



Background

As part of the activities of IOM Regional Program on Migration in Mexico, a flow monitoring survey has been implemented in the southern border region of the country, specifically in the State of Chiapas on the border with Guatemala.

The survey was conducted in the context of the emergence of migratory movements known as Caravans of Central American Migrants. These caravans are characterized, by the migration of people mainly from countries of North Central America towards the North America.

In response to the last caravan, the Government of the United Mexican States, established a policy for the entry of migrants from the caravan into national territory by creating a "visitor for humanitarian reasons" card. The flow monitoring survey was conducted mostly with people waiting in line to obtain this migration document.

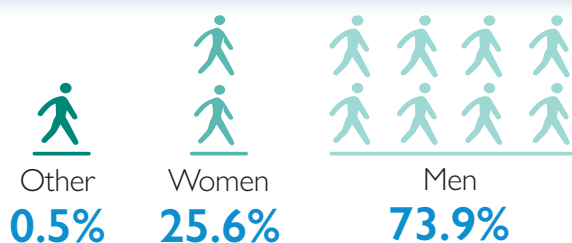
The survey protocol works as an assessment tool that allows for an understanding of the current migration needs, characteristics and trends shown by those who are part of these migratory movements.

Methodology

The first round of surveys to monitor the flows in the State of Chiapas was carried out from January 25 to 30, 2019 in the Municipality of Suchiate, particularly at the following monitoring points: the National Migration Institute in Suchiate (provisional shelter), the Central Park Miguel Hidalgo, Tapachula and the International Bridge in Ciudad Hidalgo (border crossing point).

It is estimated that the number of migrants located at the monitoring points equals 5,000 and the sample was 819 surveys, therefore the results have a 3 per cent margin of error with a 97 per cent level of confidence.

MIGRATION PROFILE

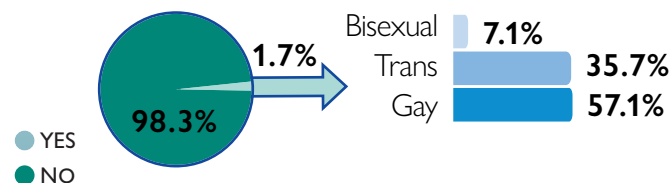


Gender

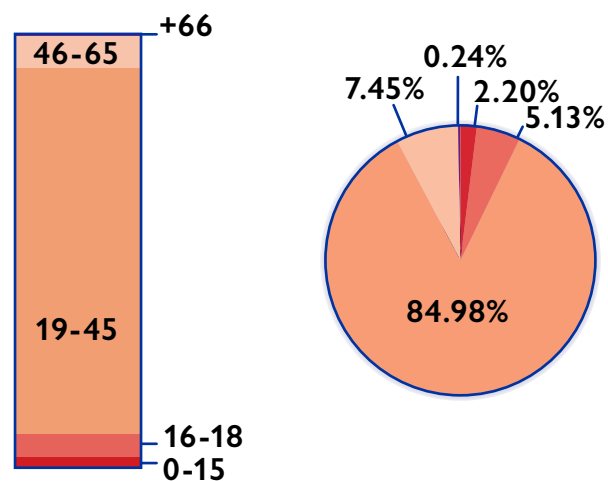
The 73.9 per cent of the people surveyed self-identify as men, 25.6 per cent as women and 0.5 per cent with another gender identity. An estimated 1.7 per cent consider themselves part of the LGTBI population, out of which 57.1 per cent self-identify as gay, 35.7 per cent as trans people and 7.1 per cent as bisexual.

The main nationalities reported are Honduran (72.2%), Guatemalan (12.2%) and Salvadoran (11.7%). The remaining 3.7% indicated to be of Nicaraguan, Haitian, American or Brazilian nationality. An estimated 1.2 per cent of the people surveyed indicated having dual citizenship, among which Mexico stands out (70%) as the country most frequently mentioned as a second nationality.

Regarding age groups, most migrants (84.9%) are in the range of 19 to 45 years of age, and those over 66 years represent the smallest number (0.2%) among the surveyed population.



Do you consider yourself as part of LGBTI community?



Age



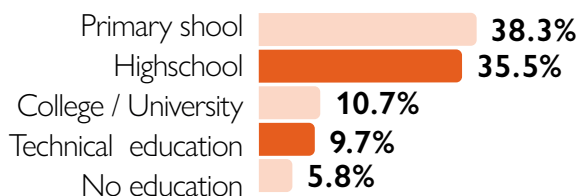
Nationality



Marital status

A total of 65.5 per cent of the people reported to be traveling alone, out of which 39.6 per cent mentioned to be single. Approximately, 34.4 per cent are traveling with company, out of which 20.6 per cent indicated to be married at the time of the survey.

The education profile of the surveyed population is predominantly of basic general level. The 33.8 per cent of the population reported to have completed primary school and the 20.1 per cent had completed secondary school. Additionally, 5.8 per cent indicated that they do not have any level of education, while 4.2 per cent have completed university studies and 2.2 per cent have completed postgraduate university studies.

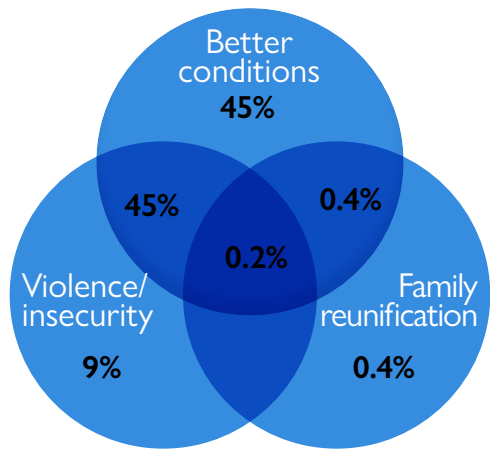


Education

MIGRATION DINAMIC

Survey respondents highlighted as the main reasons for migration; job search (68%), search for education opportunities (11.8%), search for better living conditions (10%) and ward off violence and insecurity (8.5%).

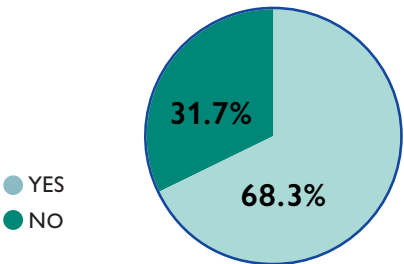
However, most of the migrants indicated several causes of migration. This multi-causality can be observe on the following graph:



Reasons for migration

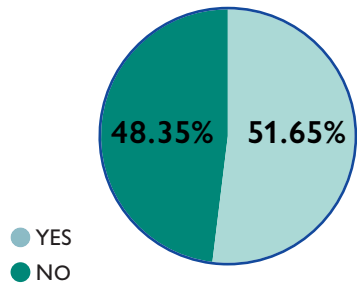
The 68.3 per cent of the people surveyed indicated that, in the last 12 months, they had to change residence in their own home country due to violence or insecurity related reasons.

An 80.3 per cent mentioned that they did not receive any kind of support from any institution to cope with displacement or change of residence, while 9.4 per cent mentioned receiving support from the government, 2.3 per cent from a non-governmental organization, and 7.9 per cent from both the government and other organizations.



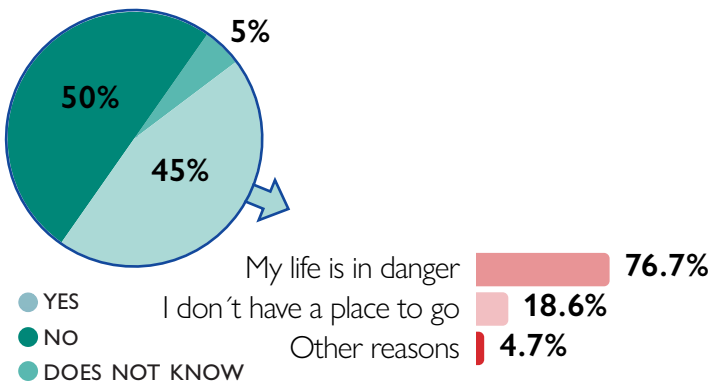
In the last 12 months, did you need to change your residence in your country of origin due to violence or insecurity?

The 51.6 per cent of surveyed migrants confirmed having migrated as part of the caravan, out of which 86.7 per cent mentioned to be the first time they participated in a caravan and 13.3 per cent said that it is not their first experience in the caravan movement. From the last percentage, most have previously participated in two caravans (61.1%), others have only joined one caravan (30.6%) and fewer have participated in three caravans (8.3%).



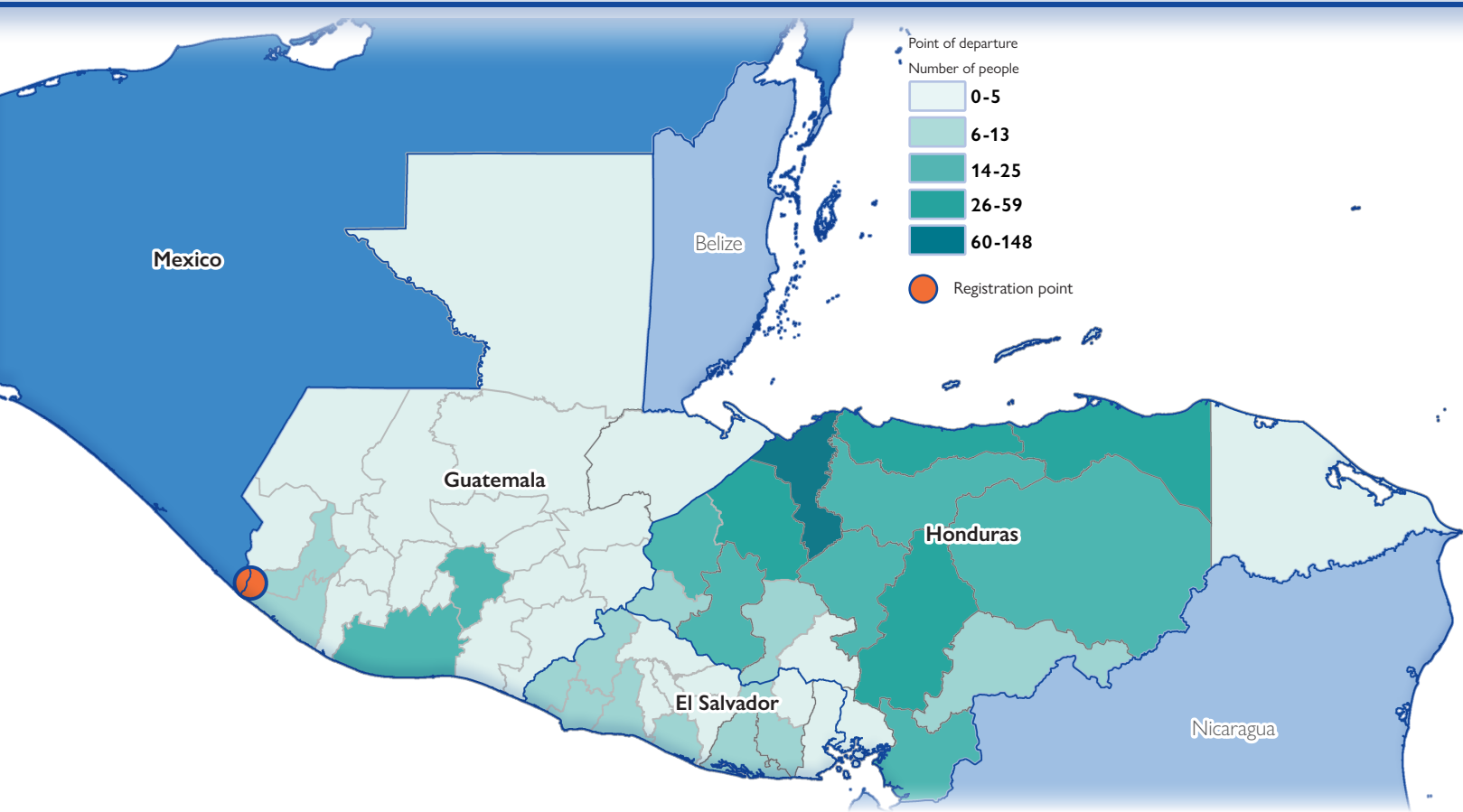
¿Did you migrate with the Caravan movement?

A total of 45.1 per cent reported in the case of having to return to their country of origin, they could do so without any trouble, from this group of migrants the 5.1 per cent did not know if they could return and 49.8 per cent confirmed they could not go back to their home country. The main reason given for not being able to return is because it would put their lives in danger (76.7%).

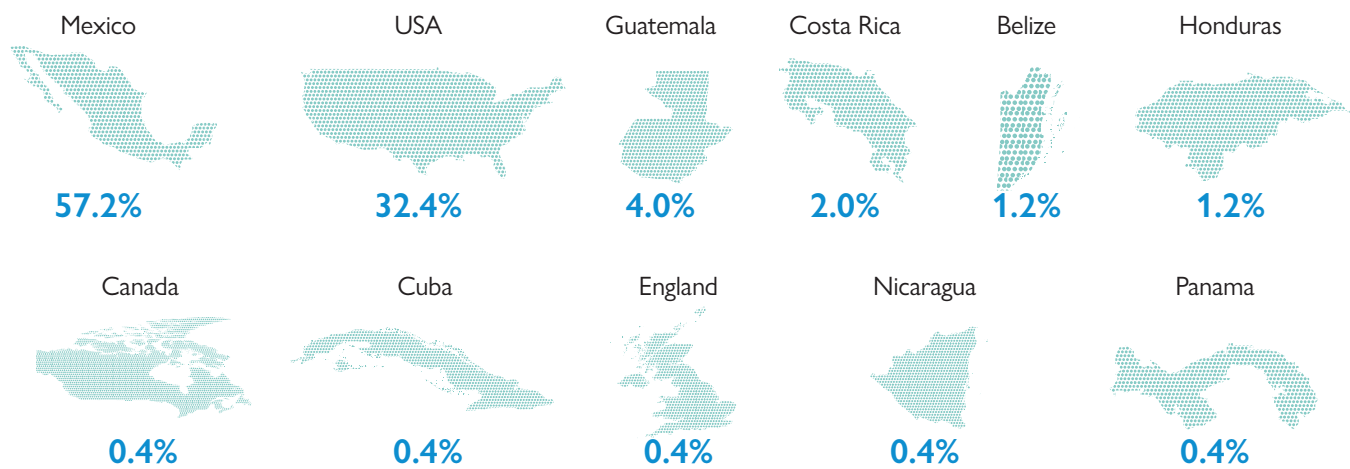


In the case of having to return to your country of origin, is there anything putting your live at risk?

MIGRATION DINAMIC



Point of departure



Previous destinations of migrants

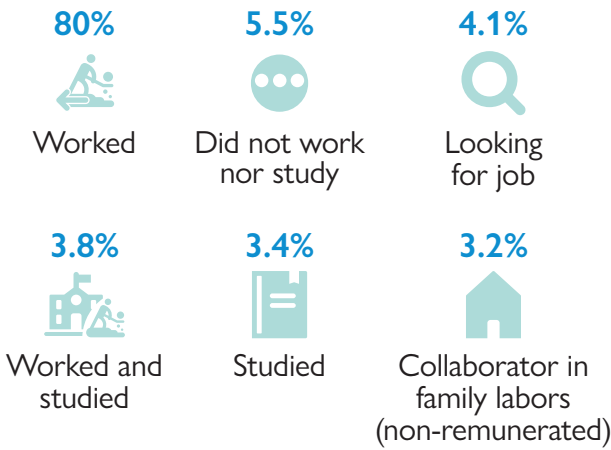
A 70.9 per cent of respondents mentioned this is their first migration experience to foreigner country, while 29.1 per cent have previously migrated to other countries, among which Mexico (57.2%) and the United States (32.4%) were the most frequently mentioned.



Relatives who currently live in countries other than their country of origin

56.5% of the migrants surveyed claimed to have relatives who are currently living in a country other than their country of origin. Most are Hondurans (72.6%) with relatives in the United States (55.8%), Mexico (11.6%) and Spain (3.4%).

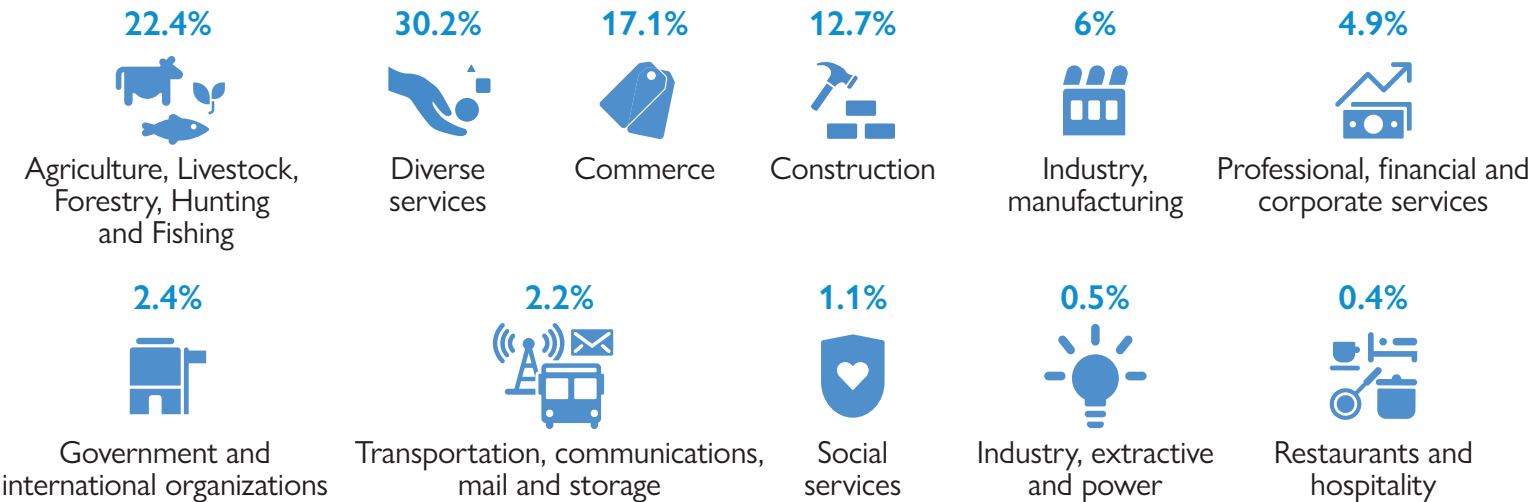
OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE



Most migrants surveyed reported to have been employed (80%) when they made the decision to migrate. In a smaller proportion, respondents indicated they did not study nor work (5.5%), 3.8 per cent mentioned that they were both working and studying before migrating, and 3.3 per cent were women who were performing unpaid activities as contributors to family labors.

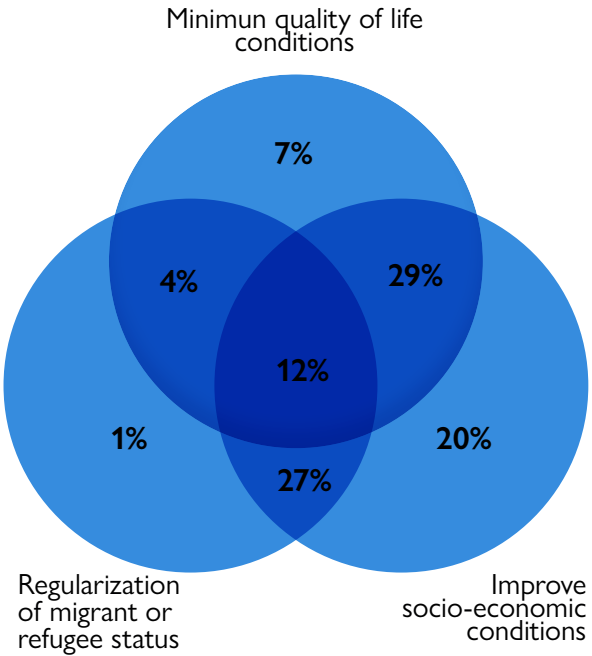
A 57.5 per cent acknowledged they use to work in the informal sector and 42.5 per cent in the formal sector of the economy.

Occupation before migrating



Sectors of occupation for those who worked in their home countries

MIGRATION PLAN

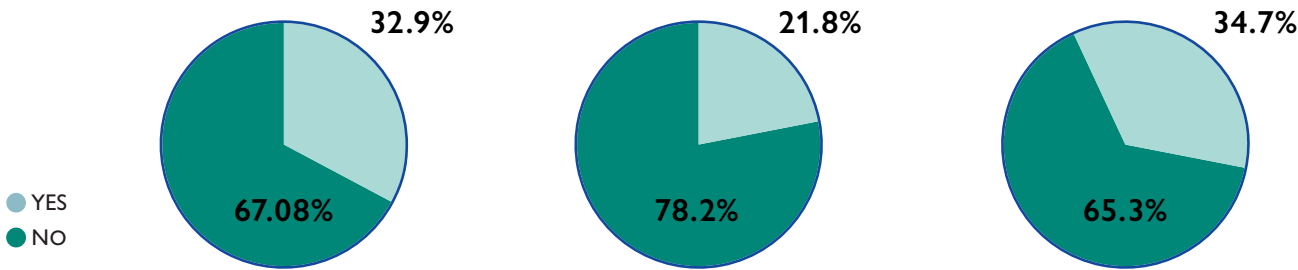


Migrants surveyed considered that improving their socioeconomic conditions is their immediate need in order to continue with their migratory plan. These improvements are related to the search for work, money, options to study, protection, security, transportation and housing.

Next, respondents mentioned subsistence needs as to improve their minimum conditions for quality of life, that is, to have water for human consumption, clothing, food, healthcare and accommodation.

Regularization of their immigration status, obtaining a humanitarian visa and accessing the refugee or asylum application in Mexico were the last identified needs in order to continue to their destinations.

Identified needs



¿Do you know the procedures and requirements for accessing protection in Mexico?

¿Would you be interested in returning voluntarily to your country of origin?

¿Did you receive any information about your rights as a migrant in Mexico?

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