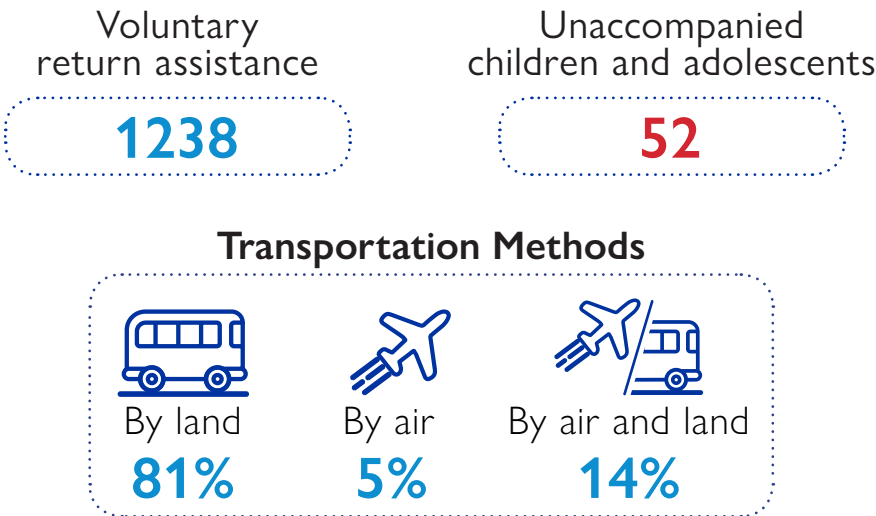


ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN PROGRAM

IOM’s Assisted Voluntary Return Program aims to achieve the voluntary, orderly and humane return of migrants who can not or do not want to stay in their countries of transit or destination and wish to return voluntarily to their country of origin.

Since November 4th, 2018, IOM has provided voluntary return assistance to 1238 people, 52 of which are unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents.



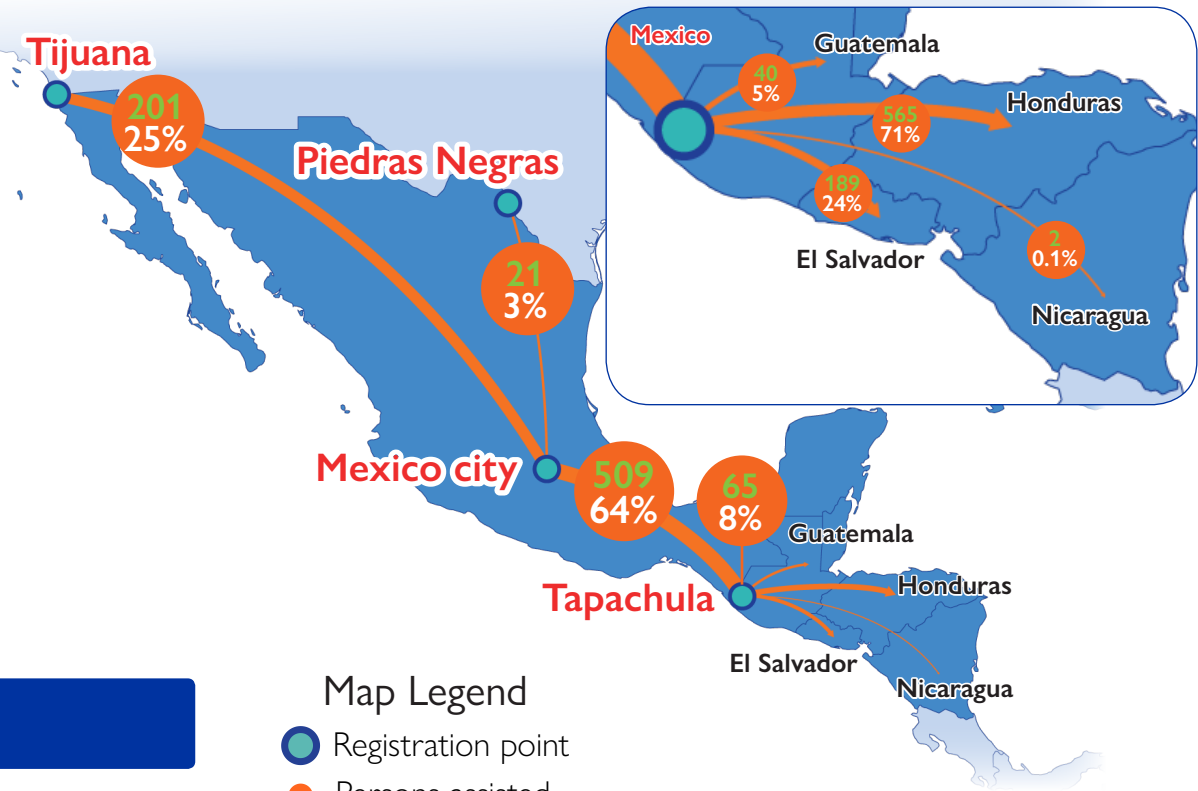
COUNTRIES OF RETURN

In Mexico, Tapachula concentrates the majority of accredited cases coming from Tijuana and Mexico City (adults and accompanied children). Most cases were registered in Mexico City (64%) and Tijuana (25%). The remaining cases were registered in Tapachula (8%) and Piedras Negras (3%).

All unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents registered in Mexico have benefited from assisted voluntary returns through air transportation, considering their serious situation of vulnerability.

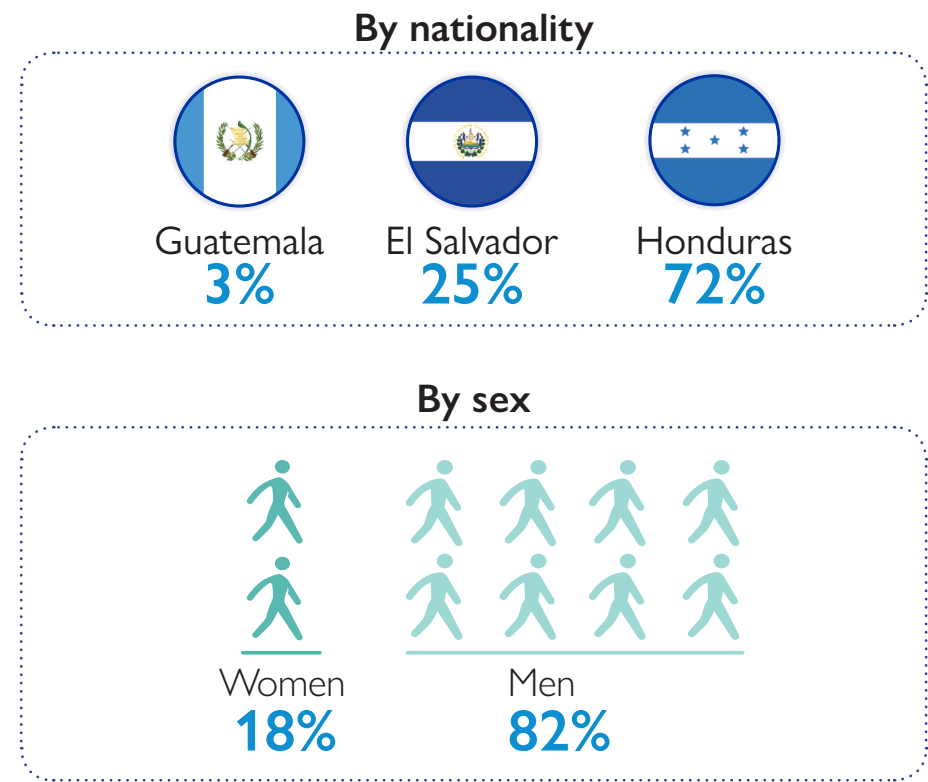
As for the case of Guatemala, the Voluntary Return Programme has operated from the border with Mexico, in Tecun Umán, and by land only. The 74 per cent of migrants registered in Guatemala returned to Honduras and 26 per cent to El Salvador.

Regarding means of transportation, 81% of migrants have been returned by ground transportation, 5 per cent by air transportation (unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents) and 14 per cent have alternately used air and ground transportation during their assisted return.



PROFILE OF ASSISTED PEOPLE

Most of the people who have been assisted are of Honduran (72%) or Salvadoran nationality (25%). The 82 per cent of migrants are men and 18 per cent are women, of these ages are concentrated between 18 and 45 years (78%).



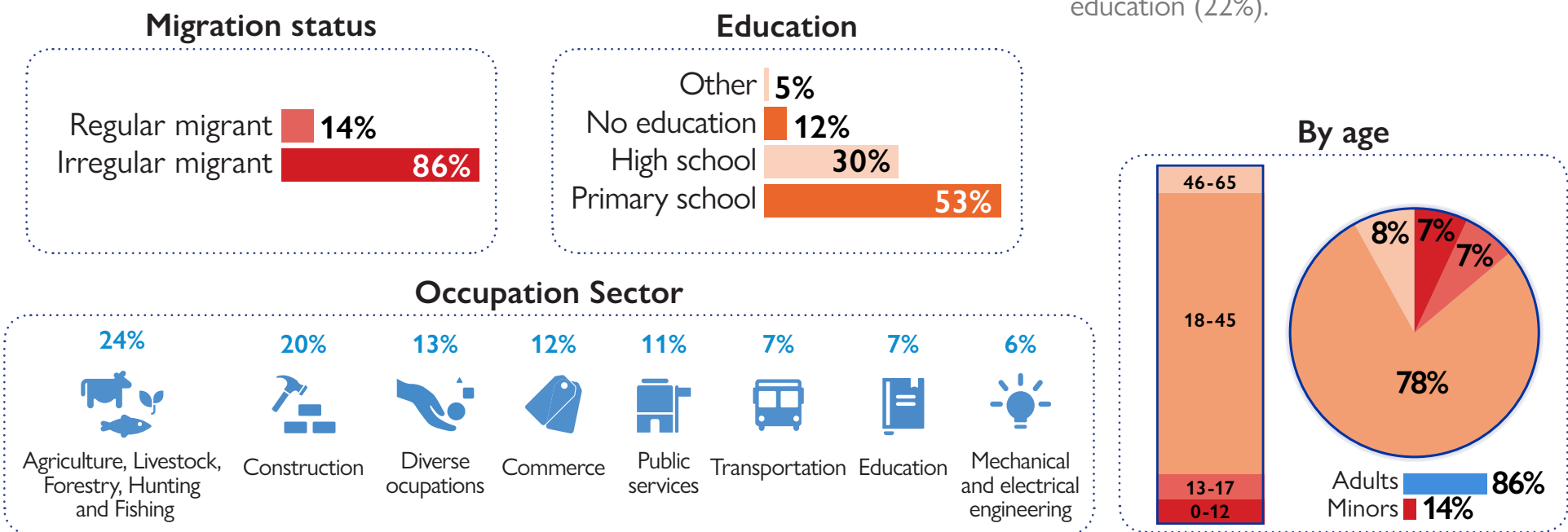
PROFILE OF ASSISTED PEOPLE

At the time of their voluntary return, most migrants had an irregular migration status (86%) of which 76 per cent were located in Mexico and 24 per cent in Guatemala.

The predominant educational level is primary level (53%), comprised by a 14 per cent of women and 86 per cent of men. At the secondary level

(30%), 19 per cent are women and 81 per cent are men. The 12 per cent of the population does not have any type of education, which can be partially explained by the fact that 27 per cent are migrants under the five years of age and who still have not entered general basic education and 73 per cent are adults who did not have access to basic education (out of the total number of adults, 9% are women and 91% are men).

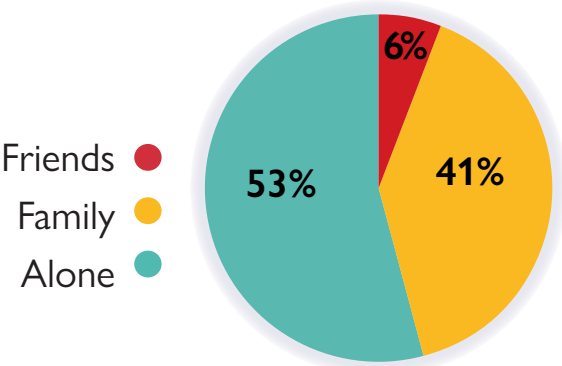
Additionally, in their countries of origin, most people worked in the agricultural sector (24%), followed by the construction (20%) and commerce sectors (12%). In the agricultural sector, people have mostly a primary education level (67%), which is followed by secondary level (17%). In the construction sector, the level of education remains also at the primary level with 58 per cent, followed by the secondary level at 25 per cent. Similarly, in the commerce sector the level of education among migrants is primary (30%) and secondary education (22%).



RELATIONSHIP WITH THOSE WHO TRAVEL

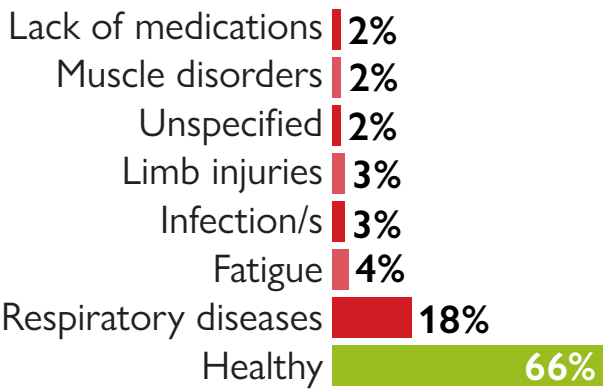
The following chart shows the kinship among the people who are part of the migrant caravan. In the first category, the data shows that most migrants are travelling alone (53%), followed by migrants travelling with first-degree relatives, meaning parents, siblings and children (41%), and a smaller percentage of migrants (6%) who reported to be traveling with friends or acquaintances.

Regarding migrants who are travelling with family members, 25 per cent are minors between 0 and 17 years of age, and 12 per cent are under 13 years of age.



HEALTH CONDITION

In regard to the health conditions of migrants, the majority self-perceived as healthy, however, at the time of the screening process it was revealed that approximately one third suffered from respiratory diseases, as well as from infections and affectations in muscles and extremities.



REASONS FOR MIGRATING

In the following graph, three categories are used to summarize the main reasons for migration. The need for improving their living conditions has been highlighted as the main reason for the mobilization of these migrants, as many of them referred to conditions of unemployment and inequality in their countries of origin.

Secondly, violence and insecurity is another important cause which explains the mobilization of people thought the caravans, many of them mentioned being threatened by gang members. Finally, some people specified that their reason for joining the caravans is their desire to find relatives in the destination country.

