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COUNT OF 20 YEARS OF HIDALGO INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION (2000-2020)

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Abstract: Starting in 1980, Hidalgo began to experience an increase in the migratory intensity of its population. This phenomenon occurred due to the multiple changes in the country's productive sphere, which brought with it deep interregional differences between the states and, above all, a negative impact on its agricultural and livestock sectors. In turn, they also led to fewer employment opportunities. The local socioeconomic imbalance was juxtaposed to other factors such as the various economic crises, the attraction of the American market, the context of globalization, and the existence of social networks. All of this caused migration abroad, especially to the United States, to become a viable option, if not the only one for the survival of the Hidalgo population. The purpose of this text is to present, in a general way, the behavior of the migratory intensity of Hidalgo residents heading to the United States during the last 20 years.

Keywords: Migration, Hidalgo, United States, migrant, population.

INTRODUCTION

During the last decades, an extensive bibliography has focused on the study and analysis of the important migratory flow of Mexicans that has left for the United States. In this sense, since the late nineties and until the present, migration from the center of the country has been an emerging fact that modified the social and demographic structure of the populations of those entities. The general objective of this writing is to present the recent characteristics of the migration of people from Hidalgo to the United States, especially during the last 30 years. This is because the migratory phenomenon that has occurred in Hidalgo, to a large extent, has influenced the various areas of the social arena of the state and the country. The present research is mainly bibliographic, for which a quantitative methodology was

chosen in order to account not only for the migratory intensity of the central region and the state of Hidalgo, but also to interpret the information analyzed to construct behaviors around causality. Through this methodology, we seek to optimize the results in a specific way, but at the same time in a limited way. Thus, the research revolves around an explanatory paradigm, trying to establish conclusions in terms of causality. The information to make up the text was taken from classic literature and original sources of the state of the art related to the migration of Hidalgo residents to the United States. In addition to the primary data, they come from the migratory intensity statistics of the National Population Council from the years 2000 to 2020 (CONAPO, 2014 and 2022).

ORIGIN OF HIDALGO MIGRATION

Since its creation and until the early 1980s, the population of the state of Hidalgo had generally been characterized by only moving within the national territory. Initially, their mobility needs responded to the search for better job opportunities. Reason why, they moved to neighboring states with greater economic development such as Puebla, Querétaro or Veracruz. Or, they headed towards the country's large urban centers such as the State of Mexico or Mexico City. These places were consolidated as the preferred destinations of the people of Hidalgo (Ángeles, 1995). Starting in the early 1980s, multiple changes were implemented in the country's productive sphere, characterized by unequal state subsidy in industry and the countryside. In a way, they produced profound interregional differences between the states and, above all, a negative impact on their agricultural and livestock sectors. In turn, they also led to fewer employment opportunities and underemployment in the

state of Hidalgo (Escala, 2006). The local socioeconomic imbalance was juxtaposed to other national structural factors such as the various economic crises, the strong attraction of the US market, the context of the already growing globalization, and especially, the existence of social networks outside the state (Leite, et al., 2003). All of this caused migration to the border states of the country and, especially, towards the United States, becoming a viable option, if not the only one for the survival of a considerable part of the Hidalgo population.

The international migration of Hidalgo residents experienced in the early 1980s was not an entirely new phenomenon. In the 1930s, inhabitants of the Mezquital Valley experienced the migration phenomenon to the United States (Álvarez, 1995; Serrano, 2008; Pizarro, 2010, Cortes, et al., 2020). Also, there is evidence about Hidalgo residents who were hired within the framework of the Bracero Program (Serrano, 2008). And, in the same way, Vargas (2007) reviewed a series of testimonies about Hidalgo migrants who resided in Maine long before 1980. However, all these initial migratory flows were somewhat sporadic, being constantly interrupted until they completely disappeared in many cases. It was not until the beginning of 1980, when a significant flow of Hidalgo migrants to the United States began (Serrano, 2008; Escala, 2006; Schmidt and Crummett, 2004). The people of Hidalgo from this migratory stream entered the agricultural, service and construction sectors (Díaz, 2006). By 1990, the increase in migratory intensity continued and, in the middle of this decade, national records placed it as one of the main migratory currents in the country (INEGI, 2002). The above included the state of Hidalgo in the central migratory region, since it was a flow of recent appearance, since almost 90% of Hidalgo migrants headed to the United

States (Durand and Massey, 2003).

During the period from 1990 to 1995, Hidalgo ranked 9th in the central migratory region by registering a departure of 35,414 migrants. In the following five-year period from 1995 to 2000, it rose three positions, placing itself in 6th place with 62,629 migrants, which averaged an annual departure of 10,783 Hidalgo residents. In 2000, Hidalgo began to rank among the main states issuing international migrants in Mexico (CONAPO, 2014). For 2010, the state led the group of states in the Central migratory region, presenting a “High” degree of migratory intensity. Even the number of migrants from states with a greater migratory tradition such as Zacatecas or Guanajuato (CONAPO, 2014) is equal. Finally, for 2020, the state of Hidalgo is ranked 10th in migratory intensity in Mexico by registering a “High” degree of international migration (CONAPO, 2022).

Typically, public officials and state institutions provide figures on the number of Hidalgo migrants in the United States. However, the amounts provided vary considerably. For example, in 2009, a Federal Representative for Hidalgo, who was nationally in charge of the Immigration Commission, indicated that there were about 380 thousand Hidalgo residents in the United States (Castillo, 2017). The state government, for its part, through CAHIDEE, officially indicated that, until 2008, there were more than 250 thousand Hidalgo residents residing in the American Union (CAHIDDE, 2008; Castillo, 2017). By the end of 2012, the figure did not change, since the then governor of the state indicated the same number of migrants as in 2008. Which represents approximately 10.7% of the total state population registered in the 2010 Population Census. (CONAPO, 2014).

These estimates obviously vary by more than 100 thousand people, although the CAHIDEE

figure is frequently used officially. According to data from the 2010 Census (INEGI, 2011), regarding the Hidalgo population that went to live in the United States between 2005 and 2010, it was found that Hidalgo presented a total of 40,153 migrants, that is, 4.1% of the national total during this period; Of these, 12,105 were circular migrants and 28,048 migrants who did not return from the United States. Also, in that period, 33,288 return migrants from the United States were registered (CONAPO, 2014). For 2014, according to Cortes (et al., 2020), in the National Survey of Demographic Dynamics, the number of international migrants from Hidalgo was 22,580 people, a number well below what was observed in previous decades (INEGI, 2011). The decline is explained due to various economic and political causes at the international level. As well as the social and demographic aspects that have occurred in the entity and especially in the municipalities with very high migratory intensity. Finally, the closest data comes from the 2020 Census (INEGI, 2021), where it is noted that, as of 2020, a total of 654,244 Hidalgo residents live abroad. Also, it is noted that that same year 26,206 people left to live in another country, of which 87 out of every 100 people from Hidalgo went to the United States. The main reasons why people migrate in Hidalgo are to join their family (40.1%), change or job offer (10.3%), get married or join a couple (9.3%), search for work (7.3%), insecurity and violence (7.0%), studies (5.6%), deportation (0.4%), and natural disasters (0.4%) (INEGI, 2021). On the other hand, according to the INEGI Census (2021) and information from CONAPO (2022) the main destinations of Hidalgo migrants in the United States are located, first of all, in the traditional destination states such as California and Texas, as this is where 16% and 18% of the total Hidalgo migrants settle, respectively. In second place, they are followed

by Georgia with 13% and North Carolina and Florida with 11%, in both cases. Finally, there is a lower percentage that ranges between 6 to 3%, which are found in Arizona, South Carolina, Nevada, New York, Illinois, Indiana and Arkansas.

STATE MIGRATION INTENSITY

Before the year 2000, official information on Hidalgo migration was insufficient to estimate the magnitude of this migratory flow (Serrano, 2008). Subsequently, the most reliable information comes from the Population and Housing Censuses of the years 2000, 2010 and 2020 (INEGI, 2001, 2011 and 2021). With these data, CONAPO (2014 and 2022) estimated that, between 2000 and 2020, Hidalgo presented a “High” degree of migratory intensity. However, the state experienced important variations, since from 2000 to 2010 it rose from 12th to 5th place, while, in 2020, it fell again to 10th place, in terms of its migratory activity compared to the other states of Mexico. However, these figures must be analyzed. Well, in that same period, the percentage of households that received remittances decreased from 5.06% to 4.33%, between 2000 and 2010, but increased again to 6.06% in 2020. Also, the proportion of households with migrants in the previous five-year period from 7.14 to 3.47% from 2000 to 2010, and by 2020 it decreased again to register just 1.74%. Regarding circular migration, the percentage remained stable between 2000 and 2010 with 1.61% and 1.64%, while by 2020, it decreased to 0.55%. Finally, although between 2000 and 2010, the participation of return migrants more than tripled, going from 0.88 to 3.98%, by 2020 this percentage decreased to almost a quarter, registering 1.03% (CONAPO, 2014 and 2022).

At the local level, in the year 2000, of the 84 municipalities that make up the state, 35 municipalities presented a considerable degree

of migratory intensity (Very High, High and Medium) towards the United States, of which 4 were “Very High.” grade (Pacula, Ixmiquilpan, Zimapán and Tasquillo), 16 “High” grade (Lolotla, Alfajayucan, Tecozautla, Cardonal, Tenango de Doria, Atotonilco, San Salvador, Acatlán, Santiago De Anaya, Chilcuautla, Jacala, Epazoyucan, Eloxochitlán, Huasca, El Arenal and Chapulhuacán), and 15 “Medium” grade (Metepéc, Progreso de Obregón, Huichapan, Singuilucan, Francisco I. Madero, Nicolás Flores, Omitlán De Juárez, Pisaflores, Actopan, Mixquiahuala de Juárez, Cuauhtepéc, San Agustín Metzquitlán, Tepeapulco, Mineral del Monte and Tulancingo De Bravo); This number was relevant, since these municipalities concentrated 193,413 homes, that is, 38% of the total homes in the state (See Table 1 and Map 1).

In 2010, 54 municipalities presented a considerable degree of migratory intensity, of which 13 were of a “Very High” degree (Tasquillo, Pacula, Huasca de Ocampo, Nicolás Flores, Jacala de Ledezma, La Misión, Pisaflores, Cardonal, Tecozautla, Zimapán, Tlahuiltepa, Acatlán and Atotonilco el Grande), 15 “High” grade (Tenango de Doria, Alfajayucan, Eloxochitlán, Chilcuautla, Chapulhuacán, Ixmiquilpan, Santiago de Anaya, Metzquitlán, Omitlán de Juárez, Juárez Hidalgo, Francisco I. Madero, San Agustín Metzquitlán, Metepéc, Tianguisteng and Singuilucan) and 26 “Medium” grade (Progreso de Obregón, Ajacuba, Mixquiahuala de Juárez, Huichapan, Cuauhtepéc de Hinojosa, Agua Blanca, San Salvador, Tezontepéc de Aldama, Tetepango, Actopan, Chapantongo, Tepehuacán, Molango de Escamilla, Tepetitlán, Tlanchinol, Lolotla, Santiago Tulantepec, San Agustín Tlaxiaca, Zacualtipán de Ángeles, Zapotlán de Juárez, Epazoyucan, Mineral del Chico, Tulancingo de Bravo, Tlahuelilpan, Almoloya Tlanalapa); 329,197 homes are concentrated in these municipalities, that is, almost 50% of

the total homes in the state; Compared to the 2000 count, the increase of 19 municipalities with significant migratory intensity stands out, compared to the 35 that were reported in 2000, especially in the municipalities with a “Very High” degree of migratory intensity that went from 4 to 13. (See Tables 1 and Map 2).

Year	Migratory Intensity	No. Municipalities	% Municipalities	Total households in the state	% of total households
2020	Very high	11	13%	56,507	7%
	high	8	10%	72,980	9%
	Half	11	13%	63,340	7%
	Low	34	40%	285,229	33%
	Very low	20	24%	37,4476	44%
2010	Very high	13	15%	61,266	9%
	high	15	18%	75,385	11%
	Half	26	31%	19,2546	29%
	Low	21	25%	20,7043	31%
	Very low	9	11%	137,405	20%
2000	Very high	4	5%	30,034	6%
	High	16	19%	60,170	12%
	Half	15	18%	103,210	20%
	Low	23	27%	122,635	24%
	Very low	26	31%	191,176	38%

Table 1. Comparative Migration Intensity in Hidalgo 2000-2020

Source: Own elaboration based on CONAPO estimates 2014 and 2022.

For 2020, 30 municipalities presented a considerable degree of migratory intensity, of which, 11 were of a “Very High” degree (Pisaflores, La Misión, Chapulhuacán, Tecozautla, Tasquillo, Jacala de Ledezma, Pacula, Atotonilco el Grande, Santiago de Anaya, Acatlán and Tlahuiltepa), 8 “High” grade (Zimapán, Nicolás Flores, Huasca de Ocampo, Huichapan, Alfajayucan, Chilcuautla, Ixmiquilpan and Cardonal) and 11 “Medium” Grade (Juárez Hidalgo, Eloxochitlán, Metzquitlán, Tenango de Doria, San Agustín Metzquitlán, Omitlán de Juárez, Zacualtipán de Ángeles, Metepéc, Actopan, El

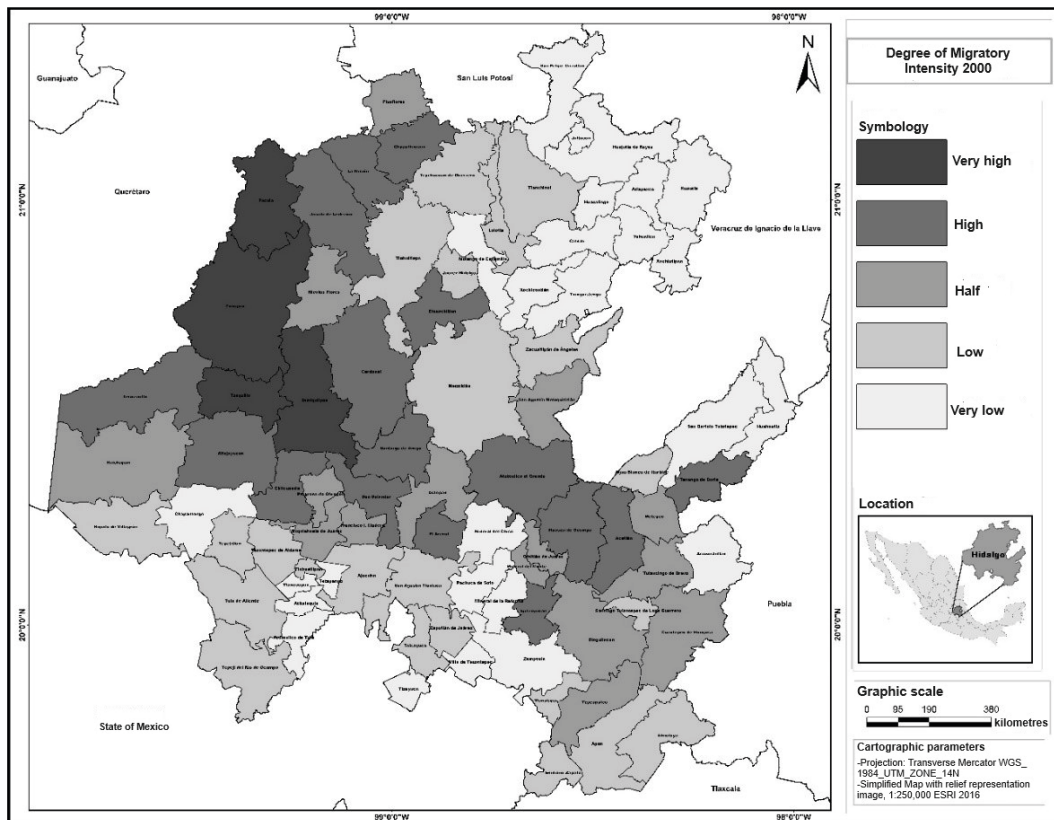
Arenal and Francisco I. Madero); 192,827 are concentrated in these municipalities, that is, just 23% of the total number of households in the state; The latter clearly indicates that migration has decreased in the entity since it is noted that there are fewer municipalities with significant migratory intensity, as well as there are fewer households related to the migration phenomenon in the entity (See Tables 1 and Map 3).

In the most significant cases of 2020, is the municipality of Pisaflores, which in 2000 was only in 28th place in the state for presenting a “Medium” migratory intensity; by 2010 it rose to 7th place, moving to a degree of intensity migratory “Very High”; and for the 2020 registry it occupies the first position in the state and 3rd place nationally in “Very High” migratory intensity. Another case is La Misión, a municipality that in 2000 was in 5th place in the state with a “High” degree of migratory intensity; by 2010 its position decreased to 6th place but moved to the municipalities with a “Very High” degree of migratory intensity. and for 2020, it ranks 2nd at the state level and is 14th at the national level in this indicator. Or the municipality of Chapulhuacán, which went from 20th and 18th place and “High” degree of migratory intensity in 2000 and 2010, respectively, to 3rd place in the state and “Very high” degree of migratory intensity in 2020, being 22nd place at the level. national (See Table 2). On the contrary, in the period from 2000 to 2020, the municipalities with the highest urban concentration such as Pachuca de Soto and Mineral de Reforma or with high indigenous concentration such as Huejutla de Reyes, Yahualica, San Felipe Orizatlán, Huazalingo, Atlapexco and Xochiatipan, They remained at a “Very Low” degree of migratory intensity (See Tables 1 and Map 3).

CONCLUSIONS

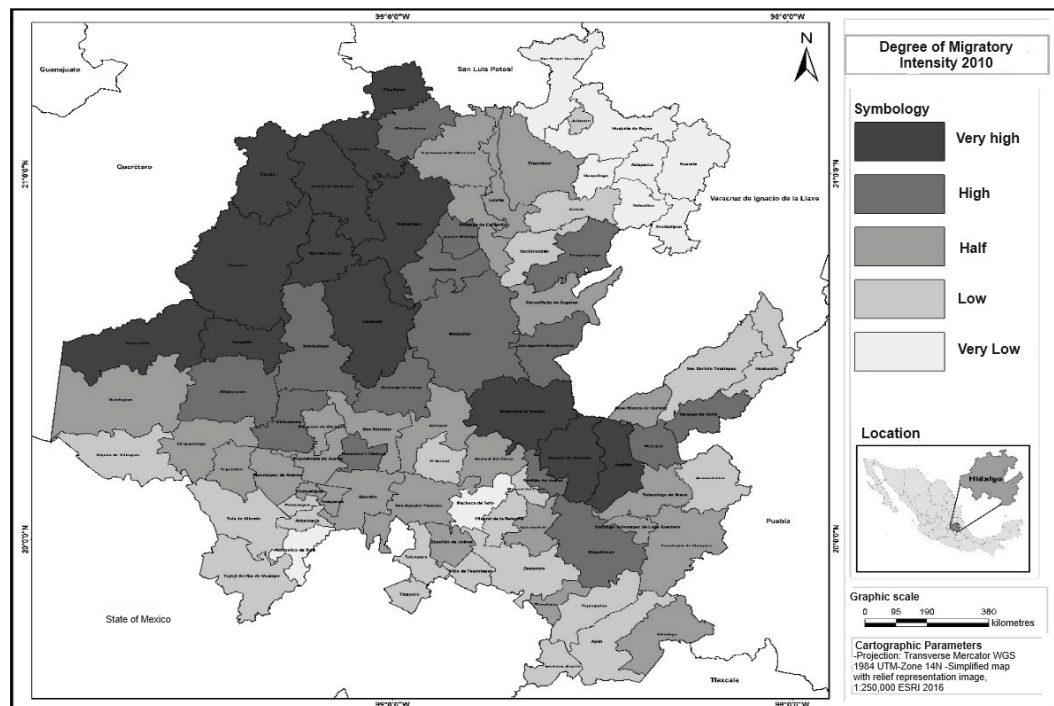
Currently, despite not heading the list of the states with the highest migratory intensity in the country and even decreasing its place from 5th place in 2010 to 10th by 2020, the number of Hidalgo migrants abroad is not a insignificant figure. In this sense, as already noted, as of 2020, the state of Hidalgo is among the states with the most active in international migration. At the municipal level, the migratory intensity reflected a significant decrease from 54 municipalities in 2010 to 30 municipalities in 2020, with significant migratory intensity of the “Very High”, “High” and “Medium” type, concentrated in 2020, the majority in the “Low” migratory intensity. Among the most significant cases are the municipalities of Pisaflores, which occupies the first position in the state and 3rd place at the national level with a “Very High” municipal migration intensity. It is followed by La Misión, with a “Very high” degree of migratory intensity and which in 2020 occupies 2nd place at the state level and 14th at the national level. Or Chapulhuacán, which occupies 3rd place in the state and “Very high” degree of migratory intensity and 22nd place at the national level.

From the data presented, a decrease in migratory intensity is observed in the state of Hidalgo, to the extent that its figures are very similar to the migratory intensity of the late eighties, just before the beginning of the massiveness of the migratory flow. Hidalgo. Which, to a large extent, is explained by the permanent flow of Hidalgo migrants who in almost two decades consolidated an extraterritorial Hidalgo community in the United States, who sustain this shipment to their homes despite the economic difficulties that in recent years and the COVID-19 pandemic. However, it is worth mentioning that the economic and social participation of the Hidalgo Mirants must advance until



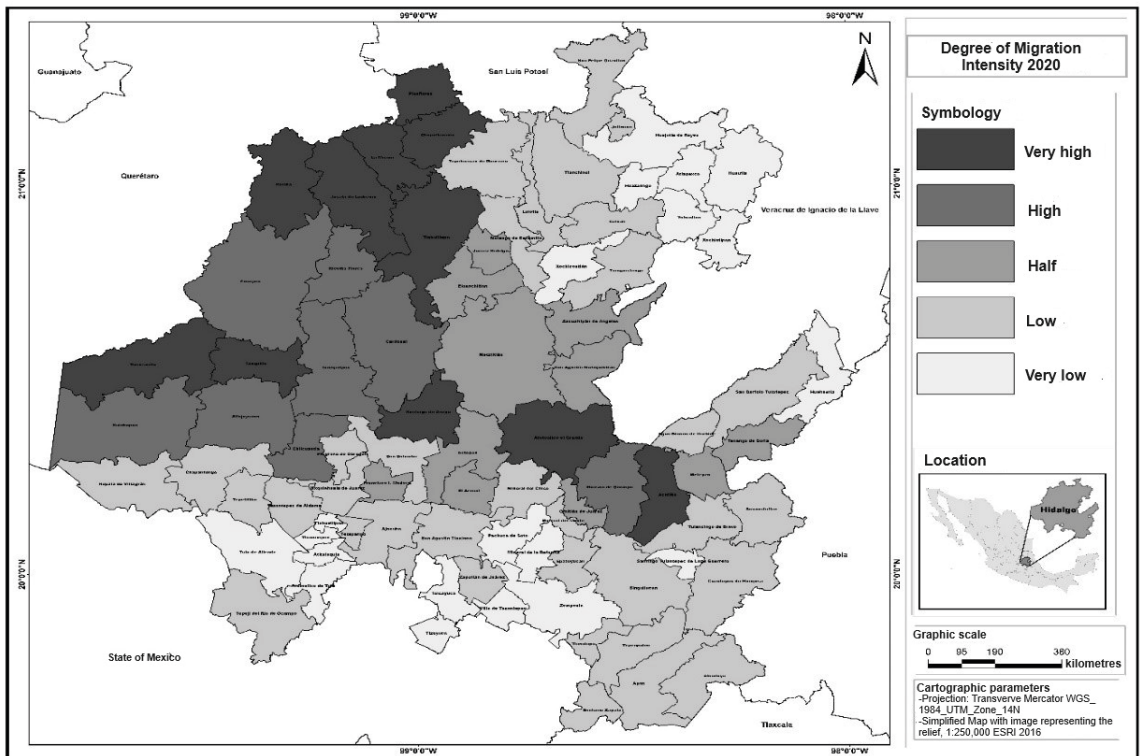
Map 1. Municipal Migratory Intensity in Hidalgo, 2000.

Source: Own elaboration based on information from CONAPO (2014).



Map 2. Municipal migratory intensity in Hidalgo, 2010.

Source: Own elaboration based on information from CONAPO (2014).



Map 3. Municipal migratory intensity in Hidalgo, 2020.

Source: Own elaboration based on information from CONAPO (2022).

N°	2000		2010		2020	
	Municipality	Migratory intensity	Municipality	Migratory intensity	Municipality	Migratory intensity
1	Pacula	Very high	Tasquillo	Very high	Pisaflores	Very high
2	Ixmiquilpan	Very high	Pacula	Very high	Misión, La	Very high
3	Zimapán	Very high	Huasca	Very high	Chapulhuacán	Very high
4	Tasquillo	Very high	Nicolás Flores	Very high	Tecoautla	Very high
5	Lolotla	Low	Jacala	Very high	Tasquillo	Very high
6	Alfajayucan	High	Misión, La	Very high	Jacala	Very high
7	Tecoautla	High	Pisaflores	Very high	Pacula	Very high
8	Cardonal	High	Cardonal	Very high	Atotonilco	Very high
9	Tenango de Doria	High	Tecoautla	Very high	Santiago de Anaya	Very high
10	Atotonilco	High	Zimapán	Very high	Acatlán	Very high
11	San Salvador	High	Tlahuiltepa	Very high	Tlahuiltepa	Very high
12	Acatlán	High	Acatlán	Very high	Zimapán	High
13	Santiago de Anaya	High	Atotonilco	Very high	Nicolás Flores	High
14	Chilcuautla	High	Tenango de Doria	High	Huasca	High
15	Jacala	High	Alfajayucan	High	Huichapan	High

Table 2. Municipal comparison of Migration Intensity in Hidalgo 2000-2020

Source: Own elaboration based on CONAPO estimates (2014 and 2022)

their total political inclusion through voting from abroad at the state level, a fact that has already been consolidated but only its implementation remains to analyze its scope.

In summary, Hidalgo migrants are always present participating “here and there” in their communities, their municipality and, in general, in the entity.

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