
UN/POP/MIG-FCM/2005/15

24 October 2005

**FOURTH COORDINATION MEETING ON
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

Population Division

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

United Nations Secretariat

New York, 26-27 October 2005

RESEARCH ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT*

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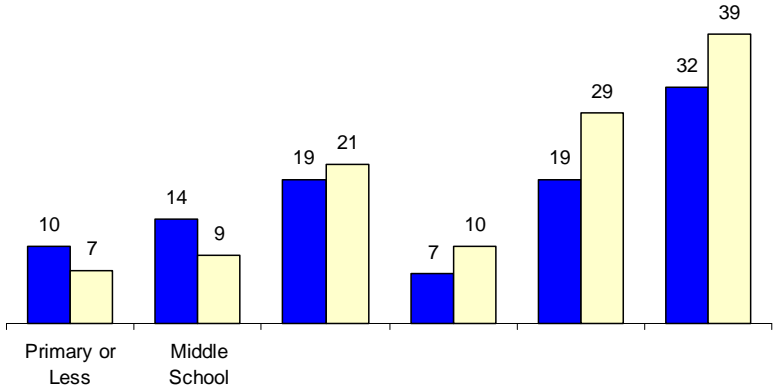
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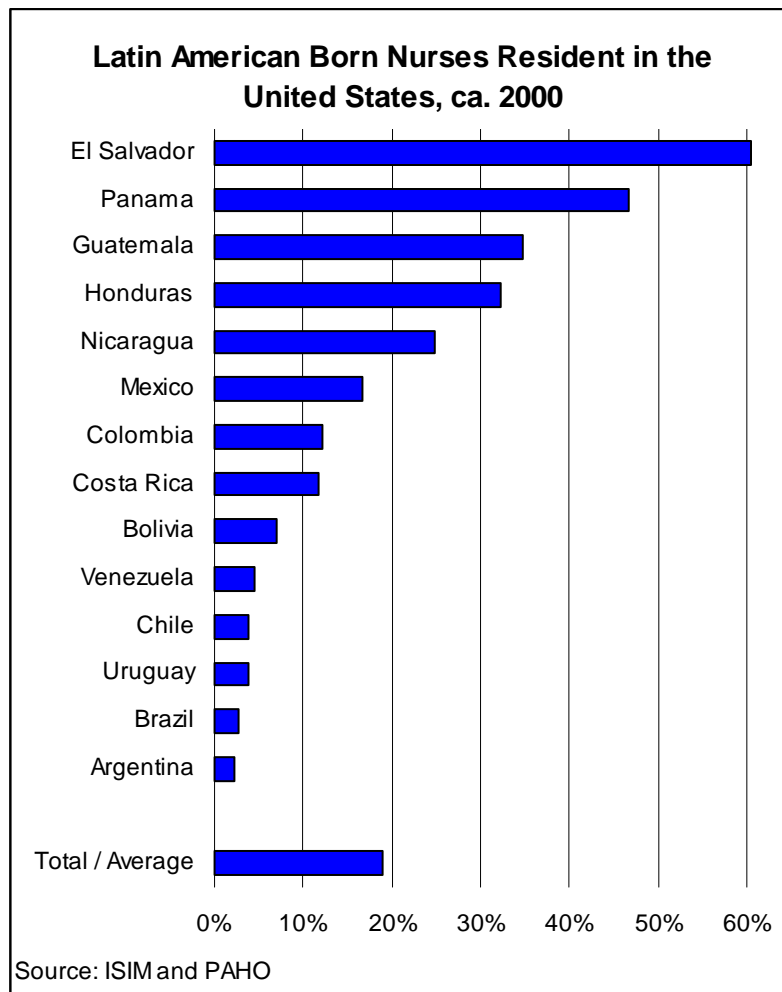
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The Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM) is part of the School of Foreign Service and is affiliated with the Law Center at Georgetown University. ISIM brings the best social science, legal and policy expertise to the complex and controversial issues raised by international migration. It conducts research on many aspects of migration, offers a certificate in humanitarian

Percent of All Mexican Born Adults Residing in the United States by Level of Completed Education, 2000





Policies That Optimize Skilled Migration

The benefits of highly skilled labour migration flows are neither automatic nor inevitable. The extent to which these flows benefit developing countries that send migrants will depend on the development and implementation of appropriate policies that optimise the benefits and minimise the costs. These policies must be developed in both sending and receiving countries, both separately and in partnership with one another. There are at least three alternative areas which we believe have the potential to generate policy options to address these issues.

- Migration management – with a particular emphasis on migration regimes that are temporary by the use of admission policies and by establishing best practices that facilitate and create incentives for return;
- The ‘diaspora option’ – which draws upon a nation’s expatriates, their knowledge and their financial resources to stimulate the transfer of resources to sending countries in a relatively low-cost way; and
- Democracy and development - given that the lack of these is one major cause of skilled migration, there is a need to incorporate the phenomenon of skilled migration, and its many facets, into thinking and planning in developing countries.

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