Abstract

This paper seeks to contribute to the understanding of the links between migratory decisions and dynamics and family processes in the case of female and male migration from Paraguay to Argentina. The study is based on household survey data collected in 1999 and 2003 in four Paraguayan districts and in the Metropolitan Area of Buenos Aires. The analysis was carried out among women and men who are head of households or their spouses, either they had or not migratory experience to Argentina. The analysis shows that Paraguayan women have relatively similar migration patterns than men because they tend to migrate to Argentina young and single. The comparative analysis between women with and without migratory experience indicates that migration postpones marriage (or cohabitation) as well as motherhood. These patterns, together with the responses on migration reasons and motives, indicate that Paraguayan female migration is driven by the independent search of labour opportunities more than due to family reasons.

Keywords

Female migration, family, gender, Paraguay.