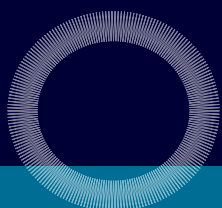


Consolidated Data on Immigration in Brazil 2021

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OBMigra

2022



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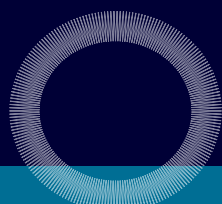
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Introduction

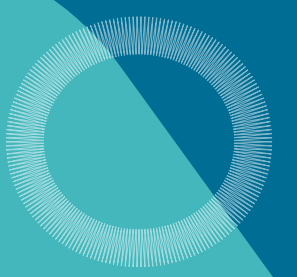
The purpose of this report is to provide a statistical overview of the Brazilian migration phenomenon in 2021. It was based on a set of data from official sources of the Federal Government that allows the analysis of migration in the first year of the current decade (2021-2030). The information presented in this document come from the databases of the International Migration Observatory (OBMigra), which are part of the current technical cooperation agreement between federal government agencies¹. Among the databases are those from the General Coordination of Labor Migration (CGIL); National Migration Registry System (SisMigra); International Movement Tracking System (STI); International Movement Tracking System- Warning and Restrictive Measures (STI-MAR), and the General Registry of Employed and Unemployed people (CAGED). In addition to the databases derived from the Technical Cooperation Agreement, we also used as primary sources two official databases: the school census carried out by Inep (National Institute of Educational Studies and Research Anísio Teixeira), which had already been examined in the 2020 and 2021 annual reports of OBMigra, and allowed the evaluation of school access by migrants.

In an unprecedented step, we studied data from the Central Bank of Brazil – Statistics Department, which contributed to analyzing the personal remittances, foreign remittances, which are relevant variables for the study of modern migration.

The report recapitulates other timelier publications elaborated by OBMigra throughout 2021, namely the Monthly, Quarterly, and Periodical reports, all of which were published on the Immigration Portal and whose microdata can be accessed on the website (<https://portaldeimigracao.mj.gov.br/pt/inicio>). Only the data on school access and remittances do not constitute the seasonable publications of OBMigra.

2021 was still a year affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, which influenced our personal, institutional and professional lives. Migration was no different. In fact, it was one of the social phenomena most affected by the pandemic. Therefore, the data must also be interpreted within the pandemic context that characterized 2021.

¹ Current technical cooperation agreement, whose object is the standardization, collection, analysis, and dissemination of systems, data, and information about international migration and asylum in Brazil, concluded between the Ministry of Justice and Public Security, the University of Brasilia, the Ministry of Labor, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics and the Federal Police.



The highlights and data available in this publication show the increase and the dispersion of migrants in different Brazilian regions, whose numbers amounted to 1.4 million between 2011 and 2021, combining the number of asylum seekers and refugees. In total, 186.4 thousand migrants entered the labor market in December 2021. This population is a diverse one, with different geographical, social, and cultural origins. In 2021, Venezuelans and Haitians still were the top two origin groups of migrants in Brazil, both in terms of registrations for residence permits, and in the formal labor market. For the first time, Venezuelans exceeded the number of Haitians as the first group of migrants in the formal labor market. Thus, besides being the main group of registered migrants in Brazil, Venezuelans became the largest group in the formal labor market in 2021, surpassing Haitians.

Throughout the document, we have summarized the most important aspects of the Brazilian migration phenomenon in 2021.

We provided detailed information about migrants in Brazil, concerning their sociodemographic profile, main migration flows, geographical origins, status in the formal labor market, investments made by immigrants, educational inclusion, and foreign remittance as well as other issues. Thus, the document provides an overview of immigration issues in Brazil and a short and didactic recapitulation of the most seasonable publications of the International Migration Observatory (OBMigra) in 2021.

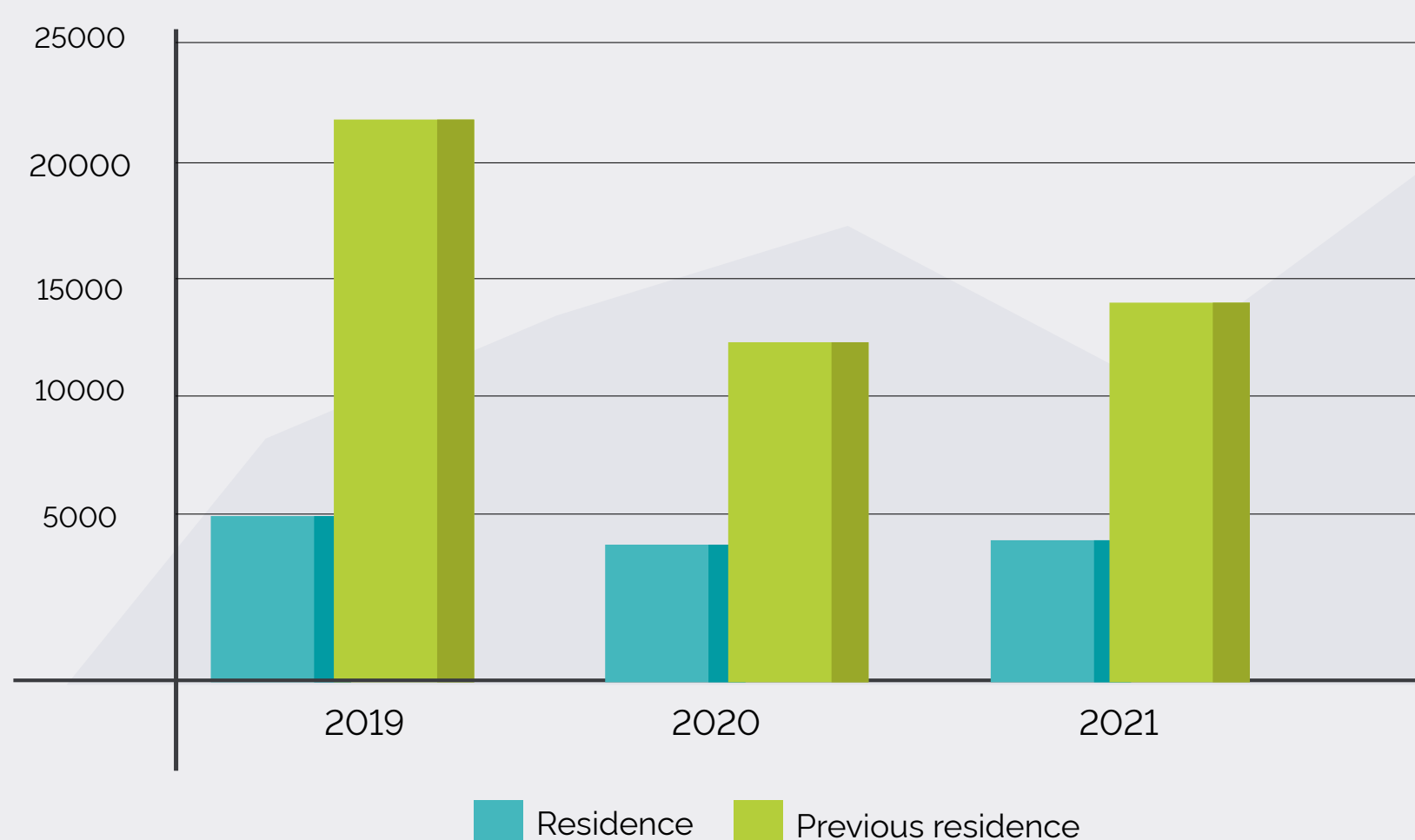
Number of permits granted for work and investment purposes

The number of permits granted for work and investment purposes (22,719), increased slightly in 2021 compared to the previous year (20,730),

but was still lower than that observed before the COVID-19 pandemic (31,298), as can be seen in Figure 1.

Figure 1

Number of permits granted, by type of permit - Brazil, 2019 - 2021.



Source: Prepared by OBMigra from data collected by General Coordination of Labor Migration the Ministry of Justice and Public Security, 2019 - 2021.

The profile of the immigrant workers who benefited from permits has not changed. They are predominantly men (91.4%), Filipinos, Chinese, and Americans, aged between 20 and 49 years old (77.2%), with at least a higher education degree (69.8%), who worked in occupations that required a high school diploma, and in the sciences and arts fields (67.9%) and worked in the Brazilian states of Rio de Janeiro (49.6%) and Sao Paulo (29.3%).

Regarding the skilled workforce, 51.4% benefited from Normative Resolution No 02/2017 (workers with employment relationship) and were mostly Chinese (22.5%). 82.3% held management positions (directors or managers) and worked in Sao Paulo (54.3%).

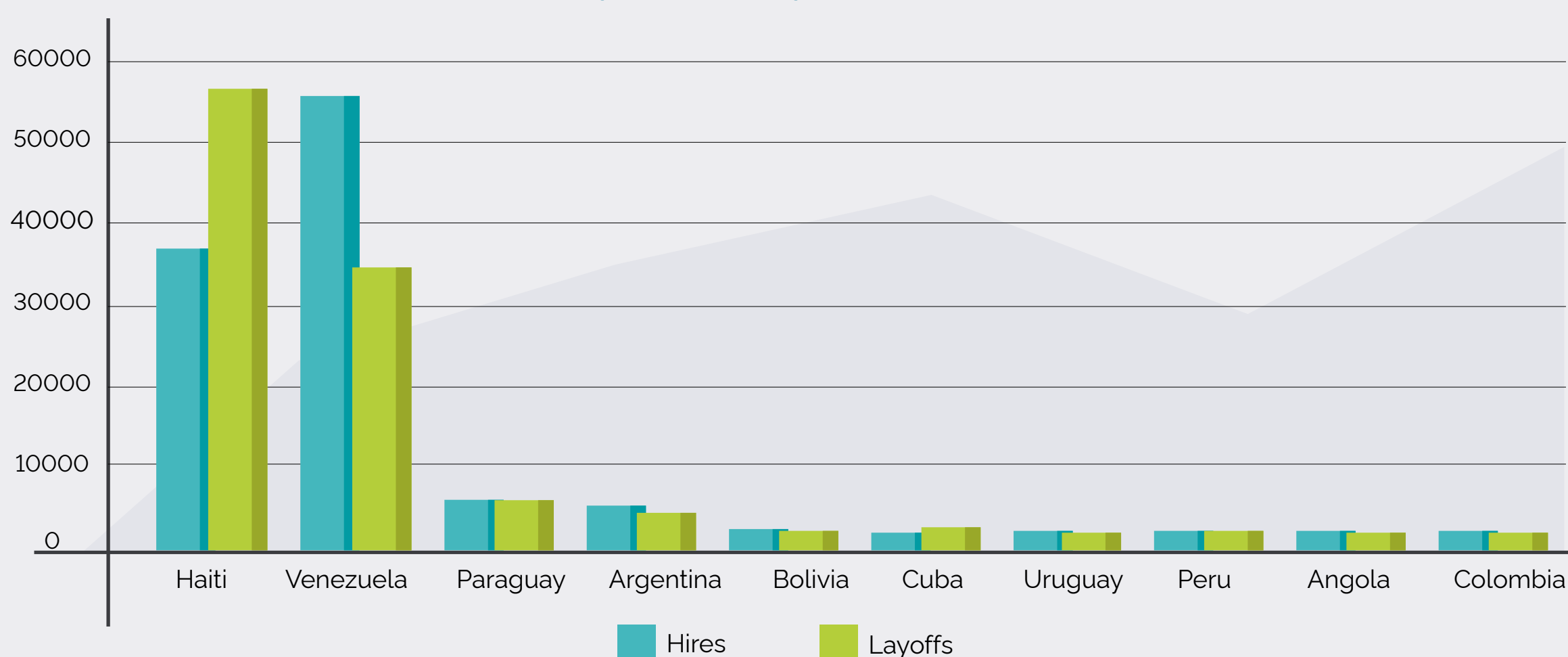
Movement of immigrant workers in the formal labor market

In 2021, Venezuelan workers exceeded the number of Haitians as the first group of migrants in the formal labor market. This is a result of greater hirings of Venezuelans as well as of larger numbers of layoffs among Haitian employees.

Another important fact is that the 10 top origin groups come from the Southern Hemisphere (Figure 2).

Figure 2

Movement of immigrant workers in the formal labor market, by top country - Brazil, 2021.

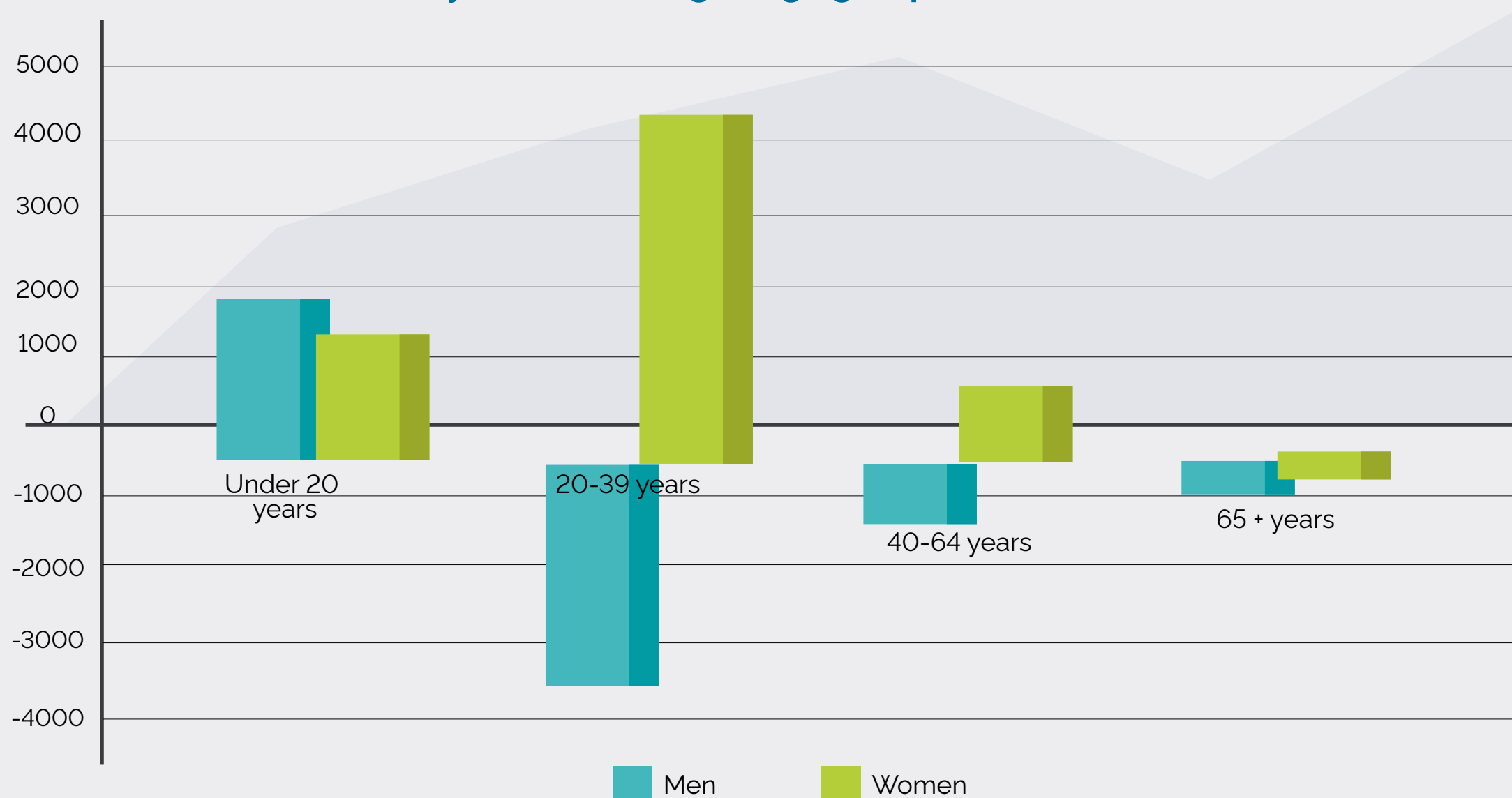


Source: Prepared by OBMigra from data collected the Ministry of Labor and Social Security, Rais-CTPS, 2019 - 2021.

Despite being a minority in the formal labor market, female workers aged between 20 and 39 years benefited from an increase in job vacancies in 2021 (Figure 3).

Figure 3

Movement of immigrant workers in the formal labor market by sex, according to age groups - Brazil, 2021.



Source: Prepared by OBMigra from data collected by the Ministry of Labor and Social Security, Rais-CTPS, 2019 - 2021.

Regarding the profile of the migrant workforce, there is a greater prevalence of men (69.5%), aged between 20 and 39 years (73.4%), with high school diploma (55.9%),

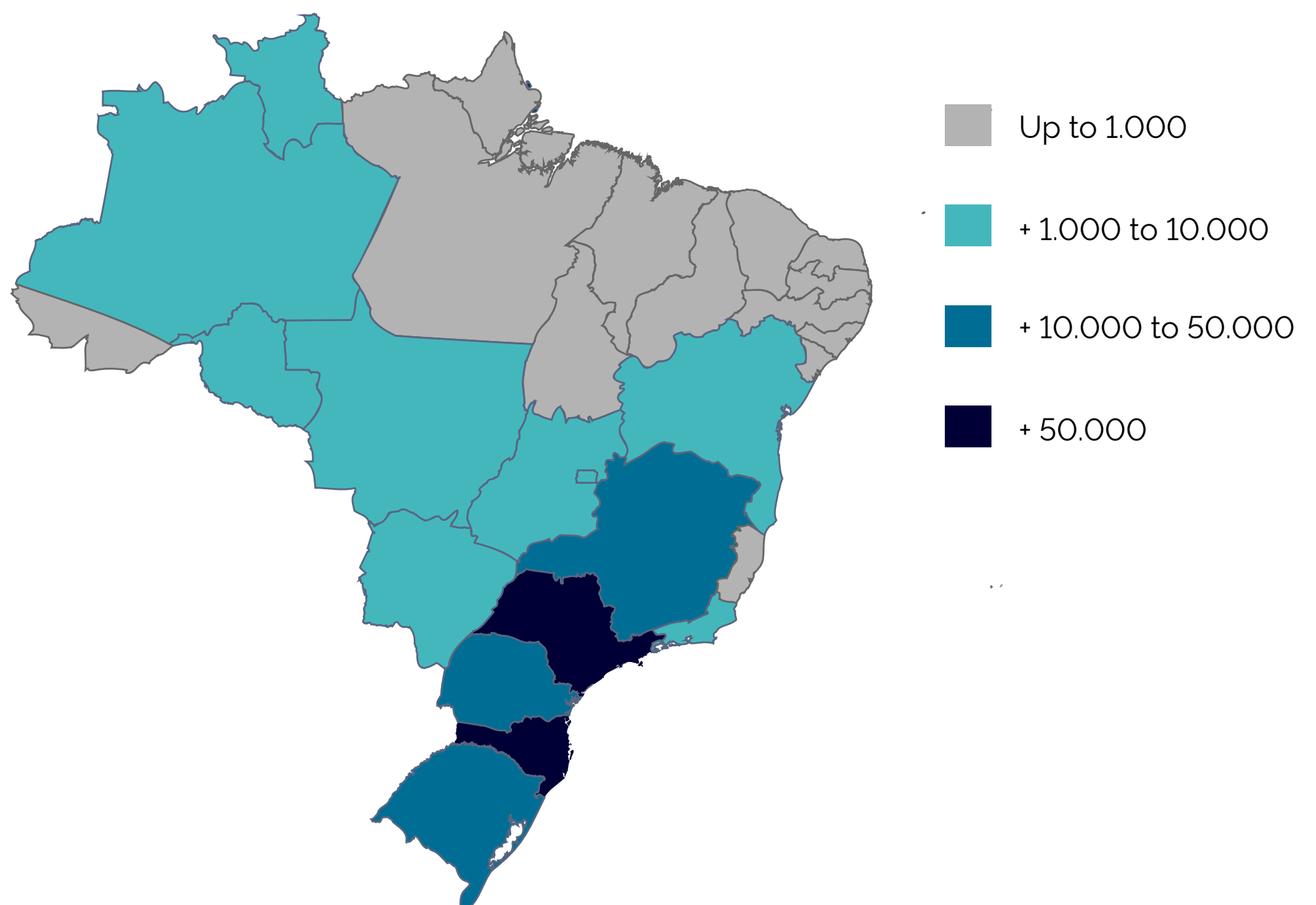
working as feeders in the production line (13.5%), whose main economic activity is animal slaughter (7.9%).

Most of these workers were employed in the Southern states of Brazil (53.4%), as can be seen in Map 1.

However, Sao Paulo was the workplace of most of these immigrants (11.6%).

Map 1

Migrant workers in the formal labor market, by region - Brazil, 2021.



Source: Prepared by OBMigra, from the data of the Ministry of Labor and Social Security, Rais-CTPS, 2019 - 2021.

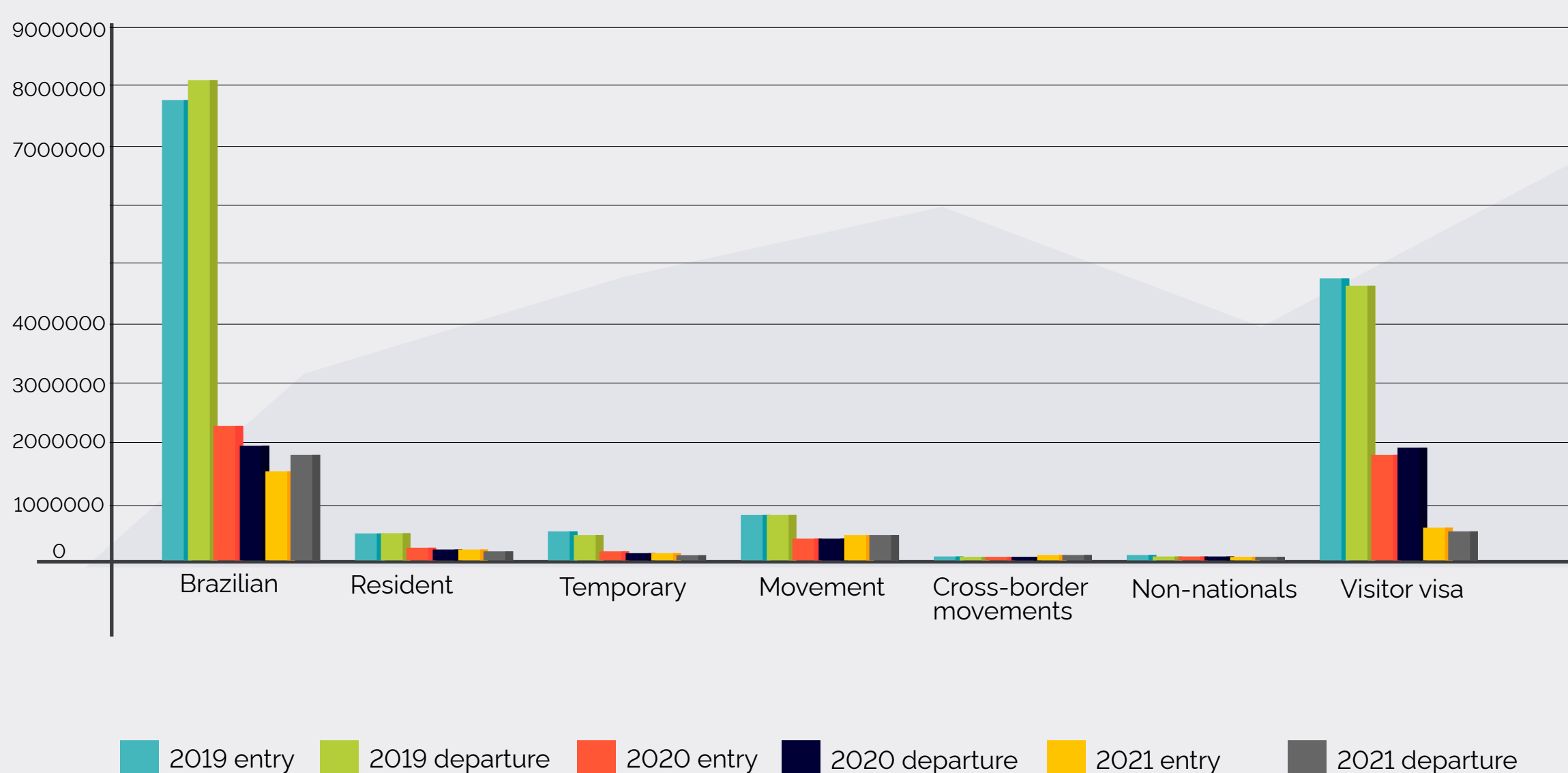
Movement of people through border checkpoints

The Covid-19 health crisis significantly impacted the international movement of people, due to border restrictions and the contamination risk. In 2020 and 2021, the number of people crossing Brazilian borders decreased. The 2021 migration movement corresponded to only 20.4% of that registered in 2019, that is, 6.0 million against 29.6 million.

As shown in Figure 4, in 2020, there was a greater return of Brazilians and migrants residing in the country, and at the same time higher departure of tourists. In 2021, with the lifting of restriction measures, the emigration of Brazilians exceeds the returning rates, resuming a trend observed in the past years. Among tourists, there was a positive variation.

Figure 4

Migration moves in the Brazilian territory, by year, according to type of movement Brazil, 2019 - 2021.

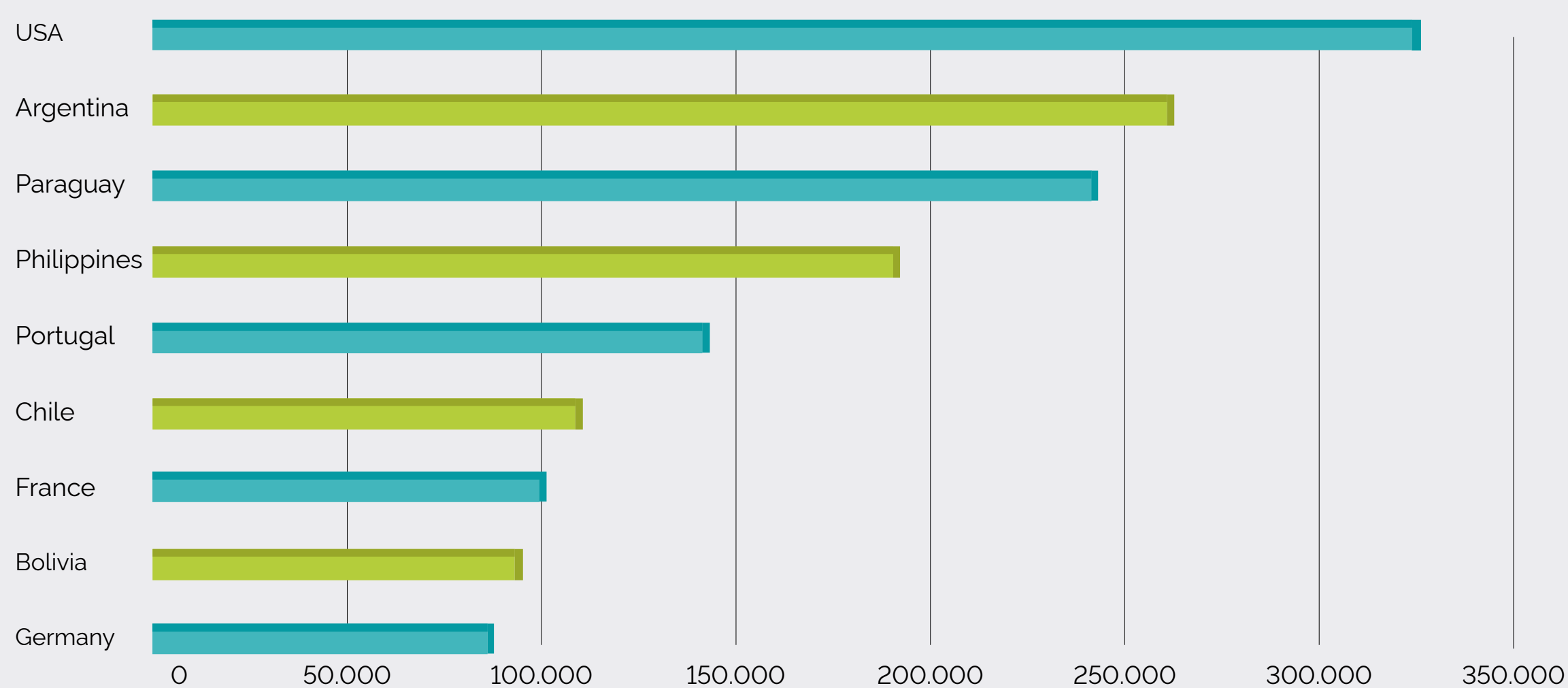


Source: Prepared by OBMigra, from the data of the Federal Police - International Movement Tracking System, 2019 - 2021.

In relation to the main nationality groups that crossed Brazilian border checkpoints, Americans, Argentines, and Paraguayans make up the largest group (Figure 5).

Figure 5

Numbers of movement in border checkpoints, by top countries - Brazil, 2021.



Source: Prepared by OBMigra, from the data of the Federal Police - International Movement Tracking System, 2019 - 2021.

Residence registration

In 2021, the number of residence registrations increased again, chiefly after the opening of a land border in Pacaraima, in the Brazilian state of Roraima, at the end of June. Nonetheless, the numbers were lower than those registered prior to the pandemic.

There was a slight increase in the number of resident registrations in 2021 (20,485) compared to 2019 (19,529), as observed in Figure 6.

Figure 6

Number of registry of migrants, by year, according to type of registry - Brazil, 2019 - 2021.



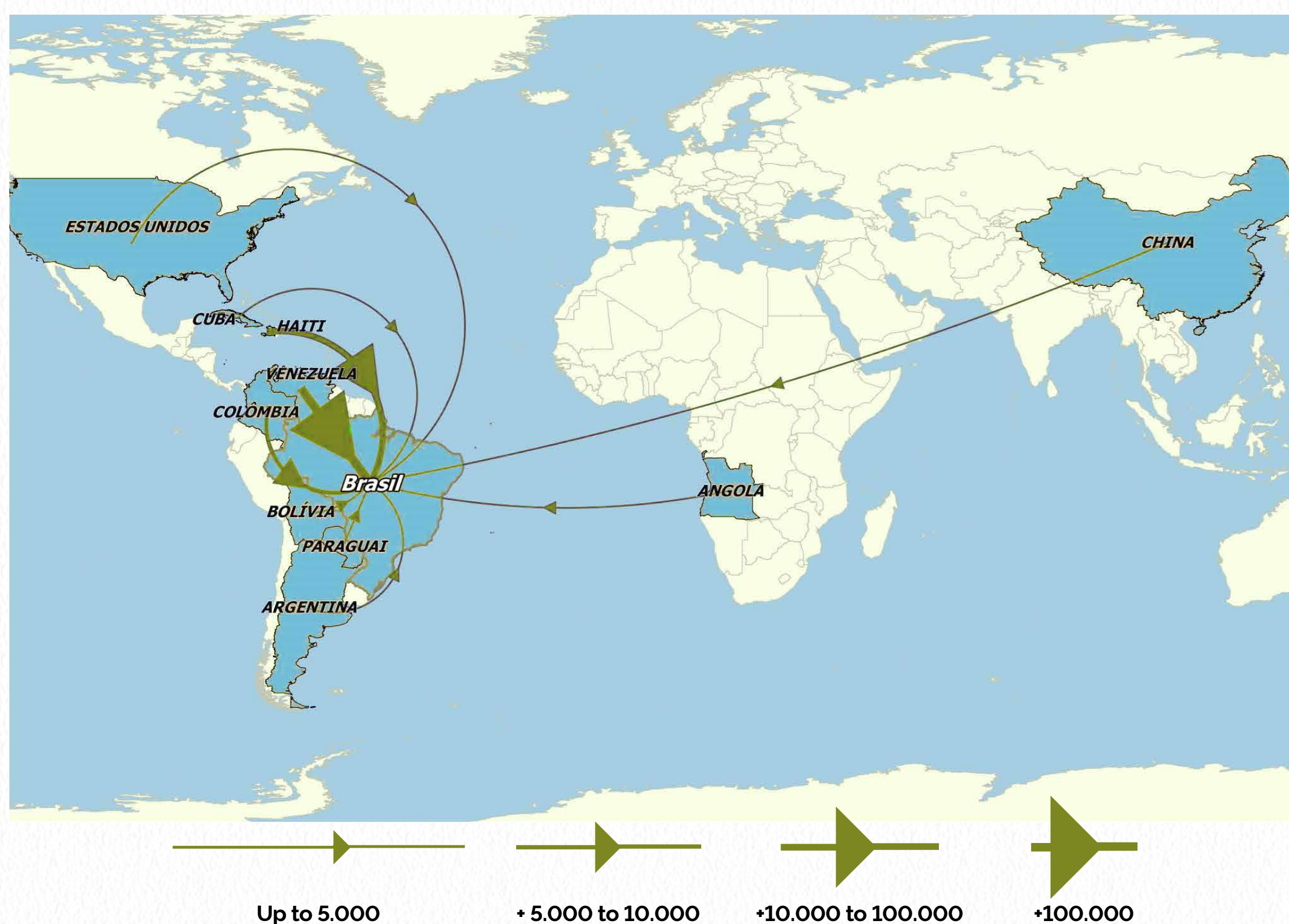
Source: Prepared by OBMigra, from the data of the Federal Police - International Movement Tracking System, 2019 - 2021.

Most of the applicants were Venezuelans, Haitians, Colombians, Argentines, and Paraguayans. Among the top ten countries, the United States of America is the only country

from the Global North, which reinforces a perceived change in the prevailing migration trends toward Brazil (Map 2).

Map 2

Number of migrant registrations, by country - Brazil, 2021.

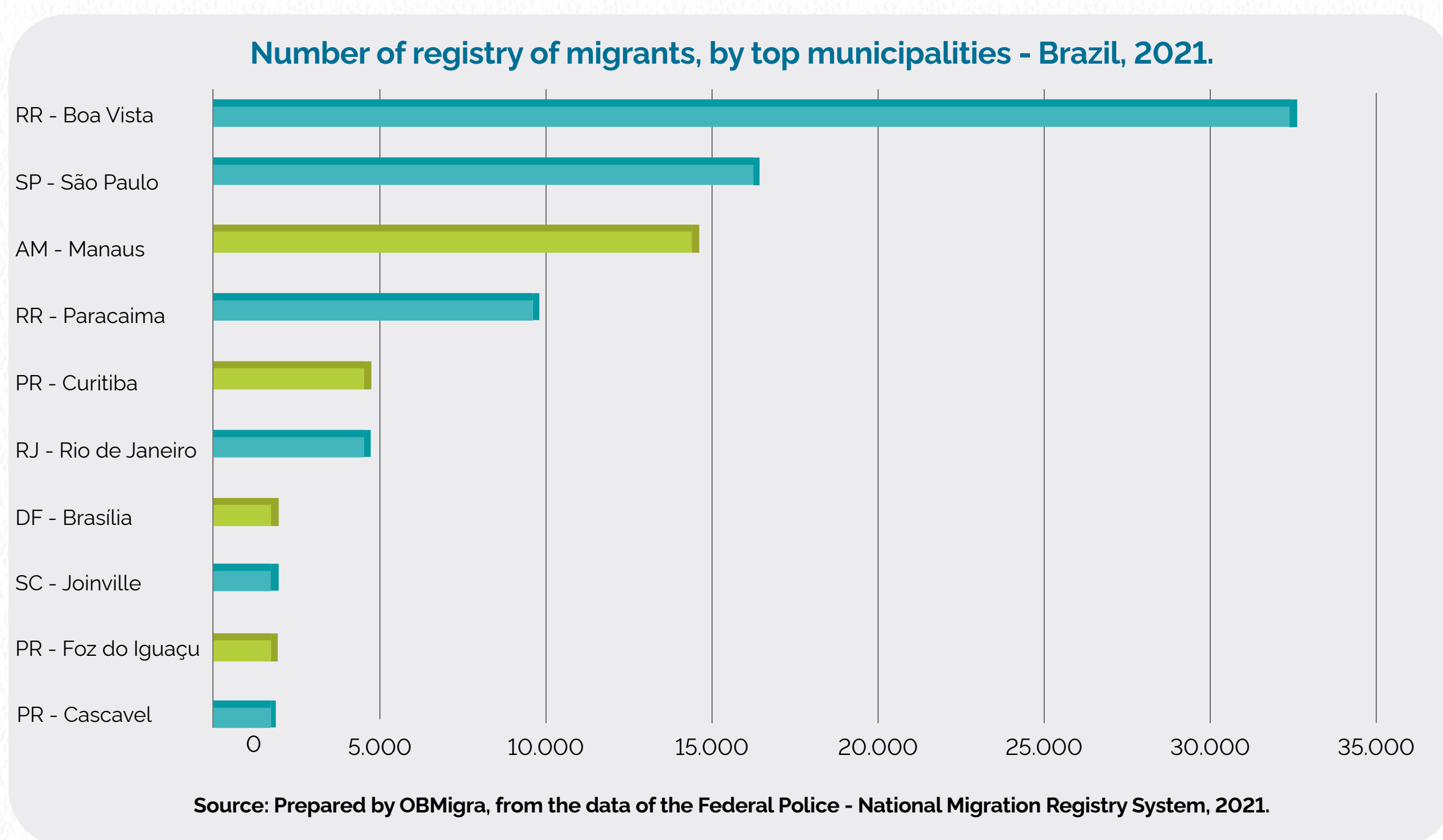


Source: Prepared by OBMigra, from the data collected by the Federal Police, National Migration Registry System (SISMIGRA), 2019 - 2021.

Resident registries are made up mostly of temporary resident permits; from men (55,3%) aged between 15 and 39 years old (52,4%). However, it is worth noting the presence of children and adolescents (21,0%) from the Global South granted humanitarian aid under the terms of MERCOSUR Residence Agreement.

As for spatial distribution, these immigrants were mainly in the Northern region (38,6%), especially in the state of Roraima (26,9%); the Southern region (25,4%); and the Southeast region (24,4%), mainly in the state of Sao Paulo (17,2%). Cities such as Boa Vista, Sao Paulo, Manaus and Pacaraima held the largest populations of immigrants (Figure 7).

Figure 7



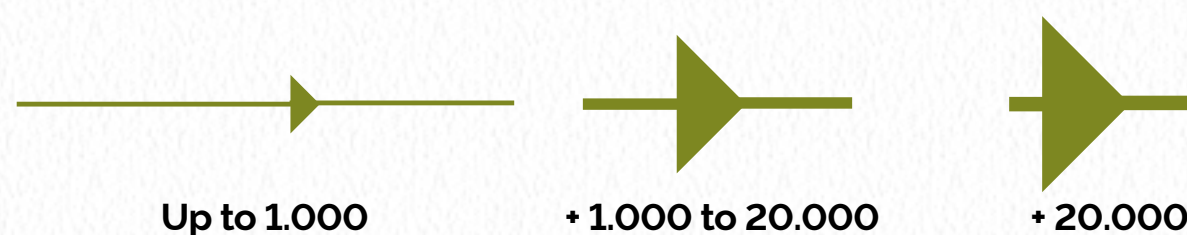
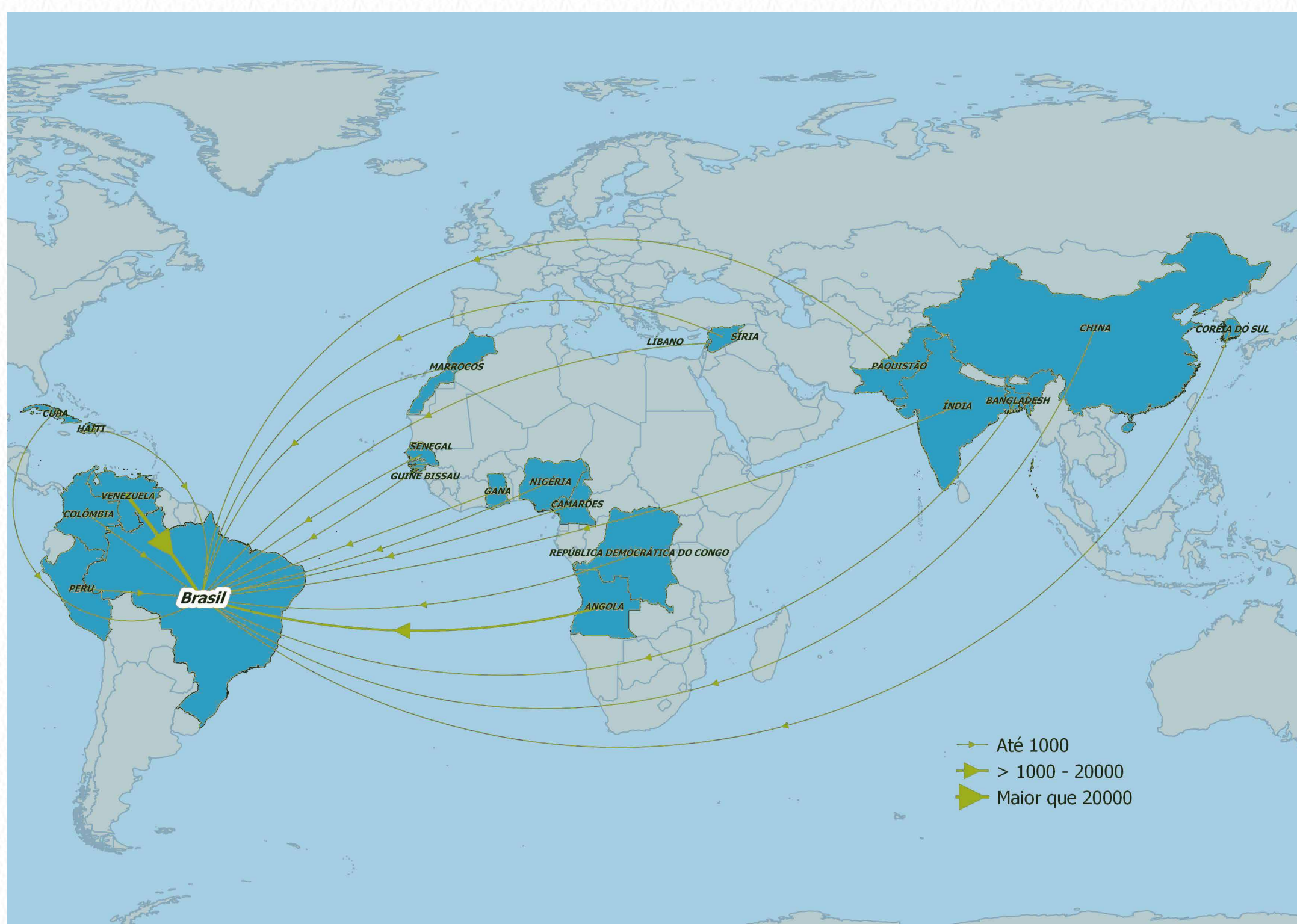
Asylum claims

The health crisis strongly affected the mobility of asylum seekers. Despite the slight increase, the number of asylum applications in 2021 accounted for only 35.3% of that registered in 2019.

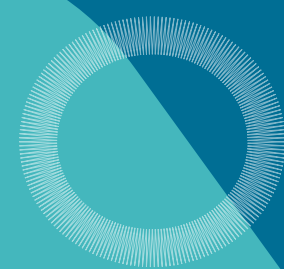
As for the main origin groups, besides the larger number of claims from Venezuelans, applications from Angolans exceeded those from Haitians and Cubans (Map 3).

Map 3

Number of asylum claims, by top countries - Brazil, 2021.



Source: Prepared by OBMigra, from data collected by Federal Police, STI-MAR, 2019 - 2021.

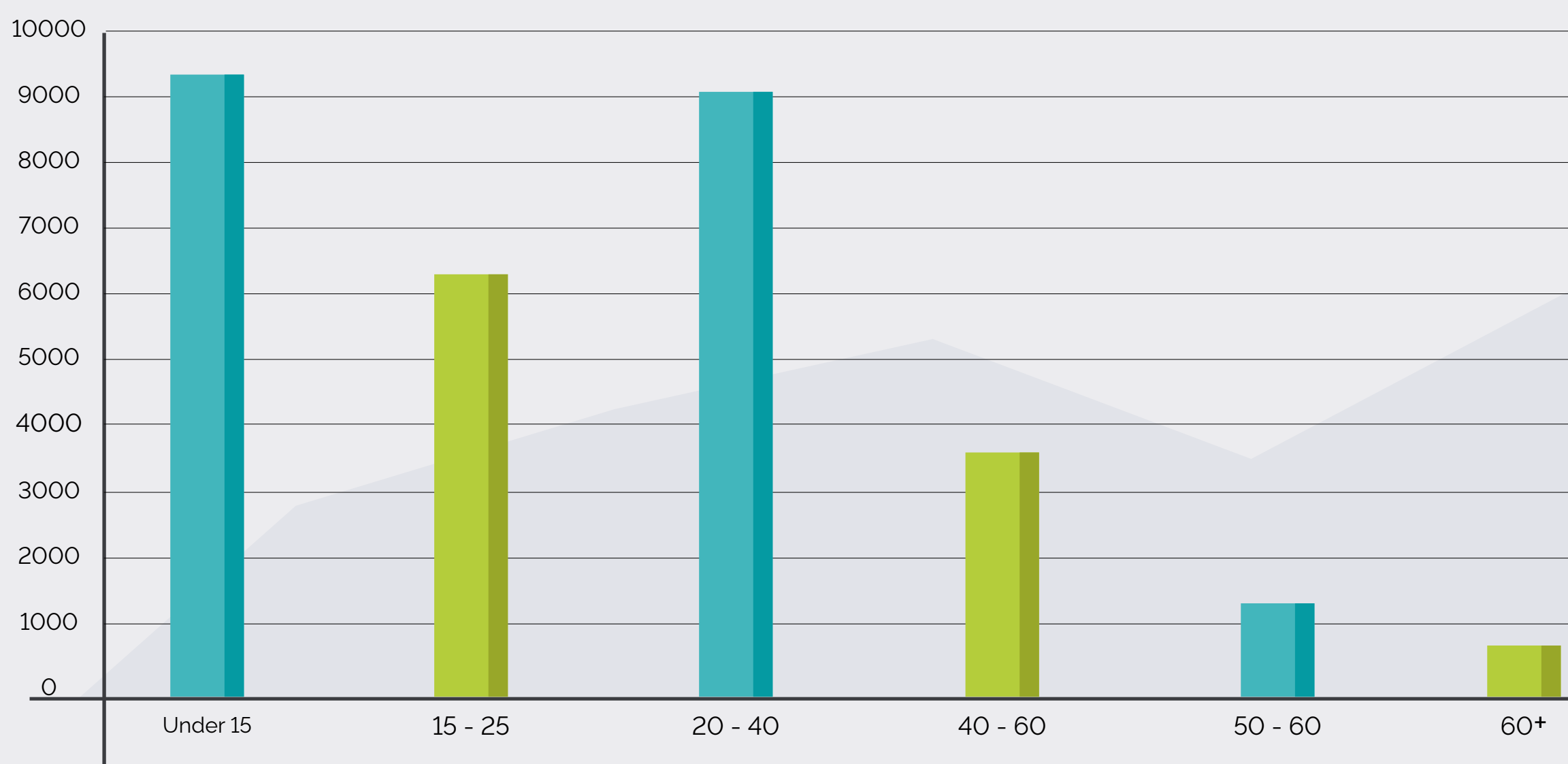


An important fact to which migration policymakers will have to pay attention is related to the significant increase in the number of children and adolescents among asylum

seekers, which equaled to those of applicants aged between 25 and 39 years, hitherto the prevailing age group (Figure 8).

Figure 8

Number of Asylum claims, by age groups - Brazil, 2021.



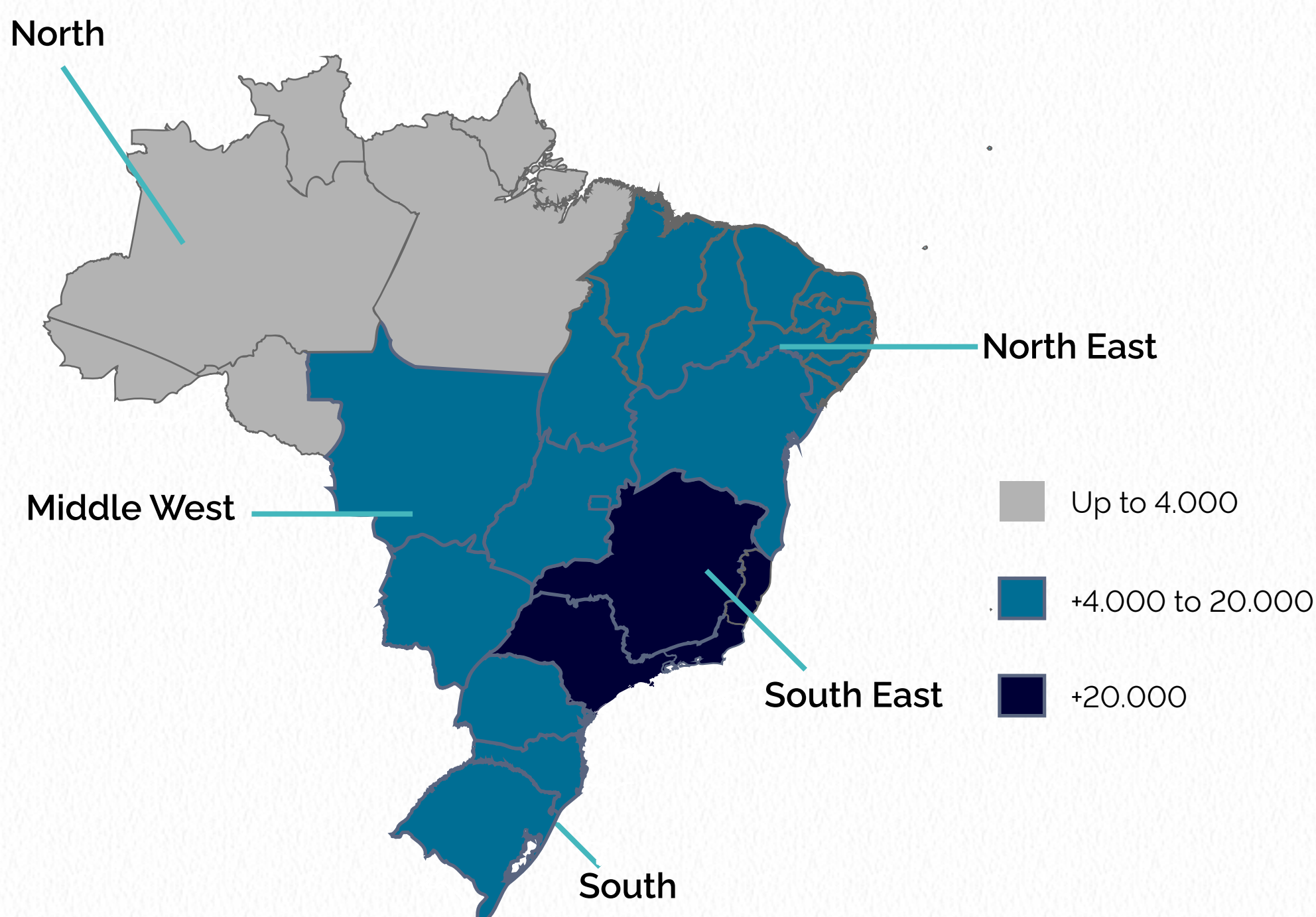
Source: Prepared by OBMigra, from the data of the Federal Police - International Movement Tracking System, 2019 - 2021.

As for the spatial distribution, map 4 indicates that most of the claims were lodged in the Northern region (80.7%), especially in the state of

Roraima (72.9%), and the Southeast region, especially in the state of Sao Paulo (16.2%).

Map 4

Number of asylum claims, by region - Brazil, 2021.



Source: Prepared by OBMigra, from data collected by Federal Police - International Movement Tracking System, 2019 to 2021.

Taking the places where the claims were lodged separately, cities like Pacaraima - in Roraima, (20,185); Guarulhos - in Sao Paulo (4,085), and Assis Brasil - in Acre (1,678) stand out

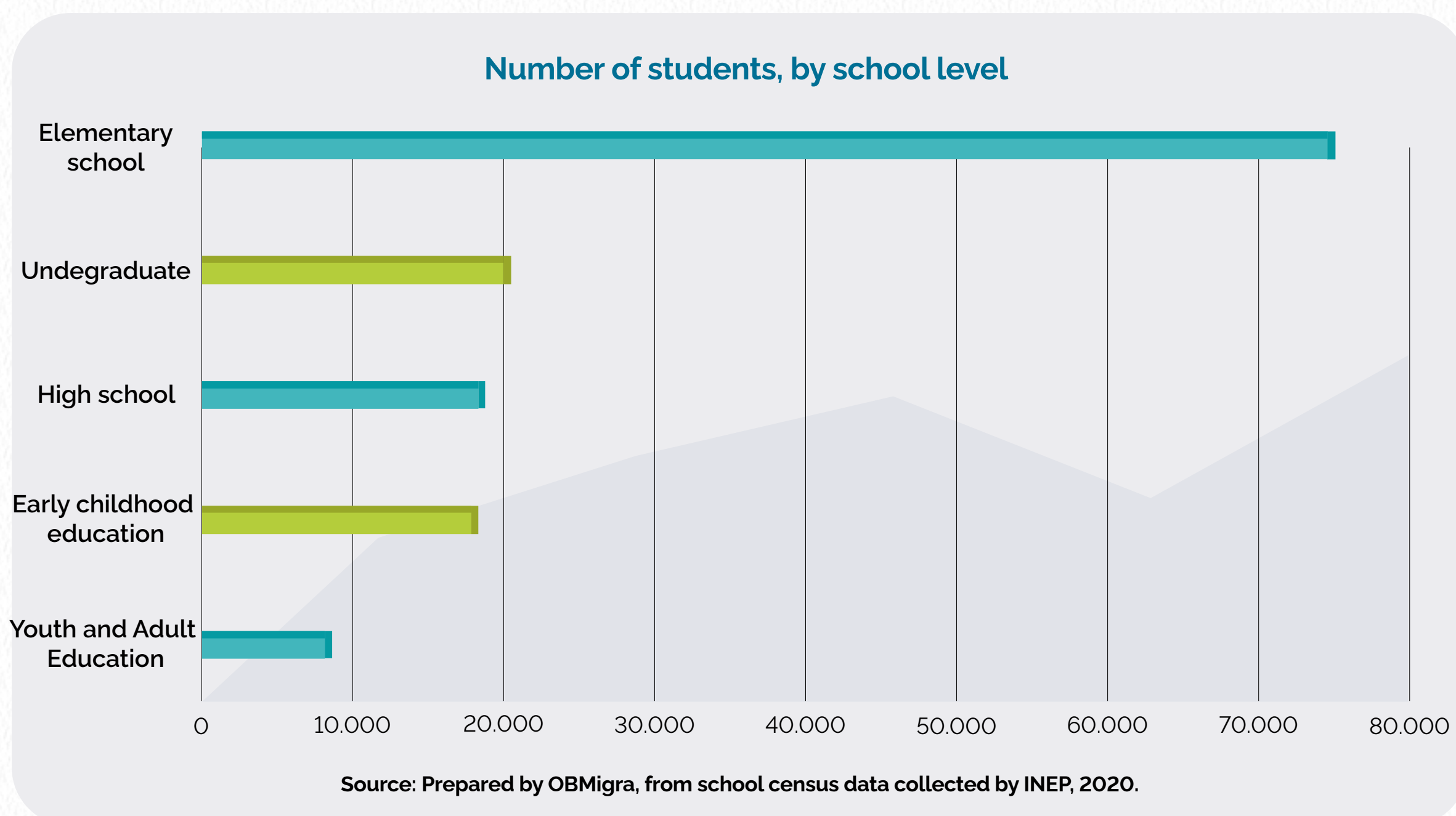
while cities like Boa Vista (in Roraima), Sao Paulo (in the state of Sao Paulo), and Manaus (in Amazonas) have lost some of their previous importance in terms of asylum application rates.

Access to education by immigrants

The number of immigrants getting access to formal education has increased in the country compared with 2019, despite the health crisis, which implies, to a large extent, that people who were already living in Brazil started to attend school.

Figure 9 shows the larger attendance of elementary students, followed by undergraduate students.

Figure 9



An interesting fact is the differences between the main origin groups, by level of education. Thus, in basic education (early childhood education, elementary and high school), Venezuelans, Haitians, Bolivians, and Americans make up the largest group, which is somehow related to the main migration flows toward Brazil. In contrast, in higher education, there is

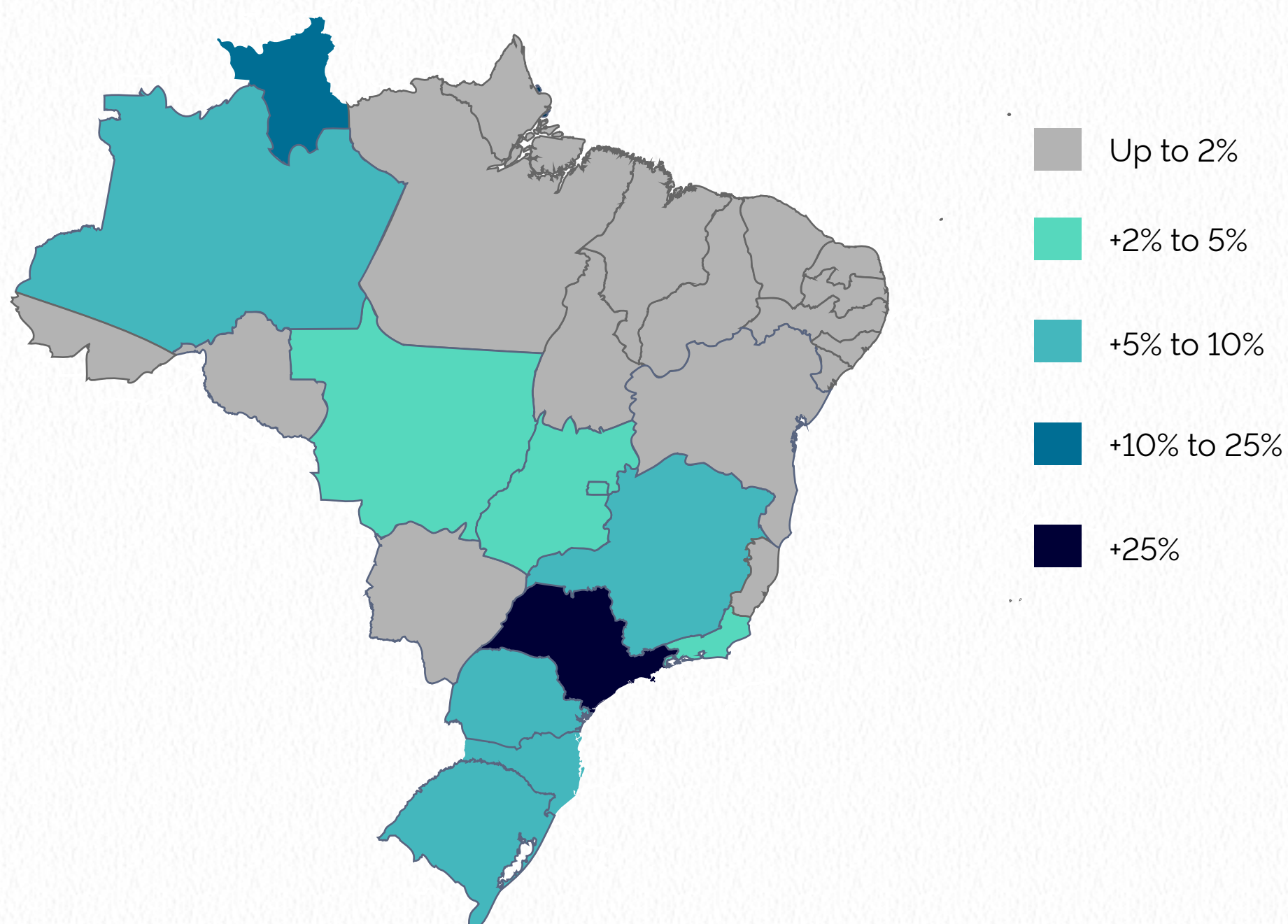
a greater presence of Angolans, Japanese, Paraguayans, Bolivians, Argentines, Guineans, and Peruvians, which could be related to the establishment of institutions such as the University for International Integration of the Afro-Brazilian Lusophony (Unilab) and the Federal University of Latin American Integration (Unila).

These facts ended up influencing the geographical places of access to education resources, by level of education. With the exception of the state of Sao Paulo, where most of the students were concentrated, either in basic education or in higher education, the state of Roraima stands as the

second state to receive more basic education students (Map 5). Ceara holds most undergraduate students, due to Unilab and Parana comes second due to Unila (Map 6).

Map 5

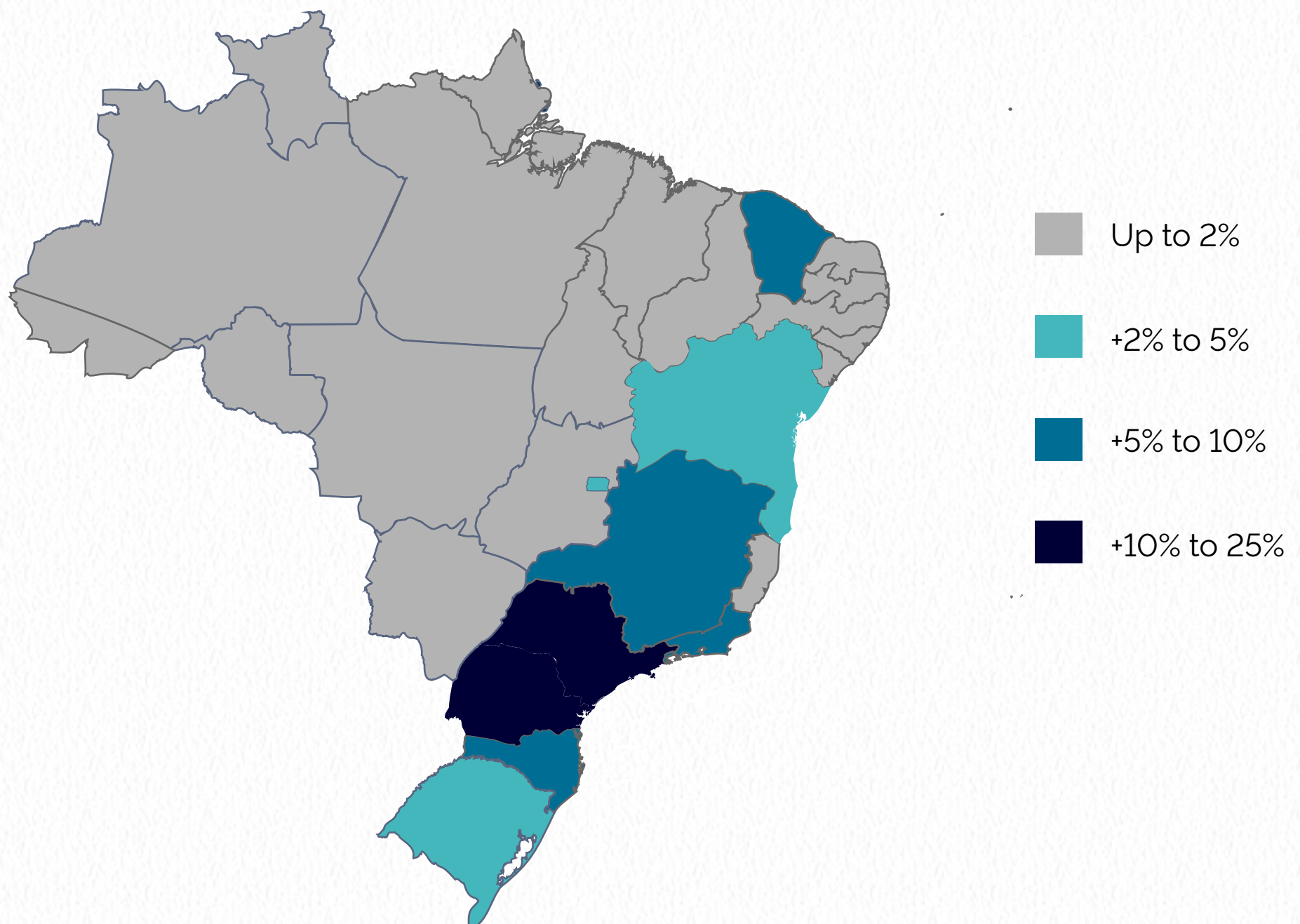
Number of immigrant students in Basic Education, by state - Brazil, 2020.



Source: Prepared by OBMigra, from school census data collected by INEP, 2019 and 2020.

Map 6

Number of immigrant students in Higher Education, by state - Brazil, 2020.



Source: Prepared by OBMigra, from school census data collected by INEP, 2019 and 2020.

Another important data concerns differences in access regarding the nature of the educational institutions depending on the student's nationality. Thus, most of the immigrant students from the Global South who attended

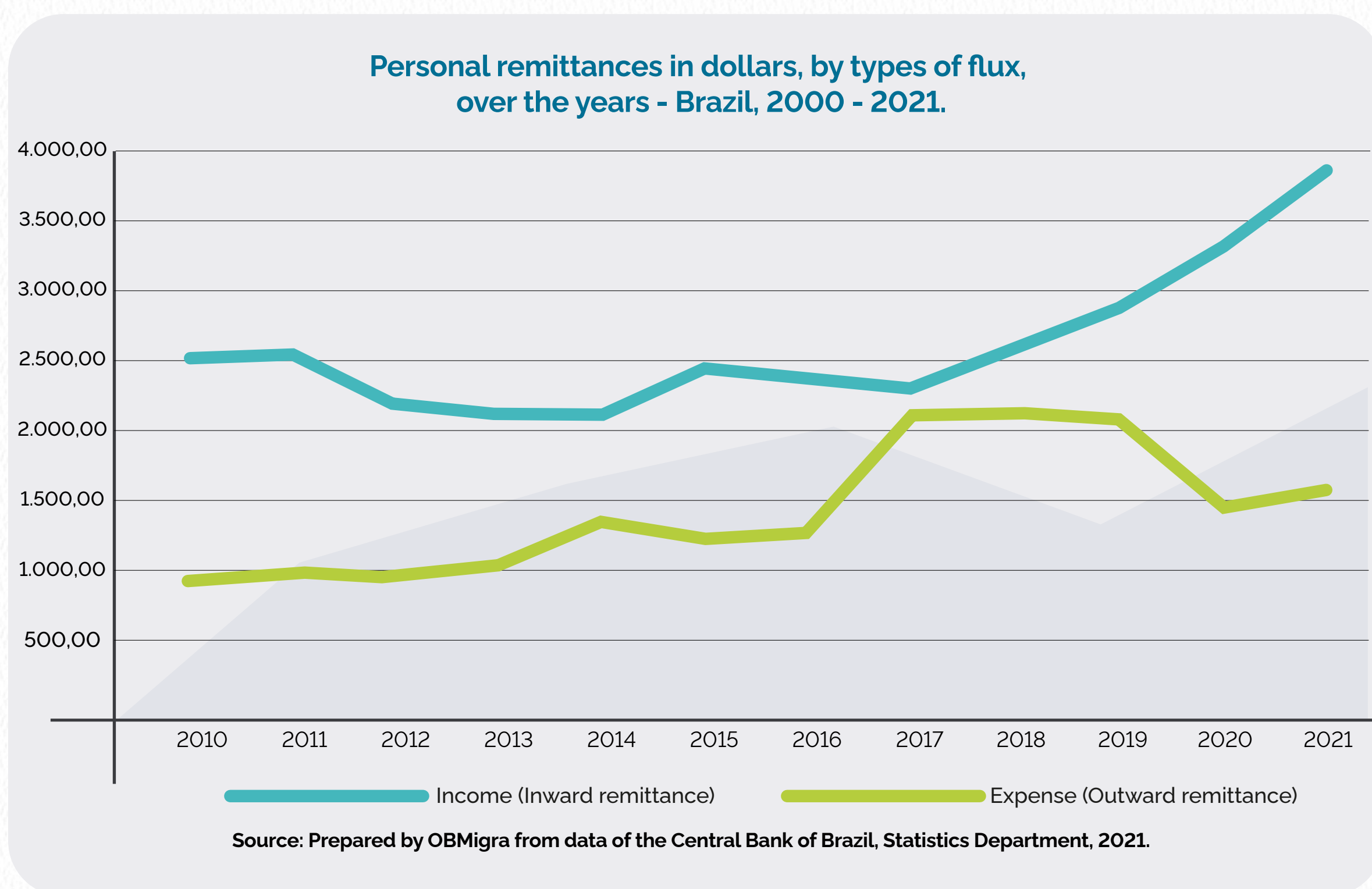
basic education studied in public institutions, while those from the Northern Hemisphere preferred private education. In higher education, university immigrants, in general, attended public institutions.

Balance of payments - personal transfers (foreign remittances)

The time series published by the Statistics Department of the Central Bank of Brazil, covering the 2010-2021 period, indicates, in millions of dollars, an extremely favorable balance to Brazil; that is, residents abroad sent a

considerable number of remittances compared to the amount sent overseas from Brazil² (Figure 10). During the studied period, there was a positive balance of payments that reached U\$ 13.9 billion.

Figure 10

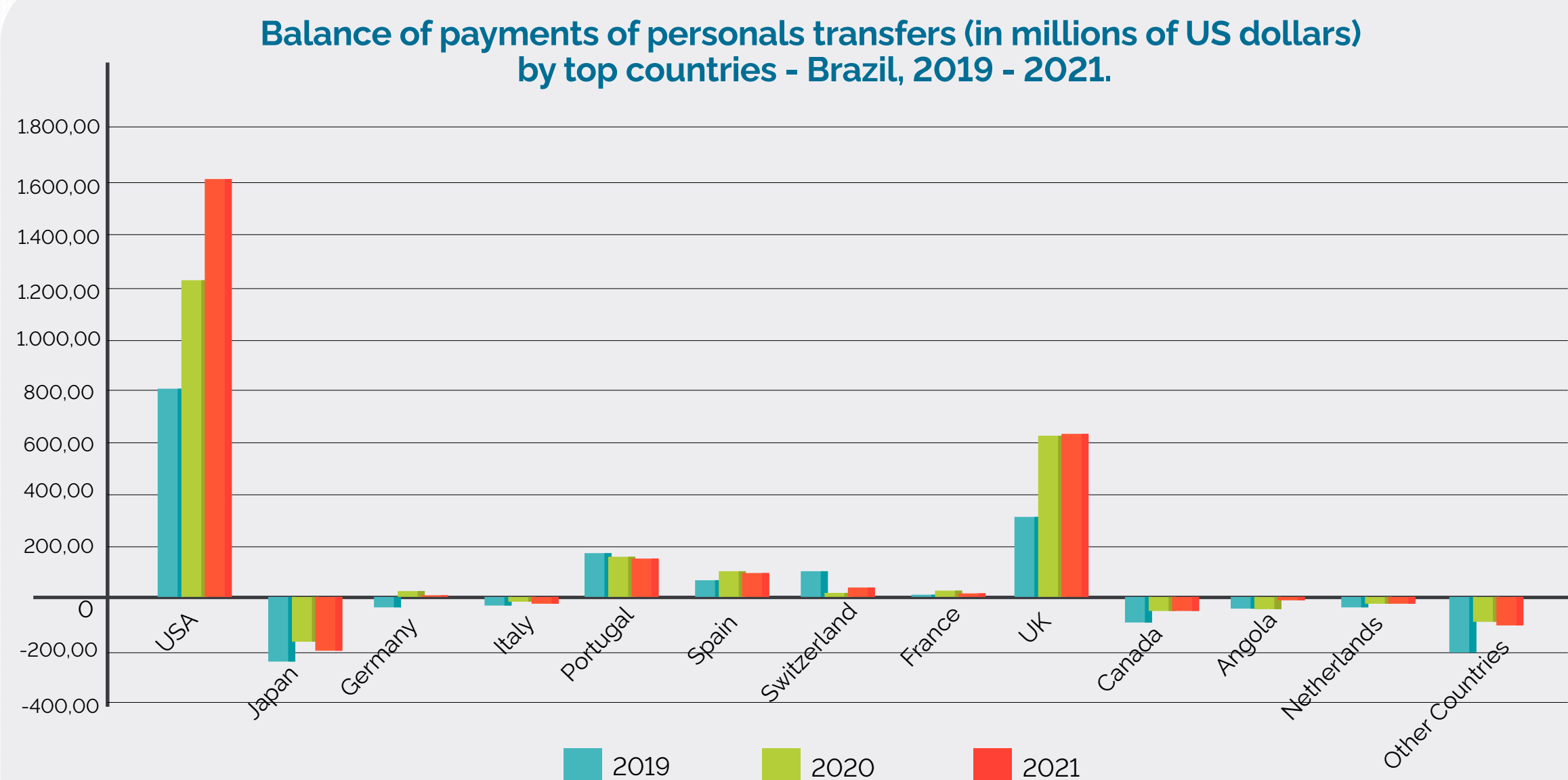


² From the analyzed data we can only know the countries of origin and destination, but not the nationality of the person who sent/received the resources.

When the data is separated by country of origin/destination, which allows an approximated estimation of the remittances sent/received by Brazilians who emigrated, we note a strong correlation with the main countries of destination for Brazilians, as indicated in the 2010 demographic Census. In this sense, the United States of America, Japan, Germany, Spain, Portugal, Italy, and the United Kingdom stand out. The difference in the balances of payment, by country, is an important finding that demands qualitative research so conclusions closer to reality can be drawn.

Then, we pose the following questions: are the largest shares that come from the USA, the UK, Spain, Portugal, and France really remittances sent by Brazilians? Are the subsequent negative balances in relation to Japan, Italy, Canada, and the Netherlands remittances sent by citizens of those countries, or are they sent by a support network that helps Brazilians abroad? In the same vein, is it possible to ascertain whether the remittances sent to Angola and other countries such as Haiti and Venezuela come from Angolans, Haitians, and Venezuelans? (Figure 11).

Figure 11



Source: Prepared by OBMigra from data of the Central Bank of Brazil, Statistics Department, 2021.