Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas, implemented by the member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), promotes international mobility by guaranteeing the free movement of skilled CARICOM nationals within its member countries. The issuance of skills permits under the treaty should ideally provide for a rich source of data on intra-regional trade in services, an area of significant gap in trade data in the Caribbean. The Revised Treaty of Basseterre, establishing the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), provides for the freedom of establishment of nationals in any other member State. These treaties, by design, should generate rich migration data which would be used to assess the contribution of migration to regional economic integration and sustainable development.

II. International migration trends in the Caribbean

Trends in immigration and emigration, including intra- and extra-subregional migration trends in 28 Caribbean countries from 2000 to 2020, are presented in this analysis. This study distinguishes between inward and outward migration in the subregion by examining the immigrant and emigrant stocks.⁴ Many Caribbean countries are characterized by small populations, some with less than 100,000 inhabitants, particularly the AMCs. Therefore, proportional measures, such as percentages, are used for cross-country analysis.⁵ Where relevant, the subregional averages are weighted proportionally to the populations of the analysed countries.

A. Sources of data

The data for this analysis of international migration trends in the Caribbean were gathered from United Nations agencies that report migration data on the CDCC member countries and the AMCs. The primary data source was the Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA). We utilised the “World Population Prospects” and the “International Migration Stock 2020” Databases of UN DESA. The latter database provided comprehensive Caribbean immigrant and emigrant stock data for calculating the proportions of intra- and extra-subregional migrant stocks. Moreover, this database provided information on international migration trends in five-year intervals for the studied period. We also employed databases from other UN agencies to supplement those from UN DESA. These include the “Statistics on migrant workers” and the “Statistics on working time” of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the “International Migration Database” of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the “UNESCO Institute for Statistics,” and the “World Development Indicators” of the World Bank.

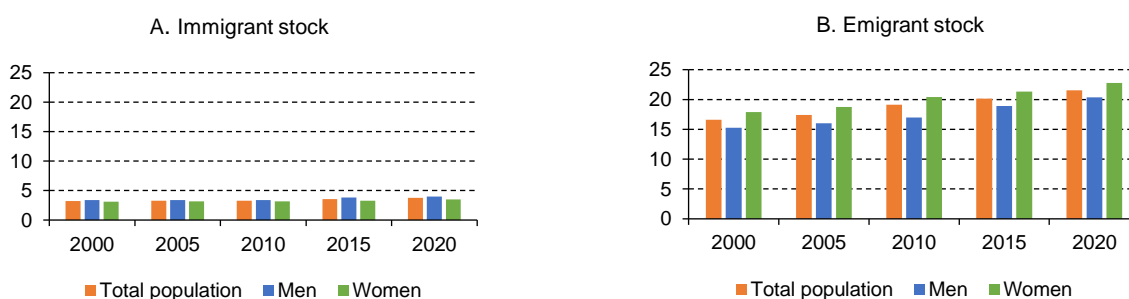
⁴ Immigrant stock is the population of foreign nationals domiciled in a country as a proportion of the total population of their host country while emigrant stock is the population of nationals domiciled in a country other than the country of their nationality as a proportion of the population of their home country.

⁵ The computation of such measurements was performed by using the R Statistical Software, version 4.2.2, and Microsoft Excel. Furthermore, the absolute numbers of immigration or emigration stocks are provided in the appendix, when appropriate.

B. Immigration and emigration stocks in the Caribbean

The data on the average proportions of immigrants and emigrants in the countries under study indicate that the Caribbean is a net emigrant subregion (see figure 1). Panel 1A shows that the total immigrant stock of the Caribbean rose from approximately 3.2 per cent in 2000 to about 3.7 per cent in 2020. During this period, the immigrant stock of men grew marginally higher than that of women, with a difference of 0.2 percentage points in 2000 compared with 0.5 percentage points in 2020. Furthermore, panel 1B shows that the total emigrant stock rose from 16.6 per cent in 2000 to 21.6 per cent in 2020. This panel also shows that the proportion of emigrant women was at least 2.4 percentage points and as high as 3.9 percentage points higher than that of emigrant men from 2000 to 2020. Relatively more Caribbean women than men emigrated, but the gender difference narrowed somewhat between 2010 (3.9 percentage points) and 2020 (2.4 percentage points).

Figure 1
Caribbean immigrant and emigrant stocks by gender, 2000 to 2020
(Percentages)



Source: ECLAC computations based on UN-DESA (2020, 2023) data.

Note: The percentages are averages weighted proportionally to the populations of the 28 analysed countries.

Except for most AMCs, the trend of net emigration at the subregional level is generally reflected at the country level. Table 1 presents the proportions of immigrants and emigrants in and from the subregion by country from 2000 to 2020 relative to the populations of the Caribbean countries.⁶ Table 1 also shows that some countries (Anguilla, Aruba, The Bahamas, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Curaçao, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Turks and Caicos Islands, and United States Virgin Islands) remained net immigrant countries despite increases in their emigrant stocks. Notably, all these countries, except for the Bahamas, are AMCs. Only two AMCs (Montserrat and Puerto Rico) were net emigrant countries. In 2020, this country had a net emigrant stock by a margin of about two percentage points. While Montserrat saw their immigrant stock increase seven percentage points during the studied period, their emigrant stocks increased from 315 per cent in 2000 to over 500 per cent in 2020. The very high emigrant stocks in Montserrat were due to the catastrophic eruption of the Soufrière Hills volcano in the late 1990s. This disaster led to the evacuation of about half of the country's small population, many moving to its parent country, the United Kingdom. Puerto Rico is the only AMC to experience declining immigrant stocks and increasing emigrant stocks from 2000 to 2020 and the only such country with a population in the millions. Although Bermuda became a net immigrant country in 2020, it was a net immigrant country from 2000 to 2015. In general, socioeconomic issues and major disasters such as those resulting from Hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017 discouraged immigration and triggered the emigration of residents of affected countries. For AMCs, their nationals face no travel restrictions to the parent countries, which considerably facilitates the emigration of this group to the Global North compared to the rest of Caribbean nationals.

⁶ Table A1 in Annex 1 provides the absolute immigrant and emigrant stocks in Caribbean countries from 2000 to 2020.

Most CDCC member countries exhibited higher emigrant than immigrant stocks, with either stagnant or increasing emigrant stocks (see table 1). However, there are exceptions to the subregional trends among the member countries. Cuba was the only country to have exhibited an immigrant stock that declined to about zero. Dominica and Saint Kitts and Nevis saw their immigrant stock increase during the studied period, while their emigrant stocks increased to over 100 per cent by 2020. For Dominica and Saint Kitts and Nevis, as well as other Caribbean countries with small populations (less than 100,000 inhabitants), an increase in emigration in the thousands (see table A1 in Annex 2) would result in a substantial increase in their emigrant stock. Migration from other countries of the subregion between 2000 and 2020 also accounts for increased immigration stock in these countries (see table A4 in Annex 2). Belize and Grenada are the only countries with decreasing trends of emigrant stocks from 2000 to 2020, while Antigua and Barbuda followed the trend as a net emigrant country with increasing emigrant stock. However, the immigrant stock of Antigua and Barbuda (about 31 per cent over the 2000-2020 period) is the highest of all CDCC member countries, primarily due to substantial immigration from other countries of the subregion (see table A4 in Annex 2).

Table 1
Proportions of immigrants and emigrants in and from Caribbean countries
relative to the national population, 2000 to 2020
(Percentages)

Country	Immigrants					Emigrants				
	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Member country										
Antigua and Barbuda	30.7	31.0	30.8	31.2	31.7	43.7	45.6	48.2	58.0	71.8
Bahamas	11.2	13.1	14.7	15.1	15.6	10.6	10.0	9.6	10.9	13.2
Barbados	10.7	11.4	11.9	12.4	12.4	35.9	34.5	35.0	36.6	35.5
Belize	15.2	14.8	14.4	15.2	15.7	20.1	18.5	17.8	17.5	13.4
Cuba	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	9.4	10.3	11.6	13.3	15.6
Dominica	5.4	6.9	11.8	11.6	11.5	70.6	93.2	107.0	103.7	108.6
Dominican Republic	4.2	4.1	4.0	5.3	5.5	10.4	11.1	12.1	14.0	14.6
Grenada	6.4	6.3	6.1	5.9	5.8	59.4	58.6	56.1	58.0	50.3
Guyana	1.1	1.4	1.1	1.1	3.9	47.7	51.7	58.7	63.7	55.0
Haiti	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	9.6	10.6	11.4	13.9	15.7
Jamaica	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	32.8	33.8	36.2	36.9	39.7
Saint Kitts and Nevis	12.9	14.3	15.3	15.6	16.2	67.9	71.3	75.5	84.1	105.5
Saint Lucia	6.2	5.9	5.3	4.9	4.7	24.8	28.4	29.4	33.0	39.7
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.5	47.0	49.6	50.7	58.5	53.1
Suriname	5.7	6.5	7.3	7.5	7.9	44.1	48.2	47.4	44.2	45.0
Trinidad and Tobago	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.4	5.2	23.1	23.6	24.9	25.2	21.8
Associate member country										
Anguilla	36.8	38.6	38.7	37.7	36.7	22.7	20.0	17.3	17.6	16.1
Aruba	33.8	34.4	34.2	34.6	50.3	8.6	10.0	13.5	15.9	20.1
Bermuda	28.8	28.8	29.2	30.4	30.8	22.9	23.7	24.1	25.7	33.0
British Virgin Islands	64.5	63.9	62.0	66.5	71.7	18.3	17.1	17.9	17.4	17.3
Cayman Islands	48.4	44.3	44.5	43.0	43.4	3.2	2.8	2.6	2.8	2.8
Curaçao	NA	NA	21.7	22.2	30.2	2.7	3.1	28.4	3.7	4.0
Guadeloupe	19.6	22.1	23.6	22.8	22.8	1.8	2.2	2.7	3.0	3.2

Country	Immigrants					Emigrants				
	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Martinique	12.6	14.2	15.2	18.0	18.5	3.2	3.6	3.7	3.3	3.5
Montserrat	23.6	26.5	26.1	26.7	30.6	314.0	336.9	351.9	398.0	546.3
Puerto Rico	9.3	9.3	8.2	8.0	7.6	41.8	43.1	46.6	49.1	56.6
Turks and Caicos Islands	48.1	54.7	57.9	62.2	58.2	3.9	5.0	7.4	6.7	6.1
United States Virgin Islands	52.3	53.2	53.4	55.2	56.5	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.8	3.9

Source: ECLAC based on UN-DESA (2020) data.

From 2000 to 2020, the proportion of immigrant women was consistently greater than that of men in just over half of the subregion's countries (see table 2).⁷ The exceptions are The Bahamas, Cayman Islands, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, and Turks and Caicos Islands, where the proportion of immigrant men was greater than that of women. On the other hand, Belize, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago exhibited relatively equal proportions of male and female immigrant stocks from 2000 to 2020.

Table 2
Proportions of immigrants in Caribbean countries relative to the male and female populations of host countries, 2000 to 2020
(Percentages)

Host country	2000		2005		2010		2015		2020	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Member country										
Antigua and Barbuda	29.2	32.1	29.3	32.4	29.0	32.4	29.2	33.0	29.7	33.6
Bahamas	12.2	10.3	14.0	12.3	15.5	13.9	15.9	14.4	16.5	14.8
Barbados	9.8	11.6	10.5	12.1	11.3	12.6	11.6	13.1	11.6	13.1
Belize	15.3	15.0	14.9	14.6	14.6	14.2	15.2	15.2	15.7	15.7
Cuba	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dominica	5.7	5.2	7.2	6.6	12.1	11.5	12.0	11.1	12.0	11.0
Dominican Republic	5.0	3.3	4.9	3.3	4.9	3.2	6.7	3.8	6.9	4.0
Grenada	6.3	6.4	6.2	6.4	6.0	6.2	5.9	6.0	5.3	6.4
Guyana	1.2	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.0	3.7	4.1
Haiti	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Jamaica	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8
Saint Kitts and Nevis	13.6	12.2	15.1	13.5	16.3	14.3	16.8	14.4	17.6	14.9
Saint Lucia	6.3	6.1	5.9	6.0	5.1	5.5	4.8	5.1	4.5	4.8
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	3.6	4.0	3.8	4.1	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.5
Suriname	6.2	5.3	7.0	6.0	7.9	6.6	8.2	6.8	8.7	7.1
Trinidad and Tobago	2.9	3.3	3.1	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.4	3.5	5.2	5.2

⁷ Table A2 in Annex 1 provides the absolute immigrant stocks of men and women in the Caribbean from 2000 to 2020.

Host country	2000		2005		2010		2015		2020	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Associate member country										
Anguilla	35.1	38.4	37.0	40.2	37.3	40.1	36.3	39.0	35.4	37.9
Aruba	31.6	35.8	32.3	36.4	32.0	36.2	32.6	36.5	48.4	52.0
Bermuda	28.6	29.1	28.6	28.9	29.3	29.2	30.7	30.2	31.4	30.3
British Virgin Islands	61.8	67.2	62.9	65.0	61.2	62.7	65.8	67.2	71.7	71.7
Cayman Islands	49.7	47.1	45.6	42.9	45.9	43.1	43.9	42.1	44.2	42.6
Curaçao	NA	NA	NA	NA	19.4	23.7	19.8	24.3	27.5	32.7
Guadeloupe	19.6	19.6	21.7	22.4	22.8	24.2	21.2	24.2	21.2	24.2
Martinique	12.3	12.9	13.8	14.6	14.5	15.8	16.6	19.3	17.1	19.7
Montserrat	22.9	24.4	25.8	27.3	26.0	26.3	27.0	26.4	30.1	31.3
Puerto Rico	9.1	9.4	9.1	9.4	8.0	8.4	7.8	8.2	7.4	7.7
Turks and Caicos Islands	48.5	47.6	55.4	53.9	59.0	56.8	63.6	60.8	59.7	56.6
United States Virgin Islands	51.7	52.9	52.5	53.9	52.7	54.1	54.7	55.6	56.8	56.3

Source: ECLAC based on UN-DESA (2020) data.

A similar trend was observed in the gender differences in the proportional immigrant stocks of Caribbean countries between 2000 and 2020. Table 3 shows that the proportion of emigrant women was substantially higher than that of emigrant men in 22 Caribbean countries.⁸ The exceptions to the subregional trend of more emigrant women than men are Anguilla, Bermuda, Curaçao, Haiti, and the United States Virgin Islands. Puerto Rico mirrored the subregional trend until 2010, after which its stock of emigrant men became higher than that of emigrant women. Martinique is the only country with a relatively equal stock of male and female emigrants from 2000 to 2020.

Table 3
Proportions of Caribbean emigrants relative to the male and female populations
of the countries of origin, 2000 to 2020
(Percentages)

Country of origin	2000		2005		2010		2015		2020	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Member country										
Antigua and Barbuda	42.1	45.1	44.0	47.0	46.0	50.3	55.5	60.3	67.7	75.6
Bahamas	9.3	11.8	8.9	11.0	8.5	10.7	9.6	12.2	11.5	14.8
Barbados	35.5	36.3	34.1	34.9	34.4	35.6	35.4	37.7	34.1	36.7
Belize	16.8	23.4	15.8	21.2	15.1	20.5	14.7	20.4	11.1	15.6
Cuba	9.0	9.9	9.8	10.8	11.0	12.3	12.4	14.1	14.6	16.4
Dominica	65.6	75.7	83.4	103.3	90.1	124.3	86.6	120.9	90.4	126.6
Dominican Republic	8.7	12.2	9.3	12.9	10.0	14.2	11.6	16.4	12.0	17.3
Grenada	53.5	65.4	51.9	65.5	48.5	63.8	50.2	66.0	44.5	56.1
Guyana	45.3	50.1	48.8	54.5	54.9	62.5	59.8	67.5	51.6	58.2

⁸ Table A3 in Annex 1 provides the absolute emigrant stocks of men and women in the Caribbean from 2000 to 2020.

Country of origin	2000		2005		2010		2015		2020	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Haiti	10.4	8.8	11.4	9.9	12.0	10.8	15.1	12.7	17.2	14.1
Jamaica	29.8	35.8	30.4	37.2	31.5	40.8	31.7	42.0	33.9	45.3
Saint Kitts and Nevis	63.4	72.3	66.0	76.5	69.2	81.7	77.5	90.5	96.9	113.7
Saint Lucia	22.4	27.1	25.0	31.7	25.1	33.8	27.7	38.2	33.4	46.0
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	45.2	49.0	46.5	52.9	46.4	55.3	53.3	64.0	48.2	58.1
Suriname	41.0	47.2	44.3	52.2	42.3	52.5	39	49.3	39.9	50.1
Trinidad and Tobago	20.2	25.9	20.6	26.5	21.3	28.3	21	28.9	18.3	25.1
Associate member country										
Anguilla	23.4	22.0	20.4	19.6	17.9	16.6	18.9	16.3	16.9	15.3
Aruba	7.9	9.2	9.4	10.6	12.3	14.6	14.7	17.1	18.6	21.5
Bermuda	23.3	22.6	24.1	23.3	24.6	23.7	26.1	25.3	33.3	32.6
British Virgin Islands	15.5	21.3	15.1	19.0	16.0	19.6	15.7	19.1	15.7	18.8
Cayman Islands	2.9	3.6	2.6	3.0	2.5	2.7	2.6	3.0	2.5	3.1
Curaçao	2.9	2.5	3.4	2.9	28.7	28.2	4.0	3.4	4.2	3.9
Guadeloupe	1.6	2.0	1.9	2.5	2.3	3.0	2.6	3.4	2.8	3.5
Martinique	3.1	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.1	3.5	3.3	3.7
Montserrat	260.4	374.2	286.5	393.1	306.8	400.4	343.8	454.4	451.8	650.8
Puerto Rico	37.3	46.0	38.9	47.0	41.4	51.3	50.5	47.8	58.5	54.8
Turks and Caicos Islands	3.6	4.3	4.3	5.7	6.3	8.5	5.6	7.9	5.1	7.1
United States Virgin Islands	4.2	2.9	4.1	2.8	4.1	3.0	4.5	3.2	4.6	3.3

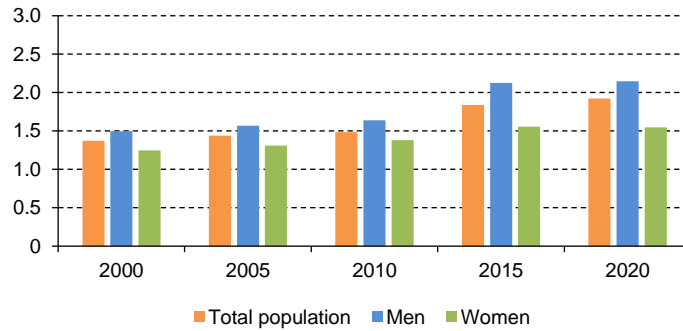
Source: ECLAC based on UN-DESA (2020) data.

C. Intra-Caribbean migration stocks from 2000 to 2020

While the intra-Caribbean immigrant stock is minute relative to the total population, it accounted for 51 per cent of the general immigrant stock in 2020, up from 42 per cent in 2000. The available data show that the total average stock of immigrants originating from other Caribbean countries relative to the populations of the host countries increased from about 1.4 per cent in 2000 to 1.9 per cent in 2020 (see figure 2). Figure 2 also shows that the gender-disaggregated intra-subregional immigrant stocks resemble that of the general immigrant stocks shown in figure 1, panel A, with a gap of approximately 0.5 percentage points in 2020, indicating a greater proportion of men than women in the intra-Caribbean immigrant stock.

Table 4 presents the trends in intra-Caribbean migrant stocks from 2000 to 2020. This table shows that intra-Caribbean migration increased from 2000 to 2020 in 14 countries. In contrast, intra-Caribbean immigration stock in Barbados and the Cayman Islands decreased by greater than one percentage point during the studied period. The immigrant stock stagnated in Bermuda, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Saint Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago during the studied period.

Figure 2
Intra-Caribbean immigrant stocks by gender, 2000 to 2020
(Percentages)



Source: ECLAC computations based on UN-DESA (2020, 2023) data.

Note: The percentages are weighted averages for 28 Caribbean countries.

Table 4
Proportions of total immigrant stock from other Caribbean countries relative to the population of the host country, 2000 to 2020
(Percentages)

Host country	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Member State					
Antigua and Barbuda	17.6	17.7	17.6	17.8	18.6
Bahamas	7.9	8.8	9.5	9.7	10.5
Barbados	4.8	3.9	3.1	3.2	3.2
Belize	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Cuba	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dominica	3.0	3.7	7.0	6.4	6.6
Dominican Republic	2.9	3.1	3.3	4.7	4.9
Grenada	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.4
Guyana	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Haiti	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Jamaica	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Saint Kitts and Nevis	4.8	5.3	5.6	5.7	5.9
Saint Lucia	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.6
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.7
Suriname	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Trinidad and Tobago	1.7	1.8	1.2	1.2	1.5
Associate member country					
Anguilla	18.3	19.2	19.2	18.7	19.4
Aruba	9.3	9.9	10.1	10.2	11.4
Bermuda	3.9	3.4	2.9	3.0	3.4
British Virgin Islands	36.0	35.3	36.1	38.7	43.9
Cayman Islands	23.2	20.7	20.3	19.7	21.9
Curaçao	0.0	0.0	8.7	8.9	10.4

Host country	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Guadeloupe	5.7	6.6	7.3	7.0	7.0
Martinique	2.0	2.3	2.4	2.9	2.8
Montserrat	10.7	12.0	11.8	12.1	12.5
Puerto Rico	2.2	2.3	2.1	2.1	1.7
Turks and Caicos Islands	33.5	28.0	38.2	43.7	49.5
United States Virgin Islands	34.9	35.9	36.4	37.6	37.6

Source: ECLAC based on UN-DESA (2020) data.

However, the quality of data on migration trends within the subregion can be further improved in many countries. Anguilla, Belize, Cuba, Haiti, Martinique, Suriname, and Turks and Caicos Islands documented immigration stocks from less than seven Caribbean countries, representing just a quarter of the 28 analysed countries (see table A₄ in Annex 2). The low representation of countries in intra-subregional migration data poses limitations for analysing the intra-Caribbean migration trends in these countries. Moreover, 11 additional countries reported migrant stocks from less than half (14), but more than seven of the studied countries. These countries are Aruba, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Puerto Rico, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (see table A₄ in Annex 2). Although it is conceivable that many Caribbean countries may not have as many as half of the nationalities of the subregions as residents, having only ten Caribbean countries with data on immigrants from at least half of the other Caribbean countries suggests an underreporting of intra-subregional migration data.

Table 5
Proportions of immigrant men and women from other Caribbean countries relative to the population of men and women in the host countries, 2000 to 2020
(Percentages)

Host country	2000		2005		2010		2015		2020	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Member country										
Antigua and Barbuda	16.1	18.9	16.2	19.1	16.0	19.1	16.1	19.4	16.3	19.7
Bahamas	8.7	7.1	9.4	8.2	10.0	9.0	10.2	9.3	10.6	9.6
Barbados	4.0	5.5	3.2	4.6	2.5	3.6	2.6	3.8	2.6	3.8
Belize	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
Cuba	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dominica	3.1	3.0	3.8	3.7	7.0	7.0	6.5	6.3	6.5	6.3
Dominican Republic	3.6	2.2	3.8	2.4	4.0	2.6	6.0	3.3	6.0	3.2
Grenada	3.0	3.5	3.1	3.6	3.2	3.6	3.1	3.5	2.8	3.7
Guyana	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
Haiti	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Jamaica	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Saint Kitts and Nevis	4.9	4.7	5.4	5.2	5.8	5.5	6.0	5.5	6.3	5.6
Saint Lucia	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.9	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.6
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	2.1	2.4	2.3	2.5	2.4	2.6	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.7

Host country	2000		2005		2010		2015		2020	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Suriname	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Trinidad and Tobago	1.6	1.9	1.6	1.9	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.6	1.3
Associate member country										
Anguilla	22.0	14.7	23.1	15.3	23.3	15.3	22.6	14.8	22.1	14.3
Aruba	7.2	11.3	8.0	11.5	8.8	11.3	8.9	11.4	9.5	12.6
Bermuda	4.0	3.7	3.3	3.5	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.2	3.2	3.5
British Virgin Islands	34.5	37.5	34.7	35.9	36.0	36.2	38.7	38.7	42.2	41.3
Cayman Islands	21.9	24.4	20.4	21.0	20.8	19.9	19.8	19.6	20.0	19.7
Curaçao	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.4	10.7	6.5	11.0	6.8	11.5
Guadeloupe	5.5	5.9	6.3	6.9	6.9	7.6	6.4	7.6	6.4	7.6
Martinique	1.8	2.2	2.0	2.5	2.1	2.7	2.4	3.3	2.5	3.4
Montserrat	9.9	11.6	11.1	13.0	11.1	12.5	11.6	12.7	12.9	15.4
Puerto Rico	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.2	2.0	2.1	1.8	1.9
Turks and Caicos Islands	33.3	33.7	27.8	28.3	37.7	38.8	43.2	44.2	40.6	41.1
United States Virgin Islands	33.6	36.2	34.6	37.1	35.2	37.6	36.6	38.6	38.0	39.0

Source: ECLAC based on UN-DESA (2020) data.

D. Extra-Caribbean migration stocks from 2000 to 2020

It is well-known that the Global North is the destination of choice for most Caribbean emigrants. This fact is backed by the data presented in figure 3. In 2000, Caribbean emigrants residing in North America equalled 13.2 per cent of the Caribbean population. This proportion increased to 15.8 per cent in 2020 (see panel 3B). The United States is the main destination of Caribbean emigrants in North America (and worldwide). In 2020, approximately 6.4 million Caribbeans lived in the United States compared to about 415,000 in Canada (see table A5, in Annex 3). Europe comes at a distant second among the preferred regional destinations of Caribbean emigrants. The Caribbean emigrant stock in Europe in 2000 was 1.6 per cent and increased to 2.6 per cent in 2020 (see panel 3F). The main European destination countries for Caribbean emigrants were France,⁹ Spain,¹⁰ and the United Kingdom.¹¹ Crucially, emigration from the Caribbean to North America and Europe showed higher proportions of emigrant women than men, unlike the emigrant pattern from the Caribbean to the other world regions. The Caribbean female emigrant stocks in these two world regions are at least one percentage point greater than that of male emigrant stock.

Emigrant stocks from the Caribbean to Africa, Central America, Asia, and Oceania are minute. The proportion of Caribbean emigrant stocks in these world regions is 0.1 per cent or less of the Caribbean population (see panels 3A, 3C, 3E, and 3G). However, emigration from the Caribbean to South America grew during the last decade. The Caribbean emigrant stock in South America was no

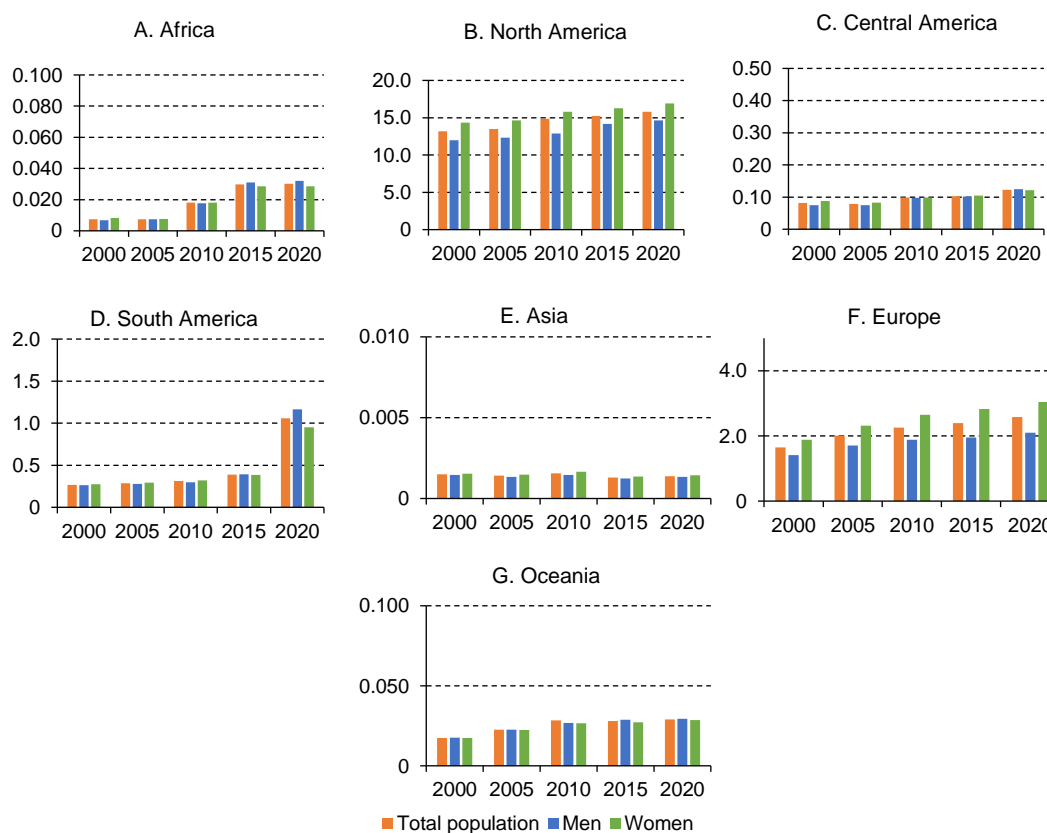
⁹ Migration from Haiti and Suriname to France particularly stands out, as the number of these emigrants increased from 27,950 and 284 in 2000 to 85,042 and 27,892 in 2020, respectively (see table A5 in Annex 3).

¹⁰ The bulk of the Caribbean migrants to Spain originated from the Spanish-speaking member States of the subregion. The emigrant stock from Cuba and the Dominican Republic these Caribbean countries to Spain nearly tripled from 45,738 and 36,953 in 2000 to 131,134 and 156,905 in 2020, respectively (see table A5 in Annex 3).

¹¹ Like the case of Spain, the emigrant stock from the Caribbean to the United Kingdom originated overwhelmingly from the English-speaking countries of the subregion. However, the trends in the emigrant stocks from these countries remained relatively stable from 2000 to 2020 (see table A5 in Annex 3).

more than 0.4 per cent of the subregional population from 2000 to 2015. However, this figure increased to 1.1 per cent in 2020 (see panel 3D). South American countries with large stocks of Caribbean emigrants include Brazil, Chile, and French Guiana. According to the available data, approximately 69 per cent of the Caribbean emigrant stock in South America resided in Chile in 2020. Emigration from Haiti from 2000 to 2020 primarily accounted for the large emigrant stock increase from the Caribbean to South America from 2015 to 2020. The emigrant stock from Haiti in Brazil and Chile increased by 51,144 and 495 per cent, respectively, between 2015 and 2020 (see table A5 in Annex 3).¹² Moreover, only in South America did the Caribbean emigrant stock of men surpass that of women by more than 0.1 percentage points (see panel 3D). The gender composition of the emigrant stock from Haiti explains this differing gender trend. As presented in table 3, Haiti is one of six analysed Caribbean countries with a higher proportion of emigrant men than emigrant women.¹³ Emigration from Haiti to South America constituted two-thirds of the Caribbean emigrant stock to this world region in 2020.

Figure 3
Extra-Caribbean emigrant stocks by world region and gender, 2000 to 2020
(Percentages)



Source: ECLAC computations based on UN-DESA (2020, 2023) data.

Note: The percentages are weighted averages for 28 Caribbean countries.

¹² Other noteworthy migration trends from the Caribbean to South America include the recent increase of the emigrant stocks from Cuba and the Dominican Republic to Chile, which increased from 2051 and 821 in 2015 to 23,929 and 36,485 in 2020, respectively (see table A5 in Annex 3). Furthermore, the emigrant stock from Suriname to French Guiana nearly doubled from 2000 to 2020, as this stock increased from 15,472 to 26,064 during this period (see table A5 in Annex 3).

¹³ Data from UN-DESA show that 171,416 emigrant men from Haiti resided in South America in 2020, compared to 122,411 emigrant women from this Caribbean country.

Data on emigration flows from 15 Caribbean countries to the major destination countries within the OECD (Canada, Chile, France, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the United States) complement the information provided by the extra-Caribbean emigrant stocks between world regions (see table A6, in Annex 3). Emigration flows from Caribbean countries to the United States stagnated or declined between 2000 and 2020, except for Cuba. The flows from the Caribbean to Canada varied substantially between Caribbean countries, but these flows did not follow strict linguistic or historical ties. Caribbean countries with larger populations (Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Jamaica) saw increased emigration flows to Canada from 2000 to 2020. However, these flows were lower than those to the United States, which explains why the emigrant stocks from the Caribbean in North America have stagnated, particularly after 2010 (see figure 3B). Flows to European countries were substantially lower than to North America, even among the non-English speaking Caribbean countries, such as Cuba, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti. Assessing the flows to the United Kingdom is difficult as the data on flows from the Caribbean to this European country are inadequate. Importantly, the emigration flows from the Caribbean to major OECD destinations dropped in 2020 due to the travel restrictions imposed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The exceptions to this trend were Cuba and Haiti. Emigration flows in 2020 from Cuba to Chile and Spain increased compared to 2015. Similarly, emigration flows from Haiti to Chile increased in 2020 compared to 2015.

Figure 4
Extra-Caribbean immigrant stocks by world region and gender, 2000 to 2020
(Percentages)



Source: ECLAC computations based on UN-DESA (2020, 2022) data.
 Note: The percentages are weighted averages for 28 Caribbean countries.

Regarding the extra-Caribbean immigrant stock, North America provided the highest average regional immigrant stock to the Caribbean in 2000, with immigrants from this subregion constituting approximately 0.8 per cent of the Caribbean population. This average declined to 0.6 per cent in 2020, but immigrants from North America remained the largest immigrant stock in the Caribbean compared to other world regions (see panel 4B). From 2000 to 2020, European immigrants constituted the second highest migrant stock in the Caribbean, remaining at around 0.4 per cent (see panel 4F).

The average South American immigrant stock in the Caribbean was about 0.3 per cent between 2000 and 2015. However, this average increased to approximately 0.5 per cent in 2020 (see panel 4D). The average immigrant stock increased primarily due to the large emigration wave out of Venezuela in the late 2010s, which saw the total immigrant stock from this South American country in the Caribbean increase almost seven-fold from 17,256 in 2015 to 119,160 in 2020 (UN-DESA, 2020). The average immigrant stock from Central America in the Caribbean did not surpass 0.14 per cent from 2000 to 2015, but this average increased to approximately 0.18 per cent in 2020 (see panel 4C). This increase was primarily due to an increased immigrant stock of 44,555 in 2015 to 50,564 in 2020 from nationals of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico to Belize (UN-DESA, 2020). The average immigrant stocks from Africa, Asia, and Oceania from 2000 to 2020 did not surpass 0.1 per cent of the Caribbean population during the analysed period (see panels 4A, 4E, and 4G).

E. International labour and student mobility in the Caribbean

Data on the international mobility of labour and university students provide information on subsets of immigration and emigration in the Caribbean. Migrant labour directly contributes to the development of their host countries by contributing to their economic growth, tax bases, and pension systems (ILO, 2021). Data on foreign-born workers primarily capture regular migrants, as they rely on administrative data (Harris, 2021). Yet, such data provide important information on immigrant labour in a country. Regarding emigration, data on the international mobility of university students provide information on a subset of Caribbean emigration stocks within and outside the region. International students can often better access pathways to settle outside their country of origin due to higher skills and physical access to foreign labour markets (IOM, 2017).

Table 6
Proportions of foreign-born workers relative to the native-born labour force in Caribbean countries by gender
(Percentages)

Year	Gender	Barbados	Belize	Dominican Republic	Guyana	Haiti	Montserrat ^a	Saint Lucia	Suriname	Trinidad and Tobago
2011	Total									3.8
	Men									3.4
	Women									4.2
2012	Total					0.1				3.8
	Men					0.1				3.6
	Women					0.1				4.1
2013	Total									3.3
	Men									3.1
	Women									3.6
2014	Total		17.9							3.6
	Men		18.3							3.2
	Women		17.5							4.0

Year	Gender	Barbados	Belize	Dominican Republic	Guyana	Haiti	Montserrat ^a	Saint Lucia	Suriname	Trinidad and Tobago
2015	Total		19.9	4.0						3.9
	Men		19.7	4.9						3.3
	Women		20.0	3.1						4.6
2016	Total	2.1	20.3	3.9					6.1	4.2
	Men	2.0	20.6	5.1					5.4	3.8
	Women	2.3	20.1	2.8					6.7	4.6
2017	Total		20.1	4.4				3.2		
	Men		20.2	5.3				2.9		
	Women		19.9	3.5				3.6		
2018	Total		17.9	4.8	1.3			3.0		
	Men		19.4	5.7	1.5			2.8		
	Women		16.4	4.1	1.1			3.1		
2019	Total			5.3	1.1			2.8		3.7
	Men			6.2	1.1			2.5		3.3
	Women			4.4	1.0			3.1		4.0
2020	Total		21.8	5.3			81.5	2.1		3.7
	Men		22.2	6.4			68.2	2.0		3.3
	Women		21.5	4.3			97.0	2.1		4.2

Source: ECLAC computations based on ILO (2023a) data.

^a Associate member country.

Table 6 provides information on a subset of the immigrant stock data in the Caribbean, namely the stock of the immigrant labour forces relative to the native-born labour force, disaggregated by gender. The data on the immigrant labour force in Caribbean countries cover only nine countries (see table 6). These data range from 2011 to 2020, but none of the countries had data for all the years of this period. Barbados, Guyana, Haiti, Montserrat, and Suriname had data for only one or two years. Hence, the available data allow for a limited analysis of the stock of immigrant workers in the Caribbean. The available data on the immigrant labour force stocks in the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Haiti, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago corresponded to the immigrant stock in each respective country, including the data disaggregated by gender (see tables 1, 2, and 6). In the Dominican Republic and Haiti, the proportion of the total immigrant labour force and gender-disaggregated proportions corresponded to the overall immigrant stock data (see tables 1, 2, and 6). However, for Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago, the proportion of the total immigrant labour force corresponded within about one percentage point to the overall immigrant stock data for 2020 (see tables 1 and 6). Nevertheless, the gender-disaggregated data in table 6 depict that the proportions of immigrant workers relative to the native labour force were at least one percentage point lower for 2020 (see tables 2 and 6).¹⁴ These discrepancies for Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago around 2020 likely arose because of refugee populations, mainly from Venezuela, who had not joined the labour force as they lacked the necessary work permits and not because of a statistical error.

The proportion of immigrant workers relative to the native labour force in Belize and Montserrat was about four and 45 percentage points higher than the overall immigrant stocks of the respective country for the years for which data were available (see tables 1 and 6). The same is true for gender-disaggregated figures. In the case of Montserrat, the difference between the proportions of male

¹⁴ The latest available data for Guyana shown in table 4 concerns the year 2019.

and female immigrant workers relative to the native labour force in 2020 was even higher (see tables 2 and 6). These differences point to either statistical errors in reporting or indicate that the proportion of non-working natives in these countries is substantially higher than that of non-working immigrants. Data on Barbados, Saint Lucia, and Suriname, presented in table 6, point to lower immigrant worker stocks than the total immigrant stocks presented in table 1. Data from 2016 for Barbados placed the immigrant worker stock at about ten percentage points lower than the total immigrant stock for 2015 (see tables 1 and 6). A substantially lower proportion of immigrant workers than the total immigrant stock was also noted in the gender-disaggregated data (see tables 1 and 6). For Saint Lucia and Suriname, data for the 2015 to 2020 period indicate that the proportion of total immigrant workers to the native labour force was about one to three percentage points lower than the total immigrant stocks, and similarly for gender-disaggregated data (see tables 1, 2, and 3). The comparatively lower proportions of immigrant workers to the overall immigrant stocks in these three countries is possibly a reflection of the youthfulness of the migrant population or an indication of obstacles to decent work in their newly adopted countries.

The mobility of international university students provides insight into a subset of Caribbean emigration stocks within and outside the subregion. Table A7 in Annex 4 provides data on international university students from 21 Caribbean countries from 2016 to 2020.¹⁵ The data in this table show that the United States, in recent times, has been the main destination of university students from the Caribbean, which corresponds with the overall emigration stocks of the subregion. The United Kingdom and Canada also host significant numbers of Caribbean students, corresponding to the overall trend in emigration stocks of the subregion being overwhelmingly towards the Global North regions of North America and Europe. Moreover, the data show that international student mobility follows linguistic and former colonial ties. Canada is a major country of destination for the English-speaking countries of the Caribbean, while France is a main destination for Haitian students. Similarly, Spain is a major destination for students from Cuba and the Dominican Republic.

The data on the number of international university students from the Caribbean also point to intra-Caribbean mobility (see table A7 in Annex 4). A substantial number of students from Barbados and Jamaica attended university in Trinidad and Tobago, mainly due to the University of the West Indies (UWI), the subregional university with campuses in these three Caribbean countries.¹⁶ However, the data points to significant gaps. The data of international university students from Barbados and Jamaica to Trinidad and Tobago only cover 2019. Moreover, there is no data on student numbers from Trinidad and Tobago to the other two countries with UWI campuses. Each UWI campus offers different degree courses, which incentivises the international mobility of university students. This, however, is not represented in the data. Moreover, data on the number of university students from other English-speaking CARICOM countries to the countries with UWI campuses are scarce, further suggesting gaps in data collection on student mobility within the subregion. Although the Global North countries are the main destinations for international university students from the Caribbean, Caribbean students' enrolment in these countries is still overrepresented in the statistics from the subregion due to the underreporting of intra-subregional student numbers.

¹⁵ Table A7 in Annex 4 depicts the number of Caribbean students and the countries of destination for which data were available. Only countries of destination where there were at least five students from the Caribbean countries for at least one year were included.

¹⁶ As of the period covered in this study, the University of the West Indies had only three residential campuses in Barbados, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago. In 2019, this university established a fourth residential campus in Antigua and Barbuda.

III. The relationships between international migration and sustainable development in the Caribbean

International migration plays an important role in the sustainable development of the subregion. The Caribbean trend of increasing net emigration is associated with international financial inflows, such as international remittances and foreign direct investment (FDI), into the subregion. The international migration trends in the subregion can also affect Caribbean countries' varied and changing demographic structures, creating challenges and opportunities for sustainable development.

A. Emigration trends and international financial inflows from 2000 to 2020

There are important relationships between the trend in Caribbean emigration within and outside the subregion and the remittances received from their nationals living and working outside their countries of origin. Eleven out of the 19 Caribbean countries that reported data on remittances indicated an increase in remittance inflows from 2000 to 2020 (see table 7), corresponding with the increasing emigration trends of the subregion (see figure 1B and table 1). Table 7 also shows an increase in remittances as a share of GDP between 2015 and 2020 for all countries except Barbados. The slump in GDP across the subregion due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 increased the percentage of remittances in most Caribbean countries, as this variable likely remained fairly constant or decreased by a much lower proportion while GDP decreased during this year.

Aruba, the Cayman Islands, and the Turks and Caicos Islands were net immigrant countries during the studied period (see table 1), explaining why remittances constituted a relatively low share of their GDP and did not increase over the studied period. However, Barbados, Guyana, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Trinidad and Tobago were exceptions as they were net emigrant countries but did not exhibit increasing inflows of remittances (see tables 1 and 7). Barbados, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago are high-income countries whose GDPs per capita (at constant 2015 US dollars) are about 50 to 100 per cent higher than those of the other Eastern Caribbean countries (World Bank, 2023c). Therefore, the residents of these three high-income countries are less dependent on remittance receipts from family members living and working abroad. Thus, remittances play a lesser role in the

investment and consumption decisions of residents. Saint Kitts and Nevis is also a country receiving high FDI inflows, which reduces its dependency on its net emigrant stock (see table 8). Although a high-income country with a GDP per capita that is almost ten times higher than the Caribbean average, Bermuda deviates from this trend as remittance inflows have increased, particularly since 2010. Bermuda is a net emigrant country but only by a few percentage points, and the high remittance receipts are due to its large diasporas in the United Kingdom and the United States, compared to its small population (Annex 3, table 5). Also, this country receives relatively small proportions of FDI inflows, thus increasing its reliance on remittances (see table 8). Lastly, Guyana presents an interesting case. The country reported high remittance inflows of over ten per cent as a proportion of GDP in 2005 and 2020. However, these international inflows declined after 2020 due to the country's booming hydrocarbon exports, resulting in oil export receipts crowding out remittance inflows relative to the GDP.

Besides the general tendency towards higher flows of remittances in the Caribbean, the scale of these international financial inflows relative to the countries' GDP impacts their sustainable development prospects. Six of the 19 countries with available data showed that by 2020, remittances accounted for eight per cent or more of their GDPs (see table 7). The literature considers eight per cent of GDP as the threshold for a country becoming dependent on a source of foreign revenues that are not a product of domestic labour (Beblawi and Luciani, 1987). Remittances constituted double digits as a share of GDP in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Jamaica, which is substantial, as these three countries accounted for just over 55 per cent of the Caribbean population in 2020.

Table 7
Personal remittances received by Caribbean countries as a proportion of GDP from 2000 to 2020
(Percentages)

Country	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Member country					
Antigua and Barbuda	2.1	1.8	1.8	2.3	2.7
Barbados	3.7	2.5	1.8	4.2	2.3
Belize	2.2	3.1	4.5	3.8	5.8
Dominica	4.1	6.0	4.6	10.3	13.5
Dominican Republic	7.6	7.6	7.2	7.3	10.6
Grenada	4.7	3.9	3.7	4.3	6.8
Guyana	3.8	24.4	10.7	7.1	8.0
Haiti	8.5	13.7	12.4	14.8	23.8
Jamaica	9.7	15.7	15.3	16.6	22.2
St. Kitts and Nevis	5.8	5.5	6.0	2.5	3.6
St. Lucia	2.6	2.4	2.0	2.2	3.9
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	4.5	3.9	4.0	5.3	7.0
Suriname	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	4.3
Trinidad and Tobago	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.9
Associate member country					
Aruba	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.3	1.3
Bermuda		0.0	19.0	21.7	22.9
Cayman Islands			0.0	0.0	0.2
Curaçao				4.7	5.2
Turks and Caicos Islands		0.0	0.0	0.6	0.8

Source: World Bank (2023b).

Table 8
Net inflows of foreign direct investment to the Caribbean as a share of GDP, 2000 to 2020
(Percentages)

Country	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Member country					
Antigua and Barbuda	5.2	21.6	8.4	8.5	5.6
Bahamas	3.1	5.7	8.6	0.6	4.5
Barbados	2.4	10.2	9.4	14.6	5.6
Belize	2.6	8.7	5.5	2.7	3.7
Dominica	5.3	5.3	4.9	1.3	4.3
Dominican Republic	4.1	3.1	3.4	3.1	3.1
Grenada	7.2	10.1	7.8	15.7	14.3
Guyana	9.4	9.3	5.8	3.2	23.7
Haiti	0.2	0.4	1.5	0.7	0.2
Jamaica	4.7	5.7	1.4	6.5	1.9
St. Kitts and Nevis	22.8	17.0	14.9	13.4	0.6
St. Lucia	5.8	6.9	8.2	8.4	3.1
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	8.8	6.9	13.5	15.7	7.5
Suriname	-10.3	1.6	-5.9	3.6	0.0
Trinidad and Tobago	8.3	5.9	2.5	0.7	5.0
Associate member country					
Aruba	-6.8	-8.8	7.6	-1.0	6.2
Bermuda	1.9	0.9	3.4	-2.2	6.9
Cayman Islands			504.4	1 709.8	110.0
Curaçao				4.8	6.2
Turks and Caicos Islands				-7.4	3.3

Source: World Bank (2023d).

Furthermore, large emigrant stocks can indirectly increase FDI inflows. The transnational social spaces created by Caribbean diasporas promote economic networks through associations like bi-national chambers of commerce and other social and economic associations, which help increase these inflows to their home countries (Murat, Rinaldi and Pistoresi, 2011). From 2000 to 2020, FDI inflows showed upward trends from 2000 to 2015 in eight of the 20 countries where data were available.¹⁷ A dip in FDI inflows in 2020 was to be expected in many countries due to the COVID-19 pandemic (see table 8). Apart from The Bahamas, these countries are net emigrant countries, and thus, the results largely correspond with the thesis that transnational social spaces created by emigrant diasporas promote FDI inflows. However, this relationship is not absolute. The net migrant stock of a country does not fully explain FDI inflows, as shown by Guyana, where large FDI inflows in 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic, are the result of foreign capital investments in its booming hydrocarbon industry.

Moreover, the Citizenship by Investment (CBI) programmes implemented by Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Saint Lucia have been a policy tool to promote FDI inflows by offering a citizenship pathway for international investors. As depicted in table 8, these five countries have experienced some of the highest net FDI inflows as a percentage of GDP. However, CBI is not a migration pathway employed throughout the subregion.

¹⁷ FDI in the Cayman Islands is an outlier because the country is a major global offshore banking location.

Box 1**Citizenship by Investment and FDI in the Eastern Caribbean**

Saint Kitts and Nevis established the world's first Citizenship by Investment (CBI) programme in 1984, followed by Dominica in 1993. Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, and Saint Lucia adopted CBI programmes after the 2008 international financial crisis (between 2013 and 2015), which saw FDI into the subregion decline. By granting investors citizenship and the right to the country's passport, the CBI allows implementing countries to leverage international mobility to increase FDI inflows. The CBI programme allows these five Eastern Caribbean countries to promote FDI into their countries in exchange for the international mobility that an Eastern Caribbean passport affords investors.

Importantly, the CBI programme of Grenada stands out in the Eastern Caribbean as the only one that requires foreign investors to reside in the country for at least 12 months before investors and their families can gain Grenadian citizenship, thus encouraging international immigration. As with other CBI programmes in the Eastern Caribbean, investors are required to invest US\$100,000 or more, depending on the investment type. The investment types are either an economic project approved by the government, such as a real estate purchase, or a payment to the National Transformation Fund, the development fund of Grenada.

FDI inflows from the CBI programmes contribute substantially to the GDP of Eastern Caribbean economies. For example, Grenada received EC\$252,855,000 in 2020, about US\$93,561,634, from the CBI programme, accounting for close to ten per cent of its GDP that year.

Source: Belton, 2020; Ministry of Finance of Grenada, 2020; Williams and Hosein, 2019.

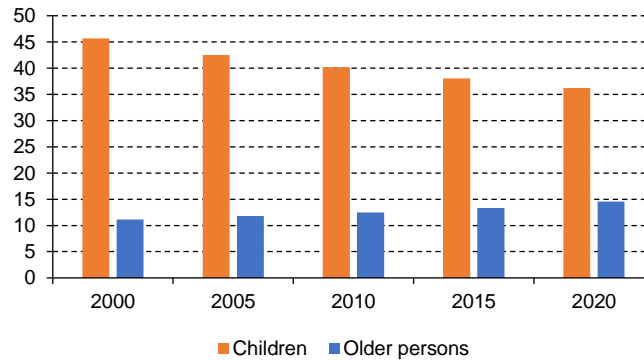
B. Effect of International migration on demographic and labour structures from 2000 to 2020

International migration can have long-lasting impacts on the sustainable development of countries by affecting their demographic structures. An examination of the dependency rates in the Caribbean indicates subregional tendencies towards shrinking cohorts of children and increasing cohorts of older persons. The weighted average of the dependency rate for children in 2000 was about 45.7 per cent of the total working population. This average decreased to about 36.2 per cent in 2020. The weighted average of the dependency rate for older persons in 2000 was about 11.1 per cent, which increased to approximately 14.5 per cent in 2020 (see figure 5). Importantly, the 20 Caribbean countries presented in figure 5 accounted for 99 per cent of the population of the subregion in 2020. Hence, these subregional averages indicate that the share of children relative to the working-age populations dropped about nine percentage points, while the average share of older persons increased by about 3.4 percentage points from 2000 to 2020.

The above statistics point to an increasing dependency rate of older persons and a declining dependency rate of children in the Caribbean, indicating the acceleration of ageing in the subregion, a demographic transition that mirrors that of developed world regions. Health advances have extended life expectancy in the Caribbean, increasing the dependency rate of older persons (ECLAC, 2022). However, increased life expectancy leads to population ageing when the birth rate and net immigration do not grow at a rate high enough to negate the increase in the population of persons 65 years and older. A result of an ageing population is the shrinking working-age population of a country. With the current demographic transition, the median year by which the working-age population of Caribbean countries will stop growing and start shrinking is 2026. The working-age population of 22 of the 28 studied Caribbean countries is projected to peak by 2030 (UN DESA, 2022). The peak year of the countries' working-age population refers to the last year their labour force stocks grew or would grow, after which the working-age population starts to shrink as the labour force is not being replaced at an equal proportion.¹⁸

¹⁸ Working-age population estimates after 2020 are based on medium fertility variant estimations of the UN-DESA, Population Division. The medium-fertility variant assumes that the fertility rates of countries will converge towards a replacement fertility rate of 2.1 live children per women, based on the global population trends from 1950 to 2020 (see: https://papp.iussp.org/sessions/papp101_s01/PAPP101_s01_050_030.html#4).

Figure 5
Average Caribbean dependency rates of children and older persons, 2000 to 2020
(Percentages)



Source: ECLAC computations based on CEPALSTAT (2023) and UN-DESA (2022) data.

Note: Children are persons aged 14 or younger, and older persons are those 65 or older. The percentages are averages weighted proportionally to the working-age populations of the 20 analysed countries.

The dependency rates of children and older persons relative to the working-age populations of 20 Caribbean countries from 2000 to 2020 are presented in table 9. Of the 20 countries depicted in the table, 14 countries manifested drops in the dependency rates of children between 2000 to 2020 that were larger than the regional average of approximately nine percentage points (see figure 5). Belize, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, and Saint Lucia experienced a drop of 20 percentage points or more from 2000 to 2020. In Belize, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, and Suriname, the dependency rate of children in the 2000s was high enough that substantial drops in the rate by 2020 would still result in the working-age population of these countries growing into the 2040s or beyond. Hence, these countries can have a substantial net emigration stock without stressing their pension and care systems in the short-to-medium term. However, for many other Caribbean countries, the demographic trend indicates that large cohorts of children born in the last two decades of the 20th century are progressing to adulthood without the commiserate replacement in the children population in the first two decades of the 21st century (see table 9). Similarly, 12 Caribbean countries experienced increases in the dependency rate for older persons that was above the regional average of about 3.4 percentage points between 2000 to 2020. This has implications for the sustainability of the pension and elderly care systems of these countries. Therefore, countries experiencing an increasing trend of older persons' dependency rates, especially when accompanied by a declining rate of children dependency, stand to benefit from the rejuvenating effect of the immigration of younger persons.

Table 9
Dependency rate of children and older persons in the Caribbean as a share of working age population, 2000 to 2020
(Percentages)

Country	Children					Older persons				
	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Member country										
Antigua and Barbuda	42.80	38.68	34.40	29.89	26.83	11.18	10.42	10.27	11.39	13.79
Bahamas	45.93	42.22	39.16	33.39	28.18	7.71	8.44	9.19	10.09	11.57
Barbados	32.70	30.70	29.48	27.59	25.75	16.74	16.69	17.28	19.12	22.46
Belize	71.14	65.42	58.53	49.68	43.33	7.03	6.69	6.57	6.68	7.24
Cuba	30.79	27.76	25.49	24.13	23.12	14.36	16.01	18.20	20.45	22.67
Dominican Republic	58.18	53.30	48.05	44.74	42.23	7.88	8.55	8.71	9.37	10.65

Country	Children					Older persons				
	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Grenada	57.02	44.35	37.35	35.85	36.47	14.34	14.19	13.6	13.75	14.64
Guyana	61.22	58.82	51.16	46.55	44.36	6.36	6.67	7.18	8.17	9.29
Haiti	72.17	65.74	60.03	55.42	51.88	6.62	6.63	6.66	6.67	7.05
Jamaica	55.03	47.01	39.37	33.04	28.89	9.70	8.58	8.60	8.92	9.76
Saint Lucia	52.10	42.84	35.33	29.03	25.61	11.74	11.35	11.46	11.57	12.30
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	51.51	45.63	39.10	35.39	33.23	11.47	11.99	12.90	14.26	15.92
Suriname	52.72	47.59	46.60	43.64	40.49	7.76	8.98	9.32	9.60	10.76
Trinidad and Tobago	37.45	30.69	28.74	28.72	27.97	7.71	8.01	9.31	11.89	15.29
Associate member country										
Aruba	33.31	30.36	29.79	27.11	25.62	9.91	11.78	13.80	17.08	22.06
Curaçao	39.86	35.58	33.41	31.56	26.03	14.39	15.46	17.44	20.32	20.94
Guadeloupe	39.03	36.26	34.05	32.38	30.11	15.14	18.17	20.93	25.69	30.89
Martinique	37.31	32.85	30.18	28.18	26.57	15.26	19.58	22.85	27.89	34.66
Puerto Rico	37.05	33.71	29.75	25.49	21.66	17.20	19.21	22.38	27.54	33.73
United States Virgin Islands	40.40	34.98	31.51	30.80	31.53	12.88	16.05	20.88	27.27	32.16

Source: CEPALSTAT (2023).

Note: Children are persons under 15 years old, older persons are those over 65, and working-age persons are between 15 and 64 years old.

Crucially, realising the positive impacts of international migration on the sustainable development of Caribbean countries requires that net emigrant or immigrant stocks promote their labour productivity (Peri, 2016). Table 10 shows the labour productivity level of 14 Caribbean countries that account for about 95 per cent of the population of the subregion from 2015 to 2020. The results are not encouraging. During the analysed period, labour productivity levels stagnated or decreased in ten of 14 Caribbean countries. Most Caribbean countries experienced declining labour productivity levels from 2019 to 2020, but this one-year change was due to the negative economic effects of the COVID-19 health restrictions. Importantly, apart from The Bahamas, all ten Caribbean countries with stagnant or decreasing labour productivity levels also showed net emigrant stocks during the same period. However, it should be noted that the net immigrant stock in The Bahamas was only marginal (see table 1).

The inverse or neutral relationship between net emigrant stock and labour productivity levels from 2015 to 2020 points to a neutral to negative effect of brain drain on labour productivity in the Caribbean. Net emigrant stocks, which have increased from 2000 to 2020 (see figure 1), along with stagnating or decreasing labour productivity levels (see table 12), suggests that the subregion is losing productive sections of its population to better economic opportunities abroad, particularly in North America and Europe (see figure 3). These emigrants are also being pushed to migrate due to worsening socioeconomic conditions in their countries of origin. Increased immigration to countries of the Global North is linked to increased labour productivity, as inflows of working-age men and women replace the ageing labour force and increase the domestic stock of skilled labour (Marois, Bélanger and Lutz, 2020). However, the opposite effect occurs in the countries of origin with net emigrant stocks, as they lose productive human capital, translating into brain drain. Human capital losses in countries with net emigrant stocks can aggravate the mismatch between labour supply and industry demands in the countries of origin, further worsening labour productivity.

Table 10
Labour productivity levels in the Caribbean, 2015 to 2020
(GDP per hour of employment, constant 2015 US\$)

Country	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bahamas	1 560	1 540	1 507	1 518	1 529	1 360
Barbados	966	947	966	963	979	942
Belize	356	341	326	331	348	328
Cuba	422	423	429	440	440	438
Dominican Republic	423	440	450	468	484	553
Guyana	418	434	450	456	453	729
Haiti	92	92	92	92	89	92
Jamaica	280	271	265	264	257	258
Puerto Rico ^a	2 553	2 559	2 498	2 372	2 410	2 639
Saint Lucia	567	571	576	580	559	463
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	458	478	487	502	505	526
Suriname	580	543	543	562	562	515
Trinidad and Tobago	1 000	948	902	879	873	906
United States Virgin Islands ^a	2 377	2 463	2 444	2 685	2 922	2 991

Source: ECLAC computations based on ILO (ILO, 2023b) and World Bank (2023e) data.

Note: Labour productivity level was computed by dividing total GDP at constant 2015 US\$ by the total weekly hours worked annually of employed persons.

^a Associate member country.

A mismatch between labour supply and industry demands has a gendered effect as well. The greater proportion of Caribbean emigrant women compared to emigrant men in North America and Europe speaks to the greater ease of women migrating to Global North regions (see figure 3). A key reason is that women are more represented in tertiary education in the Caribbean than men (Abdulkadri and others, 2022), thus providing them with more pathways for South-North mobility. Women tend to specialize more in care and healthcare professions than men, which enables them greater access to South-North migration pathways than men, as the demand for specialists such as physicians and nurses is high in Global North countries (Rolle Sands, Ingraham and Salami, 2020). The larger proportion of women than men in developed countries promotes women's empowerment as they move to less patriarchal labour norms than in their countries of origin and benefit from increased remuneration for their skills, greater autonomy, improved self-esteem, and increased decision-making power in their households. Nevertheless, the trend towards greater empowerment for women emigrating to developed countries is not linear. For example, pressures to remit earnings to their countries of origin can reduce or even eliminate their savings margins from their earnings (Platonova and Rosa Gény, 2017).

The demographic transition of the Caribbean towards an ageing population poses the risk of locking the subregion in stagnant labour productivity levels. This locking-in process can occur as the replacement rate of the ageing population is low, and the tendency of labour, particularly skilled labour, to emigrate remains or grows. Increased immigration can offset the adverse effects of brain drain on the labour productivity of the affected Caribbean countries only if the incoming migrants bring or acquire the skills that the host economies need to boost labour productivity and thus contribute to their economic growth and sustainable development (World Bank, 2023a).

V. Leveraging statistics to build the evidence base on international migration in the Caribbean

The first objective of the 2018 Global Compact on Migration highlights the importance of collecting and disseminating timely and quality data on international migration to promote regular, safe, and orderly international migration (UNGA, 2018). The assessment conducted in this study shows that ample data are available on immigrant and emigrant stocks of Caribbean countries.¹⁹ However, this assessment identified gaps in several areas of international migration data. One of these areas is the coverage of intra-Caribbean migration stocks. Of the 28 Caribbean countries included in this assessment, 17 had data available on less than half of other Caribbean nationalities from 2000 to 2020. It is conceivable that not all Caribbean countries hosted Caribbean nationals (see table A4 in Annex 2). However, the Caribbean subregion is well-known for its cosmopolitanism and high international mobility, and presumably, many Caribbean countries will host a variety of Caribbean nationals. For example, small AMCs such as Aruba and Curaçao have had about 100 nationalities represented in their countries (Dietrich Jones, 2021). The low reporting of Caribbean nationalities in over half of the 28 studied countries suggests underreporting of intra-Caribbean migration stocks.

The international arrangements for the free movement of persons implemented by subregional organizations, such as CARICOM and OECS, should also increase the representation of Caribbean nationalities in many countries. One of these international arrangements is the presence of the University of the West Indies, a subregional university with campuses in Barbados, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago. However, data on intra-Caribbean flows of university students are deficient, as discussed in section E of chapter II (see also table A7 in Annex 4). Another gap in the migration statistics of Caribbean countries is the deficiencies in the coverage of the proportion of immigrant workers relative to the labour force of host countries. Only nine countries reported data on the proportion of migrant workers from 2011 to 2020, and five of these countries reported data for only two years. Furthermore, only 19 of the 28 studied countries reported remittance data. These gaps in such indicators of international migration reveal limitations in the capacities of national statistical offices (NSOs), national migration offices, and the national statistical system more generally to collect and disseminate such data.

¹⁹ Mainly due to the international migration data collection efforts of the Population Division of UN DESA.

Traditional data sources such as national censuses are crucial in the collection, dissemination, and utilization of international migration data. The Caribbean has made substantial strides in including questions related to international migration as part of the decennial housing and population censuses conducted by countries. CARICOM included in its Common Questionnaire for the 2020 round of housing and population censuses questions related to international migration. These questions include country of citizenship, country of birth, country of previous residence, reasons for migration, and date of return to their home country for return migrants.²⁰ The recommended core questions match the UN-recommended questions on international migration for housing and population censuses (IOM, 2021).

National surveys, such as labour force and household surveys, are another example of traditional data sources that complement national censuses in the collection of international migration data. For example, the main source of data on the stocks of migrant workers as a share of a country's working-age population is labour force surveys (ILO, 2021). Nevertheless, national surveys have the limitation that they might not produce statistically representative samples of the immigrant population and are thus only complementary to national censuses.

Box 2
Collection of international migration statistics in Jamaica

As a net emigrant country, international migration directly impacts the sustainable development prospects of Jamaica. The immigrant stock of Jamaica is less than one per cent of its population, while its emigrant stock has increased from about 33 per cent of its population in 2000 to almost 40 per cent in 2020 (see table 1). As a result of its large and increasing emigrant stock, remittance inflows to Jamaica reached about 22 per cent of its GDP in 2020 (see table 7).

Due to the importance of international migration to Jamaica, the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN) has included many recommended questions on international migration, including those from the UN, in its regular censuses. Jamaica gathers information on the country of birth and the first year of the arrival of immigrants into the country. However, it does not collect data on the country of citizenship of immigrants. Crucially, Jamaica gathers important data on the international movements of its diaspora. The country includes questions on the continued residence outside the country for more than one year and the previous country of residence in censuses and national surveys. Included also are other questions relevant to measuring the movements of its diaspora, such as whether a household member emigrated in the previous year and the year of the permanent return of its nationals.

Critical for the international migration data governance in Jamaica is STATIN's coordination with the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ), the agency responsible for coordinating and implementing the National Policy on International Migration and Development, and the Passport, Immigration, and Citizenship Agency (PICA), which manages ports of entry, migration, and citizenship processes. STATIN collects migration data through the Population and Housing Census conducted every ten years and household surveys conducted between censuses. STATIN also collects administrative data on migration, which, along with household censuses, allow for calculating intercensal estimates of migration indicators.

Source: IOM (2021).

A further and crucial traditional source of international migration data is administrative data. Such data include entry and departure records at ports of entry, work and study permits, asylum requests, citizenship applications, and applications for other types of residency permits (IOM, 2021). Inter-ministerial, inter-agency, and vertical coordination mechanisms are essential for countries to leverage administrative data as a source of international migration data (IOM, 2022). Most countries collect large amounts of administrative data, which they can leverage to increase the quantity and quality of international migration statistics if the proper coordination mechanisms are in place. For

²⁰ To review the CARICOM Common Questionnaire see: <https://ecistar.org/?mdocs-posts=the-caricom-common-core-questionnaire&mdocs-cat=>

example, Caribbean countries can use data on work permits to provide figures on immigrant labour and international university student flows and help fill the many gaps in these migration indicators (see table 3 and table A7). Member States of CARICOM issue permits for skilled and self-employed nationals of other CARICOM countries under the frameworks for the free movement of persons of this subregional organization. They also issue student permits and visas for international students recorded by the relevant immigration agency. Hence, administrative data are crucial to measuring intra-regional migration trends. In particular, the use of administrative records to indicate migration trends in Latin America and the Caribbean has allowed for the documentation of increased intra-regional migration and decreased extra-regional immigration (Harris, 2021).

Box 3
Forced migration and statistical capacity in the Caribbean

A formidable challenge for international migration statistics is how to account for forced migration. The data provided by UN DESA on immigrant and emigrant stocks do not differentiate between regular and other forms of migration. Three major forced migration flows occurred in the Caribbean due to security, economic, political, or environmental crises in Cuba, Haiti, and Venezuela from 2000 to 2020.

The Cuban emigrant stock increased from 1,047,789 in 2000 to 1,757,300 in 2020 (see table A1 in Annex 1). By the end of 2022, 240,994 Cubans applied for asylum protection around the world, mostly in the United States and Mexico. Migration of Cubans within the Caribbean increased particularly to Trinidad and Tobago, as the Cuban emigrant stock increased from 40 in 2000 to 2,412 in 2020 (see table A4 in Annex 2). The abolishment of exit visas by the Cuban government in the early 2010s facilitated intra-Caribbean migration, including the exit of Cubans applying for asylum.

The emigrant stock of Haiti more than doubled from 802,218 in 2000 to 1,769,671 in 2020, due primarily to the devastating 2009 earthquake (see table A1 in Annex 1). Substantial emigrant stocks of Haitians can be found in countries of the Global North and the Global South, such as Canada, the United States, and Chile. However, by 2020, the emigrant stock of Haitians in the Dominican Republic was 496,112, which had doubled since 2000. Hence, close to one-third of the Haitian emigrant stock resided in its neighbouring country. By the end of 2022, 177,978 Haitians applied for asylum worldwide, but 98 per cent of them applied for protection in the United States, France, Mexico, and Canada. Restrictive border and immigration policies by the Dominican Republic and other Caribbean countries have prevented a greater inflow of Haitian refugees, as the high social costs for the host country of integrating a substantial number of refugees are high.

The Venezuelan migration crisis, resulting from runaway inflation, skyrocketing poverty, and increased food insecurity after the collapse in international oil prices in late 2014, produced over seven million migrants and refugees as of 2023. In the Caribbean, the total immigrant stock from Venezuela increased almost seven-fold from 2015 to 2020, with approximately 96 per cent of the Venezuelan immigrants to the Caribbean in 2020 residing in Aruba, Curaçao, Guyana, and Trinidad and Tobago. However, the Response for Venezuelans Coordination Platform for Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants (R4V), an interagency platform led by UNHCR and IOM, estimates the number of Venezuelan migrants and refugees in Caribbean countries to be 201,240 as of May of 2023). Surges in refugee flows can easily overwhelm the limited capacities of these small island developing States (SIDS), often leading to the underreporting of migrant and refugee stocks and flows.

Source: Dietrich Jones, 2021; IOM, 2021; Regional Data Hub, 2023; UN-DESA, 2020; World Bank, 2023a.

Inter-ministerial and vertical coordination mechanisms for data collection and migration policy coherence increase the quantity and quality of the data gathered on international migration, including more gender-disaggregated data (IOM, 2022). Gender-disaggregated data is essential to analyse trends in migration data and their impacts on sustainable development. This study evidenced gender differences in the Caribbean emigrant and immigrant stocks. A greater proportion of Caribbean women emigrated than men. Contrastingly, immigration into the Caribbean exhibits a greater proportion of immigrant men than women, including intra-Caribbean migration (see figures 1 and 2). Such results suggest that social norms in the countries of origin and destination facilitate the migration of one gender more than the other. Gender differences in international migration trends impact the effects of this important global

phenomenon on sustainable development indicators, such as the sending of remittances and changes in the demographic structures of countries of origin. Traditional data sources of international migration should avoid gender-blind approaches, such as sampling the “head of household” or focusing on households as homogenous units rather than individuals and their gender diversity. Migration-related questions in national censuses and surveys should also consider diverse gender identities, moving beyond categorizing an individual’s biological sex. Furthermore, administrative records must be individualized, and records should not be based on the primary applicant alone in order not to omit information on family or group members and their gender composition (Hennerby, Hari and Williams, 2021).

Traditional data sources, such as national surveys and administrative records, help countries collect data on migration stocks. These migration stocks visualized by traditional data sources include movements of people through regular pathways, irregular migration, and trafficked persons. Such data sources also allow the collection of data on indicators measuring the impact of migration. For example, national surveys, such as household surveys and labour force surveys, can include questions on remittance receipts, investments, and entrepreneurial activities to measure the economic impacts of immigration and emigration stocks (Mosler Vidal and Laczko, 2022). Data on these indicators help reduce gaps in remittance inflows and FDI into Caribbean countries (see tables 7 and 9). Moreover, national surveys, and especially labour force surveys, should include questions on the costs of recruiting migrant workers, both tangible and intangible. Identifying obstacles for migrants to secure jobs abroad helps tailor policy interventions for countries seeking to attract foreign labour. For example, Barbados outlined the importance of rejuvenating the labour force through migration to ascertain a sustainable population dynamic that does not endanger the sustainability of its pension and elderly care systems (Barbados Population Commission, 2021).

Non-traditional data sources, such as big data collected from private sector sources and citizen-generated data, offer opportunities and challenges to complement traditional data sources on international migration. Non-traditional data includes information on migration indicators collected from social media, mobile phone records, satellite data, and financial transaction records. Hence, tapping the opportunities big data brings can help NSOs increase data collection of international migration indicators even if financial resources are limited. In addition, non-traditional data help visualize irregular migrants, displaced people, and trafficked persons that traditional migration data sources might not properly cover. However, there are risks to using big data, such as excluding older persons and other populations that do not have access to digital platforms and private sector services, such as mobile or bank services, thus reducing the representativeness of the collected samples. Moreover, the use of big data produced by non-traditional sources raises concerns about data privacy and the necessity to ascertain the informed consent of data producers. Policymakers can reduce the risks of using non-traditional data sources, such as big data, by clarifying the involvement of stakeholders and enacting data protection policies (Sievers and others, 2022).

International cooperation is essential to strengthening the national statistical capacity of Caribbean countries to produce and disseminate quality and disaggregated data on international migration. However, globally, only about 0.33 per cent of official development assistance by 2018 was allocated to statistical capacity-building. About a third of that amount was allocated to demographic and social data, which includes migration data capacity-building (Mosler Vidal and Laczko, 2022). Notwithstanding, Caribbean countries can leverage existing subregional cooperation arrangements, such as the organizational capacities of CARICOM, to promote statistical capacity-building on migration data. Countries can also tap into their own administrative, operational, and non-traditional data sources to build their statistical capacity regarding migration data (McAuliffe and Triandafyllidou, 2021). Such statistical capacity building increases the data available on international migration trends to inform policies and approaches to achieve regular, safe, and orderly international migration that positively impacts sustainable development in the Caribbean.

V. Conclusion

International migration trends in the Caribbean have shifted over time. During the 20th century, linguistic and colonial ties determined migration out of the Caribbean, as Europe was the main destination of Caribbean migrants. By the end of the 20th century, the United States overtook Europe as the main destination of Caribbean emigrants. A shift has also occurred in the emigration patterns of Caribbeans, as more skilled labour than unskilled labour, which previously constituted the bulk of the emigrant stock, migrated (IOM, 2017).

The analyses done in this study have shown that the Caribbean net emigrant stock increased from about 16.6 per cent of the total subregional population in 2000 to about 21.6 per cent in 2020. About 73 per cent of the Caribbean emigrant stock in 2020 resided in North America, while Europe hosted 2.6 per cent of the Caribbean migrant population that year. South America, which hosted 1.1 per cent of the migrant population of the subregion in 2020, is the third main destination of Caribbean migrants. While Caribbean emigration patterns showed more Caribbean women emigrants than men emigrants in the Global North regions of Europe and North America, the reverse holds in other world regions. One explanation for this gender difference in regional destinations of Caribbean emigrants is the higher enrolment of women and girls in tertiary education and their career specialization in areas such as healthcare and teaching, which are in high demand in Global North countries. However, the overall emigrant stock of Caribbean women remains higher than that of men due to the overwhelmingly large emigrant stocks to Global North regions.

The Caribbean immigrant stock increased from approximately 3.3 per cent in 2000 to 3.7 per cent in 2020. The subregional immigrant stock in 2020 was about six times lower than the emigrant stock, which shows that the Caribbean remained a net emigrant subregion. Extra-Caribbean immigration originated primarily from North America and Europe. The immigrant stock from these two Global North regions in the Caribbean decreased from about 1.3 per cent in 2000 to 1 per cent in 2020. Moreover, the immigrant stock from South America increased from 0.3 per cent in 2000 to 0.5 in 2020, mainly due to the Venezuelan migrant exodus after 2015. The immigration stocks from other world regions were minute.

The trends towards higher intra-Caribbean migration have also changed and shaped Caribbean migration patterns in the 21st century. The intra-Caribbean migrant stock increased from about 1.4 per cent of the Caribbean population in 2000 to about 1.9 per cent in 2020. Hence, just over half of

the Caribbean immigrant stock in 2020 came from nationals of the subregion. Subregional cooperation arrangements implemented by the member States of CARICOM and OECS have promoted the cross-border movement of persons and encouraged intra-Caribbean migration. Intra-subregional migration may be even higher than reported in this study, as the data gaps mentioned in the previous chapters on intra-Caribbean migration suggest that this phenomenon might be underreported. Nevertheless, intra-Caribbean migration increased from 2015 to 2020, while the emigrant stock in North America, the main subregion of destination for Caribbean migrants, stagnated. Another plausible explanation for this trend is the implementation of restrictive immigration policies by the United States after 2016, discouraging Caribbean emigration to North America and promoting intra-Caribbean migration as a viable alternative.

Regarding the relationship between international migration and sustainable development in the Caribbean, the net and increasing emigration stock of the subregion promoted remittance inflows into the subregion, with remittances exceeding 10 per cent of GDP in the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, and Haiti (three countries with some of the largest populations in the Caribbean) by 2020. In addition, the transnational social spaces created by international migration can aid in increasing FDI inflows. However, the results do not support a clear correspondence between FDI and net emigration stocks. In addition, five Eastern Caribbean countries have promoted FDI inflows into their countries through CBI programmes that afford increased international mobility to foreign investors. As a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, nine Caribbean countries established digital nomad visa schemes to attract high-earning temporary immigrants who can work remotely in their countries, serving as a source of foreign currency.²¹

Moreover, the demographic trends towards an ageing population in the Caribbean pose challenges to the sustainable development of the subregion, which places pressure on the pension and elderly care systems due to shrinking labour forces. For example, the average dependency rate of children in Caribbean countries fell by about nine percentage points, with 14 countries recording a fall in children dependency rates higher than the average. Similarly, the average dependency rate of older persons in the Caribbean increased by about 3.5 percentage points, with 15 countries recording a higher rate than the average older persons' dependency rate. Hence, net emigration rates can severely strain the pension and social care systems of countries with ageing populations in the decades to come.

The changing demographic structure of the region encourages some Caribbean countries to promote pathways to increase immigration of young workers, rejuvenating the labour force and bringing in new human capital into their countries to harness international migration to promote labour productivity and offset the challenges of the subregion's demographic transition. However, nine of 14 Caribbean countries with stagnant or declining labour productivity also experienced net emigrant stocks from 2015 to 2020. These results suggest that a brain drain is occurring and increasing the mismatch between the labour supply and its demand by industries in Caribbean economies.

Of note, this study does not delve into the design of pathways that encourage immigration flows matching the labour force needs of Caribbean countries, which would inevitably require a lengthy discussion on the reasons motivating people to migrate, the skills they bring, and the matching of these skills to the destination economies. While some people migrate seeking better economic opportunities beyond what is obtainable in their countries of origin, others are motivated by fears of their physical safety and livelihood while paying less regard to the economic opportunities in the destination countries. People migrating due to economic motivations tend to match the labour force needs of the destination countries, which is less so for forced migrants seeking safety (World Bank, 2023a). Due to

²¹ The nine Caribbean countries that offered digital nomad visas were Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Curaçao, Dominica, and Montserrat (see: <https://www.investopedia.com/countries-offering-digital-nomad-visas-5190861>).

the different motivating factors behind people's decision to migrate, discussions on the design of migration pathways must include the need to protect forced migrants and the integration needs of the overall immigrant population (for example, immigrants bringing skills needed in the destination countries but that speak a different language), allowing for increased immigration to rejuvenate ageing labour forces and increased labour productivity in Caribbean countries.

In accordance with global best practices, many Caribbean countries have included UN-recommended questions on international migration in their national censuses and use administrative data to collect information on different indicators of international mobility. Nevertheless, gaps remain in collecting international migration data, especially those related to labour and international university student mobility. Leveraging administrative data, such as border arrival and departure records and work or study permit issuance, is crucial for countries to improve the data base on international migration. Inter-agency coordination and subregional cooperation can help countries leverage administrative data to increase data collection on international migration. Improving data collection on international migration is essential to understanding the relationships between such a global phenomenon and sustainable development in the Caribbean.

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Annexes

Annex 1

Absolute immigrant and emigrant stocks of the Caribbean

Table A1
Total immigrant and emigrant stocks of Caribbean countries, 2000 to 2020

Country	Immigrants					Emigrants				
	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Member country										
Antigua and Barbuda	23 071	24 741	26 412	28 082	29 386	32 782	36 398	41 347	52 189	66 561
Bahamas	36 454	45 531	54 745	59 241	63 583	34 301	34 715	35 990	42 965	53 793
Barbados	28 424	30 624	32 825	34 475	34 869	94 998	92 975	96 193	101 879	99 611
Belize	36 488	41 438	46 390	54 615	62 043	48 211	51 883	57 371	63 099	52 756
Cuba	18 545	11 693	7 373	4 649	3 024	1 047 789	1 160 309	1 314 739	1 505 827	1 757 300
Dominica	3 723	4 744	8 110	8 093	8 284	48 275	64 037	73 583	72 585	78 191
Dominican Republic	355 611	375 417	395 479	549 289	603 794	889 451	1 014 070	1 184 417	1 454 602	1 608 567
Grenada	6 825	6 902	6 980	7 057	7 213	63 791	64 646	63 930	69 055	62 204
Guyana	8 610	10 868	8 182	8 661	31 169	362 157	392 555	439 233	481 258	438 413
Haiti	17 222	16 360	17 182	18 047	18 884	802 218	967 894	1 123 190	1 467 042	1 769 671
Jamaica	24 952	24 284	23 677	23 165	23 629	857 865	905 170	989 790	1 031 596	1 118 931
Saint Kitts and Nevis	5 871	6 682	7 245	7 443	7 725	30 867	33 317	35 795	40 211	50 285
Saint Lucia	9 871	9 839	9 050	8 673	8 338	39 556	46 897	50 318	57 939	71 227
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	4 307	4 436	4 569	4 637	4 738	53 543	55 611	55 435	62 292	55 525
Suriname	27 506	33 662	39 713	43 127	47 801	211 219	248 782	258 715	254 612	273 209
Trinidad and Tobago	41 753	44 812	48 226	50 021	78 849	307 795	322 906	350 517	368 633	330 519
Associate member country										
Anguilla	4 063	4 684	5 103	5 471	5 715	2 508	2 425	2 273	2 553	2 505
Aruba	30 104	32 540	34 328	36 114	53 593	7 662	9 482	13 524	16 621	21 456

Country	Immigrants					Emigrants				
	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Bermuda	17 684	18 108	18 547	19 212	19 739	14 079	14 907	15 313	16 225	21 107
British Virgin Islands	12 958	15 016	17 076	19 535	22 164	3 683	4 008	4 921	5 118	5 355
Cayman Islands	19 176	20 679	24 062	26 193	29 242	1 278	1 290	1 404	1 709	1 908
Curaçao	0	0	34 630	37 611	57 210	3 779	4 618	45 248	6 239	7 611
Guadeloupe	83 188	89 065	94 942	90 956	90 206	7 750	8 911	10 779	11 993	12 542
Martinique	54 492	57 034	59 575	69 174	68 624	14 019	14 340	14 637	12 675	12 963
Montserrat	1 211	1 244	1 291	1 351	1 379	16 132	15 810	17 378	20 136	24 582
Puerto Rico	355 038	352 144	304 969	280 494	247 132	1 600 058	1 640 015	1 731 818	1 715 817	1 850 529
Turks and Caicos Islands	9 015	13 115	17 216	22 723	25 748	740	1 190	2 197	2 454	2 689
United States Virgin Islands	56 611	56 647	56 684	56 721	56 753	3 814	3 638	3 711	3 953	3 908

Source: UN-DESA (2020).

Table A2
Immigrant stocks of Caribbean countries by gender, 2000 to 2020

Country	2000		2005		2010		2015		2020	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Member country										
Antigua and Barbuda	10 316	12 755	11 052	13 689	11 788	14 624	12 524	15 558	13 120	16 266
Bahamas	19 414	17 040	23 613	21 918	27 883	26 862	29 963	29 278	32 161	31 422
Barbados	12 405	16 019	13 575	17 049	14 746	18 079	15 488	18 987	15 668	19 201
Belize	18 631	17 857	21 052	20 386	23 475	22 915	27 473	27 142	31 210	30 833
Cuba	8 212	10 333	5 152	6 541	3 232	4 141	2 027	2 622	1 312	1 712
Dominica	1 955	1 768	2 491	2 253	4 200	3 910	4 215	3 878	4 314	3 970
Dominican Republic	216 008	139 603	227 826	147 591	239 808	155 671	353 448	195 841	382 542	221 252
Grenada	3 386	3 439	3 424	3 478	3 463	3 517	3 502	3 555	3 292	3 921
Guyana	4 611	3 999	5 817	5 051	4 530	3 652	4 794	3 867	14 497	16 672
Haiti	9 572	7 650	9 093	7 267	9 552	7 630	10 036	8 011	10 499	8 385
Jamaica	12 503	12 449	12 248	12 036	12 024	11 653	11 765	11 400	12 008	11 621
Saint Kitts and Nevis	3 068	2 803	3 501	3 181	3 806	3 439	3 916	3 527	4 066	3 659
Saint Lucia	4 960	4 911	4 841	4 998	4 377	4 673	4 179	4 494	4 004	4 334
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	2 099	2 208	2 198	2 238	2 302	2 267	2 355	2 282	2 443	2 295
Suriname	14 938	12 568	18 338	15 324	21 658	18 055	23 544	19 583	26 271	21 530
Trinidad and Tobago	19 288	22 465	20 647	24 165	23 152	25 074	24 464	25 557	39 179	39 670
Associate member country										
Anguilla	1 910	2 153	2 210	2 474	2 415	2 688	2 594	2 877	2 706	3 009
Aruba	13 519	16 585	14 559	17 981	15 312	19 016	16 108	20 006	24 307	29 286
Bermuda	8 540	9 144	8 783	9 325	9 035	9 512	9 421	9 791	9 724	10 015
British Virgin Islands	6 386	6 572	7 401	7 615	8 295	8 781	9 413	10 122	10 681	11 483
Cayman Islands	9 671	9 505	10 515	10 164	12 310	11 752	13 406	12 787	15 017	14 225
Curaçao	0	0	0	0	14 196	20 434	15 467	22 144	24 958	32 252

Country	2000		2005		2010		2015		2020	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Guadeloupe	39 778	43 410	41 273	47 792	42 768	52 174	38 680	52 276	37 914	52 292
Martinique	25 451	29 041	25 891	31 143	26 330	33 245	29 432	39 742	29 199	39 425
Montserrat	622	589	639	605	664	627	696	655	711	668
Puerto Rico	168 480	186 558	166 780	185 364	142 939	162 030	130 916	149 578	114 868	132 264
Turks and Caicos Islands	4 665	4 350	6 787	6 328	8 907	8 309	11 759	10 964	13 325	12 423
United States Virgin Islands	26 730	29 881	26 726	29 921	26 722	29 962	26 728	29 993	26 744	30 009

Source: UN-DESA (2020).

Table A3
Emigrant stocks of Caribbean countries by gender, 2000 to 2020

Country	2000		2005		2010		2015		2020	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Member country										
Antigua and Barbuda	14 856	17 926	16 580	19 818	18 668	22 679	23 792	28 397	29 948	36 613
Bahamas	14 737	19 564	15 043	19 672	15 388	20 602	18 115	24 850	22 329	31 464
Barbados	44 992	50 006	43 951	49 024	45 018	51 175	47 152	54 727	45 906	53 705
Belize	20 421	27 790	22 256	29 627	24 357	33 014	26 615	36 484	22 097	30 659
Cuba	499 590	548 199	553 465	606 844	618 056	696 683	702 390	803 437	822 706	934 594
Dominica	22 384	25 891	28 772	35 265	31 285	42 298	30 442	42 143	32 456	45 735
Dominican Republic	376 036	513 415	430 576	583 494	496 745	687 672	608 480	846 122	664 406	944 161
Grenada	28 883	34 908	28 858	35 788	27 905	36 025	30 025	39 030	27 572	34 632
Guyana	171 419	190 738	185 054	207 501	204 145	235 088	222 385	258 873	201 232	237 181
Haiti	433 429	368 789	515 654	452 240	587 744	535 446	793 349	673 693	964 896	804 775
Jamaica	385 488	472 377	402 827	502 343	427 047	562 743	440 347	591 249	475 022	643 909
Saint Kitts and Nevis	14 309	16 558	15 279	18 038	16 120	19 675	18 114	22 097	22 359	27 926
Saint Lucia	17 671	21 885	20 493	26 404	21 372	28 946	24 201	33 738	29 632	41 595
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	26 215	27 328	26 629	28 982	25 950	29 485	29 062	33 230	25 768	29 757
Suriname	98 738	112 481	115 287	133 495	116 117	142 598	112 784	141 828	120 783	152 426
Trinidad and Tobago	133 408	174 387	139 303	183 603	148 434	202 083	154 574	214 059	137 377	193 142
Associate member country										
Anguilla	1 276	1 232	1 220	1 205	1 159	1 114	1 350	1 203	1 293	1 212
Aruba	3 395	4 267	4 230	5 252	5 880	7 644	7 257	9 364	9 326	12 130
Bermuda	6 962	7 117	7 391	7 516	7 588	7 725	8 007	8 218	10 312	10 795
British Virgin Islands	1 603	2 080	1 776	2 232	2 173	2 748	2 245	2 873	2 343	3 012
Cayman Islands	559	719	590	700	658	746	796	913	863	1 045

Country	2000		2005		2010		2015		2020	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Curaçao	1 885	1 894	2 327	2 291	20 929	24 319	3 141	3 098	3 800	3 811
Guadeloupe	3 235	4 515	3 662	5 249	4 393	6 386	4 674	7 319	4 953	7 589
Martinique	6 498	7 521	6 637	7 703	6 756	7 881	5 516	7 159	5 623	7 340
Montserrat	7 083	9 049	7 090	8 720	7 844	9 534	8 863	11 273	10 680	13 902
Puerto Rico	688 171	911 887	710 802	929 213	737 672	994 146	841 611	874 206	905 682	944 847
Turks and Caicos Islands	345	395	525	665	949	1 248	1 036	1 418	1 136	1 553
United States Virgin Islands	2 181	1 633	2 075	1 563	2 076	1 635	2 206	1 747	2 169	1 739

Source: UN-DESA (2020).

Annex 2

Table A4
Absolute intra-Caribbean immigrant stocks, 2000 to 2020

Host country	Country of origin	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Anguilla ^a	Dominican Republic	486	560	610	653	680
	Guyana	285	328	357	382	397
	Jamaica	346	398	433	464	483
	Montserrat ^a	213	245	266	285	296
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	672	774	843	903	942
	United States Virgin Islands ^a	302	348	379	406	422
Antigua and Barbuda	Bahamas	2	2	2	2	1
	Barbados	248	266	284	302	315
	Bermuda ^a	11	12	13	14	13
	Belize	11	12	13	14	13
	British Virgin Islands ^a	80	86	92	98	100
	Cuba	17	18	19	20	19
	Dominica	3 898	4 180	4 462	4 745	4 963
	Dominican Republic	1 466	1 572	1 678	1 784	1 865
	Grenada	158	170	181	192	199
	Guadeloupe ^a	62	67	71	76	78
	Guyana	5 317	5 702	6 086	6 472	6 811
	Haiti	27	29	31	33	33
	Jamaica	3 278	3 515	3 752	3 990	4 173
	Martinique ^a	4	5	5	5	4
	Montserrat ^a	935	1 003	1 070	1 138	1 189
	Curaçao ^a	16	17	18	19	18
	Aruba ^a	4	5	5	5	4
	Puerto Rico ^a	44	47	50	53	54
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	391	420	448	476	497
	Anguilla ^a	32	35	37	39	39
	Saint Lucia	556	596	636	676	706
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	754	809	863	918	959
	Suriname	37	40	42	45	45
Trinidad and Tobago	591	634	677	720	752	
Turks and Caicos Islands ^a	5	6	6	6	5	
United States Virgin Islands ^a	584	627	669	711	743	
Aruba ^a	Dominica	125	115	103	107	119
	Dominican Republic	3 615	3 903	4 114	4 327	4 839
	Grenada	276	263	246	258	287
	Guyana	297	289	276	289	322

Host country	Country of origin	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Aruba ^a	Haiti	1 000	1 288	1 552	1 632	1 824
	Jamaica	715	719	710	746	833
	Curaçao ^a	1 751	2 063	2 335	2 455	2 745
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	131	120	108	113	126
	Suriname	1 273	1 285	1 272	1 337	1 494
Bahamas	Antigua and Barbuda	8	11	13	14	13
	Barbados	108	164	220	238	253
	Bermuda ^a	13	25	36	39	40
	Belize	13	27	41	44	45
	British Virgin Islands ^a	12	8	3	3	2
	Cayman Islands ^a	9	15	21	23	23
	Cuba	110	240	370	401	429
	Dominica	47	58	69	75	79
	Dominican Republic	84	177	269	291	310
	Grenada	26	28	30	33	34
	Guyana	682	957	1 232	1 335	1 430
	Haiti	20 628	23 047	25 465	27 591	29 629
	Jamaica	3 773	5 349	6 925	7 503	8 042
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	12	22	31	34	35
	Saint Lucia	57	65	72	78	82
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	22	30	37	40	41
	Trinidad and Tobago	321	341	360	390	418
	Turks and Caicos Islands ^a	488	957	1426	1545	1655
Barbados	Antigua and Barbuda	267	225	185	194	194
	Bahamas	64	55	47	49	48
	Bermuda ^a	0	20	27	28	27
	Belize	0	15	21	22	21
	Cuba	0	42	56	58	57
	Dominica	534	426	321	337	339
	Grenada	668	518	371	389	391
	Guyana	3 026	4 640	6 277	6 594	6 667
	Haiti	0	24	32	33	32
	Jamaica	736	839	947	994	1 004
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	0	78	104	109	109
	Saint Lucia	3 924	2 991	2 073	2 177	2 200
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	4 350	3 648	2 964	3 114	3 148
	Suriname	0	33	45	47	46
Trinidad and Tobago	2 070	1 740	1 419	1 490	1 506	
Belize	Haiti	38	42	46	54	60

Host country	Country of origin	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Bermuda ^a	Jamaica	403	412	421	496	561
	Cuba	16	21	26	24	24
	Dominican Republic	11	53	102	128	233
	Guyana	60	75	91	90	95
	Haiti	1 103	595	11	10	3
	Jamaica	980	1 199	1 448	1 537	1 658
	Trinidad and Tobago	163	200	241	218	219
	Turks and Caicos Islands ^a	96	54	4	2	1
British Virgin Islands ^a	Antigua and Barbuda	524	600	676	773	877
	Bahamas	18	21	23	26	29
	Barbados	127	146	164	187	212
	Dominica	836	958	1 098	1 256	1 425
	Dominican Republic	1 010	1 157	1 526	1 745	1 979
	Guyana	1 136	1 301	2 023	2 314	2 625
	Jamaica	368	422	1 697	1 941	2 202
	Montserrat ^a	146	167	188	215	243
	Puerto Rico ^a	44	51	469	536	608
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	2 100	2 405	1 214	1 388	1 574
	Saint Lucia	371	425	461	527	597
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	1 414	1 619	1 968	2 251	2 553
	Trinidad and Tobago	279	320	462	528	599
Cayman Islands ^a	Bahamas	190	172	171	185	205
	Barbados	209	180	169	183	203
	Bermuda ^a	34	31	32	34	37
	Belize	359	326	323	352	392
	Cuba	753	693	695	757	844
	Dominican Republic	68	62	61	66	72
	Grenada	17	16	16	16	17
	Guyana	198	241	308	335	373
	Haiti	19	18	18	18	19
	Jamaica	7 468	8 110	9 472	10 354	11 540
	Curaçao ^a	13	12	12	12	12
	Puerto Rico ^a	49	44	45	48	53
	Saint Lucia	11	10	10	9	10
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	32	29	30	32	34
	Trinidad and Tobago	363	312	289	314	350
Cuba	Dominican Republic	146	87	49	27	14
	Grenada	0	0	0	0	0
	Haiti	1 226	607	284	126	54

Host country	Country of origin	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Cuba	Jamaica	353	218	129	71	38
	Puerto Rico ^a	155	84	44	21	10
Curaçao ^a	Antigua and Barbuda	0	0	51	54	62
	Bahamas	0	0	76	81	94
	Barbados	0	0	177	191	222
	British Virgin Islands ^a	0	0	93	99	115
	Cuba	0	0	216	233	271
	Dominica	0	0	100	107	124
	Dominican Republic	0	0	5 260	5 715	6 665
	Grenada	0	0	3	2	2
	Guadeloupe ^a	0	0	88	94	109
	Guyana	0	0	423	458	533
	Haiti	0	0	1 812	1 968	2 295
	Jamaica	0	0	1 198	1 300	1 516
	Martinique ^a	0	0	30	31	35
	Aruba ^a	0	0	1 573	1 708	1 992
	Puerto Rico ^a	0	0	15	15	17
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	0	0	168	181	210
	Anguilla ^a	0	0	40	42	47
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0	0	269	291	339
	Suriname	0	0	1 723	1 871	2 180
	Trinidad and Tobago	0	0	90	96	112
United States Virgin Islands ^a	0	0	27	28	32	
Dominica	Antigua and Barbuda	290	357	379	442	451
	Bahamas	7	8	10	12	11
	Barbados	95	117	143	167	169
	British Virgin Islands ^a	49	60	73	85	85
	Cuba	7	8	10	12	11
	Guadeloupe ^a	23	27	33	38	37
	Guyana	108	133	163	190	193
	Haiti	873	1 071	3 071	2 453	2 537
	Jamaica	74	91	111	129	130
	Martinique ^a	82	101	123	143	145
	Montserrat ^a	93	114	139	162	164
	Aruba ^a	26	32	40	47	46
	Puerto Rico ^a	10	12	14	16	15
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	36	44	54	63	63
	Anguilla ^a	11	13	16	19	18
	Saint Lucia	161	198	241	281	286
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	72	88	107	125	126	

Host country	Country of origin	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Dominica	Suriname	11	13	16	19	18
	Trinidad and Tobago	175	215	262	306	312
Dominican Republic	Antigua and Barbuda	325	248	171	179	186
	Bahamas	111	74	38	39	40
	Bermuda ^a	11	13	16	15	15
	British Virgin Islands ^a	15	43	72	74	76
	Cuba	8 335	5 999	3 656	3 259	3 402
	Dominica	29	22	15	14	14
	Guadeloupe ^a	118	86	54	55	57
	Guyana	55	39	23	23	23
	Haiti	228 652	270 852	313 363	475 084	496 112
	Jamaica	514	321	127	132	137
	Martinique ^a	62	47	32	32	33
	Aruba ^a	403	278	153	160	167
	Puerto Rico ^a	10 708	8 253	5 789	4 578	4 780
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	93	112	131	137	142
	Anguilla ^a	170	101	33	33	34
	Suriname	126	76	27	27	27
	Trinidad and Tobago	122	72	23	23	23
	Turks and Caicos Islands ^a	4	19	34	34	35
	United States Virgin Islands ^a	576	328	79	82	84
	Grenada	Antigua and Barbuda	35	36	38	38
Bahamas		27	28	30	30	30
Barbados		161	168	176	178	180
British Virgin Islands ^a		13	13	14	14	14
Dominica		67	70	74	74	74
Guyana		308	322	337	341	365
Jamaica		105	109	114	115	117
Montserrat ^a		9	9	10	10	10
Saint Kitts and Nevis		14	14	15	15	15
Saint Lucia		147	154	162	163	165
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		341	357	373	377	398
Trinidad and Tobago		1 980	2 075	2 170	2 196	2 291
United States Virgin Islands ^a		635	665	696	704	658
Guadeloupe ^a	Dominica	5 648	4 932	4 215	4 037	3 997
	Dominican Republic	1 593	1 253	913	874	864
	Guyana	125	153	181	174	170
	Haiti	8 515	11 623	14 731	14 113	13 973
	Martinique ^a	8 167	8 636	9 104	8 722	8 635

Host country	Country of origin	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Guadeloupe ^a	Saint Lucia	274	336	398	381	377
	Suriname	24	30	36	34	33
Guyana	Antigua and Barbuda	10	13	9	9	9
	Bahamas	8	11	8	8	8
	Barbados	216	223	142	150	157
	Dominica	25	31	23	24	25
	Grenada	108	137	102	107	112
	Jamaica	165	209	157	166	174
	Saint Lucia	264	226	116	122	128
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	205	260	195	206	216
	Suriname	2 314	3 117	2 443	2 586	2 714
	Trinidad and Tobago	430	591	468	495	519
Haiti	Cuba	1 084	1 029	1 080	1 133	1 185
	Dominican Republic	2 170	2 061	2 164	2 272	2 377
	Puerto Rico ^a	1 394	1 324	1 390	1 459	1 526
Jamaica	Antigua and Barbuda	165	161	156	153	154
	Bahamas	713	695	677	662	674
	Barbados	575	560	545	533	541
	Belize	7	7	7	7	7
	Cuba	1 928	1 879	1 830	1 791	1 825
	Dominica	148	144	140	137	138
	Grenada	222	216	210	205	207
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	103	101	98	96	97
	Saint Lucia	353	344	335	328	334
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	242	236	229	224	226
	Trinidad and Tobago	2 476	2 413	2 349	2 299	2 343
Martinique ^a	Dominica	374	391	408	473	469
	Dominican Republic	122	128	134	155	153
	Guadeloupe ^a	4 821	5 045	5 270	6 119	6 070
	Haiti	1 562	1 634	1 707	1 982	1 966
	Saint Lucia	1 792	1 876	1 960	2 275	2 256
Montserrat ^a	Antigua and Barbuda	104	107	110	115	116
	Dominica	250	257	265	283	306
	Dominican Republic	22	22	23	24	23
	Guyana	218	224	230	240	244
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	107	110	113	118	119
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	26	28	28	29	28
	Trinidad and Tobago	39	40	42	43	42

Host country	Country of origin	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Puerto Rico ^a	Cuba	19 054	17 039	12 882	13 321	12 637
	Dominica	2 591	2 030	1 215	1 190	513
	Dominican Republic	61 563	66 983	63 981	57 891	46 905
	Guyana	110	86	52	50	21
	Haiti	327	299	235	160	129
	Jamaica	94	73	44	43	18
	Trinidad and Tobago	378	295	176	174	75
	United States Virgin Islands ^a	945	740	443	433	256
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Antigua and Barbuda	319	363	393	404	417
	Bahamas	11	19	21	24	23
	Barbados	79	87	94	96	98
	British Virgin Islands ^a	193	219	237	243	250
	Dominica	158	180	195	200	206
	Grenada	46	52	56	57	58
	Guyana	612	697	756	777	805
	Jamaica	116	128	138	141	144
	Montserrat ^a	339	386	418	430	445
	Saint Lucia	82	93	102	102	104
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	136	152	166	168	173
	Trinidad and Tobago	210	239	259	266	275
United States Virgin Islands ^a	483	550	596	613	634	
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Antigua and Barbuda	55	56	58	58	56
	Barbados	328	339	346	351	355
	Dominica	81	82	84	87	86
	Grenada	408	422	431	439	450
	Guyana	226	236	242	246	249
	Jamaica	119	122	125	126	125
	Curaçao ^a	144	147	150	152	152
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	37	37	39	39	37
	Saint Lucia	224	230	237	240	241
	Trinidad and Tobago	907	935	966	976	1 011
Saint Lucia	Antigua and Barbuda	90	95	94	90	85
	Bahamas	10	11	12	11	9
	Barbados	600	540	440	421	403
	Bermuda ^a	5	4	3	2	0
	Belize	1	1	1	0	0
	British Virgin Islands ^a	4	6	9	8	6
	Cayman Islands ^a	4	7	11	10	8
	Cuba	18	54	87	83	79
	Dominica	177	234	273	261	249

Host country	Country of origin	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Saint Lucia	Dominican Republic	37	40	40	38	35
	Grenada	124	156	176	168	160
	Guadeloupe ^a	34	32	29	27	25
Saint Lucia	Guyana	1 522	1 994	2 274	2 185	2 111
	Haiti	28	28	26	24	22
	Jamaica	144	286	407	390	373
	Martinique ^a	367	345	298	285	272
	Montserrat ^a	25	29	32	30	27
	Curaçao ^a	94	94	87	83	79
	Aruba ^a	14	23	31	29	27
	Puerto Rico ^a	13	11	9	8	6
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	34	37	38	36	33
	Anguilla ^a	29	18	6	5	3
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	336	345	329	315	314
	Suriname	33	29	23	22	20
	Trinidad and Tobago	602	598	549	526	504
	United States Virgin Islands ^a	16	59	99	94	89
Suriname	Guyana	7 802	9 548	11 264	12 232	13 557
Trinidad and Tobago	Barbados	1 573	1 688	1 029	1 066	1 184
	Cuba	40	42	74	157	2 412
	Grenada	11 148	11 973	7 748	8 026	8 913
	Guyana	5 264	5 649	9 490	9 830	10 923
	Jamaica	798	856	1 445	1 497	1 661
	Saint Lucia	976	1 047	850	880	977
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	8 384	8 998	6 207	6 430	7 141
Turks and Caicos Islands ^a	Bahamas	459	346	251	273	307
	Dominican Republic	692	722	1 354	1 756	1 989
	Haiti	5 127	5 652	9 756	13 928	15 787
United States Virgin Islands ^a	Antigua and Barbuda	4 832	4 708	4 585	4 587	4 588
	Barbados	361	364	368	368	367
	British Virgin Islands ^a	2 727	2 594	2 463	2 464	2 464
	Dominica	4 909	5 206	5 505	5 508	5 510
	Dominican Republic	3 194	3 915	4 638	4 641	4 642
	Grenada	578	583	590	590	589
	Haiti	506	574	644	644	643
	Jamaica	352	362	373	373	372
	Montserrat ^a	810	794	780	780	779
	Curaçao ^a	288	282	278	278	278
	Aruba ^a	520	510	501	501	500

Host country	Country of origin	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
United States Virgin Islands ^a	Puerto Rico ^a	4 316	4 190	4 065	4 067	4 067
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	7 054	7 074	7 096	7 100	7 103
	Anguilla ^a	1 103	1 037	972	972	971
	Saint Lucia	3 454	3 438	3 423	3 425	3 425
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	539	528	518	518	517
	Trinidad and Tobago	2 130	1 943	1 758	1 759	1 758

Source: UN-DESA (2020).

^a Associate member country.

Annex 3

Extra-Caribbean emigrants to major destinations

Table A5
Extra-Caribbean emigrant stocks in major destinations, 2000 to 2020

Host country	Country of origin	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Brazil	Bahamas	0	7	16	18	19
	Barbados	0	13	28	33	35
	Belize	0	2	6	6	5
	Cuba	1 346	1 715	2 060	2 427	14 798
	Dominica	0	10	22	25	27
	Dominican Republic	102	207	310	365	1 274
	Grenada	0	13	27	31	32
	Guyana	1 607	1 756	1 881	2 217	2 407
	Haiti	15	35	55	64	32 796
	Jamaica	57	98	138	162	174
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	0	0	31	36	38
	Saint Lucia	0	0	145	170	183
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0	0	30	35	37
	Suriname	233	253	271	319	346
Trinidad and Tobago	0	0	187	220	238	
Canada	Antigua and Barbuda	2 313	2 285	2 400	2 295	2 486
	Bahamas	1 273	1 556	1 525	1 624	1 759
	Barbados	14 862	14 688	15 460	14 008	15 177
	Bermuda ^a	1 912	2 312	2 280	1 833	1 985
	Belize	1 382	1 604	1 705	1 982	2 146
	British Virgin Islands ^a	119	105	95	84	90
	Cayman Islands ^a	89	230	240	268	289
	Cuba	5 269	9 129	13 340	17 740	19 221
	Dominica	2 798	2 818	3 045	2 762	2 991
	Dominican Republic	5 106	6 737	8 450	10 535	11 414
	Grenada	8 890	9 321	10 325	10 202	11 053
	Guadeloupe ^a	347	454	430	511	552
	Guyana	83 357	82 392	87 945	87 142	94 421
	Haiti	53 390	66 504	80 100	92 911	100 672
	Jamaica	120 632	119 447	126 035	137 496	148 982
	Martinique ^a	287	415	490	641	693
	Montserrat ^a	610	591	590	606	655
	Curaçao ^a	371	368	40 015	467	505
	Aruba ^a	600	577	535	571	617
	Puerto Rico ^a	258	328	380	501	541

Host country	Country of origin	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Canada	Saint Kitts and Nevis	2 471	2 192	2 085	2 092	2 265
	Anguilla ^a	139	103	75	64	68
	Saint Lucia	3 214	4 135	4 290	6 057	6 561
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	8 751	10 317	11 495	12 865	13 939
	Suriname	831	835	865	1 043	1 128
	Trinidad and Tobago	64 523	63 760	67 205	64 636	70 035
	Turks and Caicos Islands ^a	10	40	65	59	63
	United States Virgin Islands ^a	35	45	45	89	95
Chile	Cuba	2 984	4 479	5 973	2 051	23 929
	Dominican Republic	271	406	542	821	36 485
	Haiti	45	67	90	39 825	236 912
France	Anguilla ^a	9	123	9	10	9
	Antigua and Barbuda	20	103	56	63	67
	Aruba ^a	10	67	10	11	10
	Bahamas	69	42	42	46	48
	Barbados	45	69	72	79	86
	Belize	7	12	8	9	8
	Bermuda ^a	57	96	107	118	128
	Cuba	2 162	3 744	4 488	4 974	5 466
	Dominica	792	7 416	6 049	6 704	7 368
	Dominican Republic	483	4 454	3 277	3 632	3 992
	Guyana	32	4 226	4 432	4 912	5 398
	Haiti	27 950	67 078	69 806	77 368	85 042
	Jamaica	493	732	486	537	589
	Montserrat ^a	6	18	6	6	5
	Puerto Rico ^a	309	51	48	53	57
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	6	114	3	3	4
	Saint Lucia	165	4 341	4 460	4 942	5 433
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	99	45	27	29	30
	Suriname	284	22 274	22 896	25 376	27 892
	Trinidad and Tobago	286	417	385	427	467
Turks and Caicos Islands ^a	7	1	7	8	7	
United States Virgin Islands ^a	1	23	1	1	0	
French Guiana ^a	Dominica	542	571	599	414	465
	Guadeloupe ^a	2 271	2 140	2 009	2 021	2 271
	Guyana	2 696	2 870	3 044	3 522	3 958
	Haiti	13 157	14 450	15 743	19 651	22 084
	Martinique ^a	4 971	4 685	4 398	2 654	2 982
	Saint Lucia	1 408	1 327	1 246	785	882
	Suriname	15 472	20 487	25 501	23 185	26 064

Host country	Country of origin	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Spain	Bahamas	116	56	53	58	77
	Barbados	72	35	36	43	56
	Belize	66	32	25	34	44
	Cuba	45 738	71 614	103 189	131 134	162 368
	Dominica	634	753	935	966	1 302
	Dominican Republic	36 953	73 049	136 976	156 905	184 832
	Grenada	1 095	527	513	622	839
	Guyana	168	81	108	111	148
	Haiti	704	339	610	723	976
	Jamaica	378	182	262	282	379
	Saint Lucia	81	39	60	45	59
	Suriname	222	107	196	218	291
	Trinidad and Tobago	253	122	182	206	276
United Kingdom	Anguilla ^a	666	568	599	717	807
	Antigua and Barbuda	3 764	3 510	3 705	4 435	5 005
	Aruba ^a	772	659	695	831	936
	Bahamas	1 735	1 716	1 810	2 166	2 442
	Barbados	20 891	18 665	19 706	23 586	26 622
	Belize	1 191	1 191	1 256	1 503	1 694
	Bermuda ^a	2 892	3 350	3 536	4 232	4 775
	British Virgin Islands ^a	334	285	300	358	403
	Cayman Islands ^a	1 043	891	939	1 123	1 266
	Cuba	1 044	1 638	1 728	2 067	2 333
	Dominica	6 517	6 048	6 385	7 641	8 625
	Dominican Republic	504	876	923	1 104	1 246
	Grenada	9 460	8 806	9 296	11 126	12 556
	Guyana	20 182	19 685	20 782	24 874	28 074
	Haiti	154	220	231	276	309
	Jamaica	141 559	141 608	147 673	138 858	128 772
	Montserrat ^a	8 935	7 624	8 048	9 632	10 872
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	6 302	5 610	5 922	7 087	7 998
	Saint Lucia	7 993	8 029	8 476	10 144	11 448
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	6 855	6 704	7 077	8 470	9 558
	Suriname	255	326	343	409	460
	Trinidad and Tobago	20 581	20 689	21 843	26 142	29 508
	Turks and Caicos Islands ^a	126	108	113	134	149
United States Virgin Islands ^a	152	130	136	161	181	
United States	Antigua and Barbuda	18 789	22 450	26 899	31 677	46 037
	Aruba ^a	3 910	4 673	5 598	6 591	9 576
	Bahamas	28 788	29 086	30 286	36 504	46 921

Host country	Country of origin	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
United States	Barbados	53 496	53 672	55 503	58 480	51 738
	Belize	41 170	44 349	48 974	54 147	42 970
	Bermuda ^a	8 591	8 425	8 516	9 068	13 176
	Cuba	894 876	959 480	1 055 229	1 210 674	1 376 211
	Dominica	16 036	25 276	35 534	32 379	36 016
	Dominican Republic	705 139	761 989	843 720	1 086 819	1 167 738
	Grenada	30 015	30 901	32 759	35 652	25 303
	Guyana	216 551	236 839	264 928	299 148	241 573
	Haiti	429 964	491 772	570 290	682 521	705 361
	Jamaica	567 890	611 604	675 237	711 134	792 370
	Montserrat ^a	4 004	4 784	5 732	6 749	9 805
	Saint Kitts and Nevis	11 334	13 543	16 226	19 107	27 765
	Saint Lucia	13 867	16 569	19 852	23 377	33 973
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	20 491	20 921	22 007	25 299	15 175
	Suriname	5 720	9 938	14 573	14 794	21 498
	Trinidad and Tobago	202 410	217 856	240 394	255 967	208 075
Puerto Rico ^a	1 576 432	1 618 157	1 710 665	1 695 637	1 829 251	

Source: UN-DESA (2020).

^a Associate member country.

Table A6
Caribbean emigrant stocks on major destinations of OECD countries, 2000 to 2020

Country of origin	Host country	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Antigua and Barbuda	Canada	13	24	27	51	40
	Chile		0	0	0	
	France	7	3	2	2	2
	Spain	0	0	1	3	
	United Kingdom					
	United States	429	440	384	338	224
Bahamas	Canada	17	14	25	74	110
	Chile		0	0	0	
	France	0	1	5	2	1
	Spain	2	3	2	7	
	United Kingdom	0				
	United States	766	698	611	675	549
Barbados	Canada	128	111	121	140	135
	Chile	1	0	0	0	
	France	4	2	0	11	8
	Spain	2	2	1	4	

Country of origin	Host country	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Barbados	United Kingdom					
	United States	777	846	463	394	228
Belize	Canada	26	37	39	27	50
	Chile		3	1	4	
	France	1	1	1	3	2
	Spain	3	2	3	3	
	United Kingdom					
	United States	757	876	1 022	842	514
Bermuda ^a	Canada	15	0	0	0	
	Chile		0	0	0	
	France	0	0	0	0	
	Spain	0	0	0		
	United Kingdom					
	United States	71	116	72	112	
Cuba	Canada	854	999	961	827	410
	Chile	616	428	313	777	1280
	France	286	289	268	273	238
	Spain	5 373	6 586	6 114	4 853	6 429
	United Kingdom					
	United States	18 960	36 261	33 395	53 576	15 097
Dominica	Canada	71	59	43	28	30
	Chile	1	1	0	0	
	France	275	180	116	95	58
	Spain	118	126	56	85	
	United Kingdom	0				
	United States	95	198	400	411	314
Dominican Republic	Canada	237	297	455	602	395
	Chile	28	141	753	564	668
	France	167	337	482	547	338
	Spain	5 537	12 208	6 907	6 705	5 144
	United Kingdom					
	United States	17 465	27 503	53 337	50 048	29 676
Grenada	Canada	370	283	208	115	50
	Chile		1	0	1	
	France	0	6	2	1	3
	Spain	1	5	1	4	
	United Kingdom					
	United States	655	840	651	528	309
Guyana	Canada	1 274	1 215	953	540	220
	Chile		0	1	0	

Country of origin	Host country	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Guyana	France	141	127	194	162	57
	Spain	4	6	3	3	
	United Kingdom	244				
	United States	5 719	9 317	6 504	5 357	29 56
Haiti	Canada	1 653	1 681	4 730	2 727	990
	Chile	2	12	474	6 363	28 614
	France	1 821	3 182	4 762	3 173	1 560
	Spain	9	38	62	39	
	United Kingdom					
	United States	22 337	14 524	22 394	16 876	9 285
Jamaica	Canada	2 463	1 945	2 321	3 426	2 030
	Chile	1	3	1	2	
	France	19	23	37	68	44
	Spain	4	12	1	8	
	United Kingdom	457			2 000	
	United States	15 949	18 345	19 345	17 406	12 719
Puerto Rico ^a	Canada	5	5	10	0	0
	Chile	1	0	0	1	
	France	0	0	0	0	
	Spain	0	0	0		
	United Kingdom					
United States						
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Canada	14	11	21	23	20
	Chile		0	1	0	
	France	11	3	2	4	5
	Spain	0	0	1	7	
	United Kingdom					
	United States	500	342	340	225	117
Saint Lucia	Canada	103	185	249	437	160
	Chile		0	0	1	
	France	28	110	91	151	66
	Spain	1	2	1	1	
	United Kingdom					
	United States	599	832	875	740	449
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Canada	267	343	434	490	170
	Chile		1	0	0	
	France	2	2	7	1	4
	Spain	2	2	0	1	
	United Kingdom					
	United States	497	625	538	366	172

Country of origin	Host country	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Suriname	Canada	15	15	13	10	10
	Chile		0	1	5	
	France	705	430	598	666	327
	Spain	7	8	1	4	
	United Kingdom					
	United States	256	300	177	106	81
Trinidad and Tobago	Canada	896	857	914	348	295
	Chile	1	4	3	4	
	France	15	8	18	26	13
	Spain	1	9	10	13	
	United Kingdom	515				
	United States	6 635	6 568	5 300	3 161	1 656

Source: OECD (2023).

^a Associate member country.

Annex 4

Table A7
Number and destinations of Caribbean international university students, 2016 to 2020

Country of origin	Country of destination	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Anguilla ^a	Brazil	8	10	6	3	1
	Canada	3	6	6	6	12
	United Kingdom	31	35	44	54	56
	United States	23	17	19		23
Antigua and Barbuda	Cuba	64	56	53	55	57
	France	2	3	2		8
	Morocco	13	2	10	9	9
	United States	266	238	223		199
Aruba ^a	Canada	9	6	6	36	30
	Indonesia	92	92	181		
	United Kingdom	5	5	7	11	7
	United States	95	78	101		81
Bahamas	Canada	537	747	805	1 119	1 161
	Grenada	6	13	11	11	
	South Africa	9	5	5	5	
	United States	2 332	2 514	2 401		2 736
Barbados	Australia	8				
	Cuba	9	13	13	13	11
	France	5		7	3	5
	Grenada	6	11	14		
	Trinidad and Tobago				132	
	United States	341	349	331		291
Belize	Canada	87	102	113	144	141
	Cuba	51	54	55	47	53
	El Salvador	8	4	4	6	
	Republic of Korea	6	5	4	3	3
	United Arab Emirates	8				
	United States	330	368	377		404
Bermuda ^a	Ireland	5	7	3	4	2
	Saudi Arabia	492	469	438		
	United Kingdom	404	425	461	533	509
	United States	364	369	342		273
British Virgin Islands ^a	Hong Kong	7				
	Grenada	6	5	6	6	
	Thailand	5				
	United States	112	88	82		94

Country of origin	Country of destination	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Cayman Islands ^a	Canada	39	51	56	45	54
	Ireland	6	5	4	4	2
	United Kingdom	235	250	277	329	379
	United States	199	198	206		156
Cuba	Belgium	56	20	20	20	26
	Canada	51	75	78	72	93
	Chile	83	77	83	200	256
	Colombia	45	65		64	61
	Czechia	6	5	6	6	4
	El Salvador	5	3	2	3	
	Finland	6	7	4	6	5
	Germany	95	106	124	129	188
	Honduras	7	6	6	5	
	Japan	9	9	14	11	
	New Zealand	6	5	2	2	3
	Norway	8	14	9	8	6
	Panama					68
	Portugal	31	36	39	40	56
	Romania	9	6	3	6	12
	Russian Federation	30	26	15	20	
	South Africa	15	13	13	13	12
	Spain	310	611	412	510	662
	Sweden	7	6	9	18	13
	United Kingdom	30	20	25	24	22
United States	159	123	157		142	
Dominica	Brazil	7	3	3	7	7
	British Virgin Islands	7				
	Ecuador	7		5	3	3
	France	45	44	30		
	Grenada	6	8	9		
	Italy	7	4	9		27
	Jordan	5	3	2	4	2
	Spain	6	13	12	20	17
	United Arab Emirates	27				
	United Kingdom	18	17	14	24	43
	United States	270	290	439		646
Dominican Republic	Australia	8	4			
	Austria	8	6	6	9	6
	Belgium	5	8	4	10	16
	Brazil	50	45	45	48	53

Country of origin	Country of destination	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Dominican Republic	British Virgin Islands	9				
	Canada	69	93	98	135	162
	Colombia	44	49	32	60	42
	Cuba	59	40	21	7	2
	Czechia	5	7	7	7	6
	El Salvador	9	8	13	4	
	Germany	45	51	69	68	82
	Honduras	42	47	41	36	
	Netherlands	7	14	9	5	
	Portugal	5	6	9	8	11
	Spain	1 034	1 798	1 637	1 638	1 510
	Sweden	9	9	5	4	2
	Switzerland	16	11	11	17	19
	Türkiye	5	6	6	7	6
	United Kingdom	101	175	189	133	119
United States	1 616	1 418	1 488		1 406	
Grenada	France	5	3	1	11	6
	Serbia	8	8	6	5	4
	United Kingdom	27	34	28	25	42
	United States	191	205	178		140
Haiti	Argentina	496		619	782	
	Aruba	6				
	Belgium	53	48	45	41	60
	Chile	50	41	137	237	544
	Côte d'Ivoire	9	8		7	11
	Dominican Republic	6 177	5 918			
	Ecuador	40		49	39	26
	France	1 181	1 124	1 150	1 444	1 685
	Grenada	7	5	7		
	Japan	8	9	10	6	
	Morocco	65	83	102	103	118
	Republic of Korea	5	8	8	4	4
	Thailand	96				4
	Türkiye	53	57	48	42	51
	United Kingdom	9	5	4	10	14
United States	1 018	997	1 013		1 066	
Jamaica	Aruba	6				
	Belgium	5	2	5	4	3
	Canada	720	1 077	1 152	1 218	1 527
	Cuba	72	39	42	45	62

Country of origin	Country of destination	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Jamaica	Finland	5	6	5	4	4
	France	45	42	40	30	39
	Italy	9	8	8	6	5
	Japan	6	11	15	17	
	Malaysia	6	3		4	4
	Russian Federation	8	34	36	31	
	Serbia	7	5	6	5	5
	South Africa	6	5	5	6	8
	Spain	6	13	12	6	8
	Trinidad and Tobago				179	
	Ukraine	9	12	13	15	22
	United Arab Emirates	5				
	United Kingdom	208	237	212	188	239
	United States	2 699	2 937	3 005		3 016
Montserrat ^a	United Kingdom	10	21	16	16	23
	United States	5	3	4		5
Saint Kitts and Nevis	British Virgin Islands	5				
	Canada	39	39	37	45	48
	Cuba	29	31	32	32	28
	Grenada	7	7	7	7	
	Saint Lucia	10	8			9
	Trinidad and Tobago				33	
	Türkiye	1	4	8	11	14
	United Arab Emirates	41				
	United Kingdom	19	23	25	26	27
	United States	256	246	228		231
Saint Lucia	Canada	99	93	97	111	108
	Cuba	47	39	40	45	55
	Grenada	8	7	7		
	France	29	31	25	27	24
	Saudi Arabia	12	12	12		
	United Kingdom	58	68	100	65	76
	United States	244	237	221		207
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Canada	33	27	33	39	33
	Cuba	44	40	43	46	46
	France	6	2	2		2
	Grenada	10	7	10		
	Saint Lucia	14	9			11
	Trinidad and Tobago				148	

Country of origin	Country of destination	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	United Kingdom	33	39	31	34	34
	United States	94	91	87		101
Trinidad and Tobago	Brazil	5	5	8	5	4
	Canada	354	363	391	450	558
	Cuba	11	15	14	19	14
	France	21	36	29	20	29
	Germany	15	19	36	43	64
	Grenada	298	238	212		
	Ireland	71	78	71	87	90
	Italy	5	5	9	10	6
	Netherlands	13	18	13	11	
	New Zealand	7	6	7	5	4
	South Africa	8	5	5	6	4
	Thailand	10				12
	United Arab Emirates	9				
	United Kingdom	647	618	622	540	570
	United States	1 483	1 376	1 318		1 294
	Turks and Caicos Islands ^a	Canada	12	12	18	24
United Kingdom		92	107	110	99	99
United States		56	56	43		44

Source: UNESCO (2023).

^a Associate member country.



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