

Timeline

2020-2021

Study Type

Pilot

Research Implemented by IPA

Yes

Low-Cost, Automated WhatsApp Surveys to Understand Venezuelan Migration in Colombia

Researchers

[Jeremy Weinstein](#), [Duncan Lawrence](#), [Jens Hainmueller](#)

Abstract

In partnership with Mercy Corps, the Immigration Policy Lab is designing and implementing a novel low-cost, automated WhatsApp survey among Venezuelan migrants in Colombia. The survey will generate valuable descriptive data on indicators of household resilience and return migration in the context of a global pandemic. This WhatsApp survey method has been internally adopted by IPA as a potential tool for country offices' use in remote survey implementation. The research team will also develop a publicly accessible technical manual and reproducible code so that other teams can leverage this novel method for implementing remote-surveys in the future. This will help other researchers implement low-cost remote surveys, which are particularly useful among populations difficult to reach.

Funding for this project was provided by the UK Department for International Development, awarded through IPA's Peace & Recovery Program.

Project Outcomes of Interest

Response rates and attrition over time for WhatsApp surveys, Economic and Health Status of Venezuelan Migrants in Colombia

Partners

[Immigration Policy Lab \(IPL\)](#), [Mercy Corps](#)

Link to Results

- [Link to working paper](#) (viability of using WhatsApp for data collection)
- [Link to project summary](#)
- [Link to blog post](#)

Impact Goals

- Build resilience and protect the financial health of families and individuals
- Improve social-safety net responses
- Promote peace and safety, and improve humanitarian response
- Reduce COVID-19 transmission rates

Project Data Collection Mode

- SMS
- Web

Results Status

No Results Yet