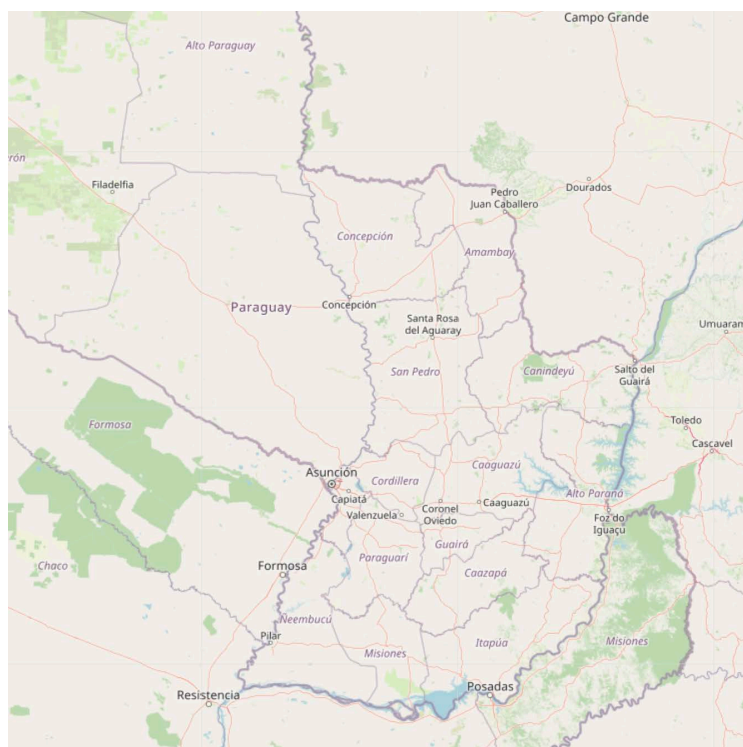


Paraguay Immigration Detention Data Profile



Quick Facts	
Immigration detainees (2019)	Not Available
Detained minors (2019)	Not Available
Criminal prison population (2020)	13,300
Percentage of foreign prisoners (2014)	4.2
International migrants (2019)	160,519
New asylum applications (2019)	1,071
Ratio of relevant international treaties ratified	17/19

NOTES ON USING THIS PROFILE

- Sources for the data provided in this report are available online at: <https://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/americas/paraguay>
- "Observation Dates" indicate the timeframe statistical data correspond to or other data were last validated. More than one statistical entry for a year indicates contrasting reports.

STATISTICS

Detention, expulsion, and incarceration statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
Total number of immigration detainees by year	Not Available	2019	Number of immigration detainees on a given day	Not Available	2019
Top nationalities of detainees	Not Available	2019	Number of persons granted alternatives to immigration detention	Not Available	2019
Number of detained asylum seekers	Not Available	2019	Total number of detained minors	Not Available	2019
Number of detained unaccompanied minors	Not Available	2019	Number of detained accompanied minors	Not Available	2019
Number of detained stateless persons	Not Available	2019	Number of apprehensions of non-citizens	Not Available	2019
Immigration detainees as a percentage of total international migrant population	Not Available	2019	Estimated total immigration detention capacity	Not Available	2020
Number of criminal facilities	18	2017	Criminal prison population	13,300	2020
				12,741	2015
				6,146	2009
				6,115	2007
				6,281	2005
				5,071	2003
				4,121	2001
				3,794	1998
				2,768	1995
Percentage of foreign prisoners	4.2	2014	Prison population rate (per 100,000 of national population)	180	2015
				97	2009
				99	2007
				105	2005
				89	2003
				75	2001
				74	1998
				57	1995

Demographics and immigration-related statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
Population	7,100,000	2020	International migrants	160,519	2019

Refugees	1,016	2020	Ratio of refugees per 1000 inhabitants	0.03	2016
	266	2018			
	205	2017			
	194	2016			
	172	2015			
	153	2014			
Total number of new asylum applications	1,071	2019			
	49	2016			

DOMESTIC LAW				
LEGAL TRADITION				
Legal tradition	Name		Observation Date	
	Civil law		2017	
LAWS AND REGULATIONS				
Constitutional guarantees?	Yes/No	Constitution and Articles	Year Adopted	Last Year Amended
	Yes	Constitución de la República del Paraguay, Artículo 11 (Constitution of the Republic of Paraguay, Article 11)	1992	2011
LAWS AND REGULATIONS				
Core pieces of national legislation	Name		Year Adopted	Last Year Amended
	General Law on Refugees N°1938/02 of 2002 (GLR) (Ley N°1938 de 2002 General Sobre Refugiados)		2002	
	Ley 978/96 de Migraciones (Immigration Law No. 978/96)		1996	2009
	Ley N°3.958/10 Que Modifica y Amplia La Ley N°227/93 "Que Crea la Secretaria de Desarrollo Para Repatriados y Refugiados Connacionales"; y Modifica La Ley N°978/96 de Migraciones de 28 de Diciembre 2009 (Law N°3.958/10 Which Modifies and Widens Law N°227/93 Which Creates the Secretary of Development for Returnees and Connational Refugees); and Modifies Immigration Law N°978/96)		2009	
LAWS AND REGULATIONS				
Additional legislation	Name		Year Adopted	Last Year Amended
	Decree N°4483/15 of 27 November 2015, by Which the National Migration Policy of the Republic of Paraguay is Approved (Decreto N°4483/15 por el Cual se Aprueba la Política Nacional de Migraciones de la Republica del Paraguay)		2015	
	Law N°4504/11 of 11 November 2011, which Modifies Articles 13 and 20 of the General Law on Refugees N°1938/02 of 2002 (Ley N°4504 que Modifica los Artículos 13 y 20 de la Ley N°1938/02 General Sobre Refugiados)		2011	
LAWS AND REGULATIONS				
Regulations, standards, guidelines	Name			Year Published
	Decreto N°18.295 del 28 de Agosto de 1997 que Reglamenta La Ley N°978/96 de Migraciones (Decree N°18.295 of 28 August 1997 Which Regulates Immigration Law N°978/96)			1997

GROUNDS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE IMMIGRATION-RELATED DETENTION

Immigration-status-related grounds	Name	Observation Date
	Detention to effect removal	1996

 CRIMINALIZATION OF IMMIGRATION-RELATED OFFENCES

Does the country provide specific criminal penalties for immigration-related violations?	Fines	Incarceration	Observation Date
	Yes	No	1997

 LENGTH OF DETENTION

Maximum length for administrative immigration detention in law.	Number of Days	Observation Date
	No Limit	2015

COVID-19 UPDATES

	Update Status	Observation Date
<p>Latest Update</p>	<p>In its official response to the GDP’s Covid-19 survey, Paraguay’s Immigration Service (Dirección General de Migraciones, DGM) reported that the country had not implemented a detention moratorium since the onset of the pandemic. The DGM explained that it is not authorised to order immigration-related detention, that that requires judicial intervention, as per Ley 978/96 de Migraciones. Responding to the question about whether any immigration detainees had been released in response to the pandemic, the DGM reported that permits of foreigners had been temporarily extended and thus no new migration detention orders had been made, confirming earlier reports about Paraguay posted on this platform (see Paraguay, 10 July 2020). Since the pandemic began Paraguay has received only five asylum requests, according to the DGM, all of which have been made at the border control station Infante Rivarola, on the border with Bolivia. Asylum seekers must comply with all sanitary norms and undergo obligatory quarantine at a designated reception centre/shelter (“albergue”). The DGM added that all people who enter the country from another country must undergo Covid-19 tests and go into isolation for 14 days. With respect to deportations, the DGM reported that these had continued during the crisis, though not to places where border closures prevented returns. The DGM highlighted cases of Brazilians who had been deported for unspecified reasons as well as people living in border towns like Ciudad del Este who have been ordered to leave the country for breaking quarantine rules. In the previous updates on this platform (Venezuela 12 August 2020), we reported that according to UNHCR, there were some 3,588 displaced Venezuelans living in the country as of July (see also 10 July Paraguay update on this platform). The DGM did not provide information indicating to what extent these people face restrictions or other pressures as a result of their status or because of the Covid-19 crisis. However, in late June, the newspaper La Nacion reported that immigration officials had intercepted 45 Paraguayan and Brazilian nationals who were trying to cross the border. In response, the immigration authority requested greater police presence at certain entry points. There are currently two official border crossings in the Canindeyu department.</p>	<p>2020</p>
	<p>By 9 July, Paraguay had recorded 2,554 cases of Covid-19 and 20 deaths. The country has taken specific measures concerning non-citizens. The Paraguayan migration authority (Dirección General de Migraciones) has prolonged the validity of permits that expired after 13 March 2020. This measure affects people whose temporary residence permits expired after 13 March; non-citizens who have requests pending to present documentation by the immigration authority for the processing of immigration documents, provided that they have expired; non-citizens whose tourist / non-resident permits have expired as of 13 March; and non-citizens who are in the country as tourists / non-residents and whose proof of entry into the country (immigration ticket with entry stamp or immigration stamp in the passport) have expired as of 13 March. The Paraguayan immigration authority also suspended the fine for non-citizens that overstay as many have been left stranded in the country. According to UNHCR, during May, there were nearly 5,300 persons of concern staying in the country, including 1,016 certified refugees, 694 asylum-seekers, and 3,588 displaced Venezuelans. UNHCR reported that, faced with the Covid-19 situation, their partner agency in the country provided cash assistance to around 64 refugee and migrant families in Asuncion, Alto Parana, and Itapua in May 2020. The agency also distributed food and hygiene items for 164 vulnerable refugee and migrants’ families and hosted a national e-consultation webinar in order to address the socio-economic recovery of refugees and migrants in the framework of the Covid-19 emergency and post emergency. The webinar brought together representatives of key UN agencies, partners, NGO’s specialised in economic integration, the private sector, and refugees and migrants’ organisations. On 30 June, La Nación reported that immigration officials intercepted 45 Paraguayan and Brazilian nationals who were trying to cross the border. In response, the immigration authority requested greater police presence at certain entry points. There are currently two official border crossings in the Canindeyu department. In Paraguayan prisons, visits were resumed on 31 May with specific protective measures in place to avoid the spread of Covid-19, such as the filling of a health questionnaire upon arrival, obligation to wear a mask, and people over the age of 65 being prohibited entry. On 25 June, the Minister of Justice, Cecilia Pérez, said that 100 cases of Covid-19 had been confirmed in the Ciudad del Este penitentiary, which currently holds 1,178 persons for 500 spaces.</p>	<p>2020</p>

INTERNATIONAL LAW

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification

International treaties	Name	Ratification Year
	OP CRC Communications Procedure	2017
	CRSSP, Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons	2014
	ICPED, International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance	2010
	CRPD, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	2008
	ICRMW, International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families	2008
	CTOCSP, Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime	2008
	OPCAT, Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	2005
	CTOCTP, Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children	2004
	ICERD, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	2003
	ICCPR, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	1992
	ICESCR, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	1992
	CRC, Convention on the Rights of the Child	1990
	CAT, Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	1990
	CEDAW, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	1987
	CRSR, Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees	1970
	PCRSR, Protocol to the Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees	1970
VCCR, Vienna Convention on Consular Relations	1969	
Ratio of relevant international treaties ratified	17/19	

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification

Individual complaints procedure	Name	Acceptance Year
	CRPD, Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	2008
	CAT, declaration under article 22 of the Convention	2002
	CEDAW, Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 1999	2001
ICCPR, First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966	1995	

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification

Ratio of complaints procedures accepted	Number	Observation Date
	4/9	
	4/9	

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification

	Name	Recommendation Excerpt	Recommendation Year
Relevant recommendations issued by treaty bodies	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	§14. The Committee urges the State party to take immediate action to name an Ombudsman through a selection and appointment process that is transparent and participatory and in which the guiding principles are merit, ability and integrity. The Committee recommends that the State party adopt the legislative and administrative measures needed to ensure that the Office of the Ombudsman fully complies with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles).	2016
	Committee on Migrant Workers	§29. The Committee urges the State party to take into consideration the need to provide protection for migrant children who have been separated from their parents and to design an effective strategy for dealing with unaccompanied or separated migrant children who enter the country and for ensuring that they receive the assistance that they need in accordance with international standards of child protection.	2012

Regional treaties, regulations, and directives

	Name	Year of Ratification (Treaty) / Transposed (Directive) / Adoption (Regulation)
Regional legal instruments	ACHR, American Convention on Human Rights	1989
	IACPPT, Inter-American Convention to Prevent and Punish Torture	1990
	APACHR, Additional Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights in the Area of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	1997
	CBDP, Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belem do Para)	1995
	IACFDP, Inter-American convention on Forced Disappearance of Persons	1996

Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms

	Name	Year of Visit	Observation Date
Visits by special procedures of the Human Rights Council	Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography	2004	2015
	Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment	2006	2015
	Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief	2011	2015

Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms

	Recommendation Issued	Year Issued	Observation Date
Relevant recommendations of the UN Universal Periodic Review	No	2016	2017
	No	2011	

INSTITUTIONAL INDICATORS

Institutions responsible for immigration detention

Apprehending authorities	Name	Agency	Ministry	Observation Date
	Policía Nacional (National Police)	Police	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	2020

More information about immigration detention in Paraguay is available at the website of the Global Detention Project (www.globaldetentionproject.org)