

## ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN PROGRAM

IOM's voluntary assisted return program aims to achieve the voluntary, orderly and humane return of migrants who cannot 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 555 people, 31 of which are unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents.

Voluntary assistances

555

Unaccompanied children and adolescents

31

## COUNTRIES OF RETURN

In Mexico, the accreditation of cases from Tijuana and Mexico City (adults and accompanied children) are concentrated in Tapachula.

The majority of cases were registered in Mexico City (89%) and Tijuana (10%). Some additional cases were registered in southern Mexico, in Tapachula, Chiapas (1%).

All unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents registered in Mexico have benefited from a voluntary return assisted by air, due to their high level of vulnerability.

In cases registered in Guatemala, the Voluntary Return Program has operated from the border with Mexico, in Tecun Umán, and by land only. The 59% of migrants registered in Guatemala returned to El Salvador and 41% to Honduras.

In terms of means of transportation, 84% of migrants have been returned by land transport, 6% by air transport (unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents) and 10% have alternately used air and land during their assisted return.

### Transport method



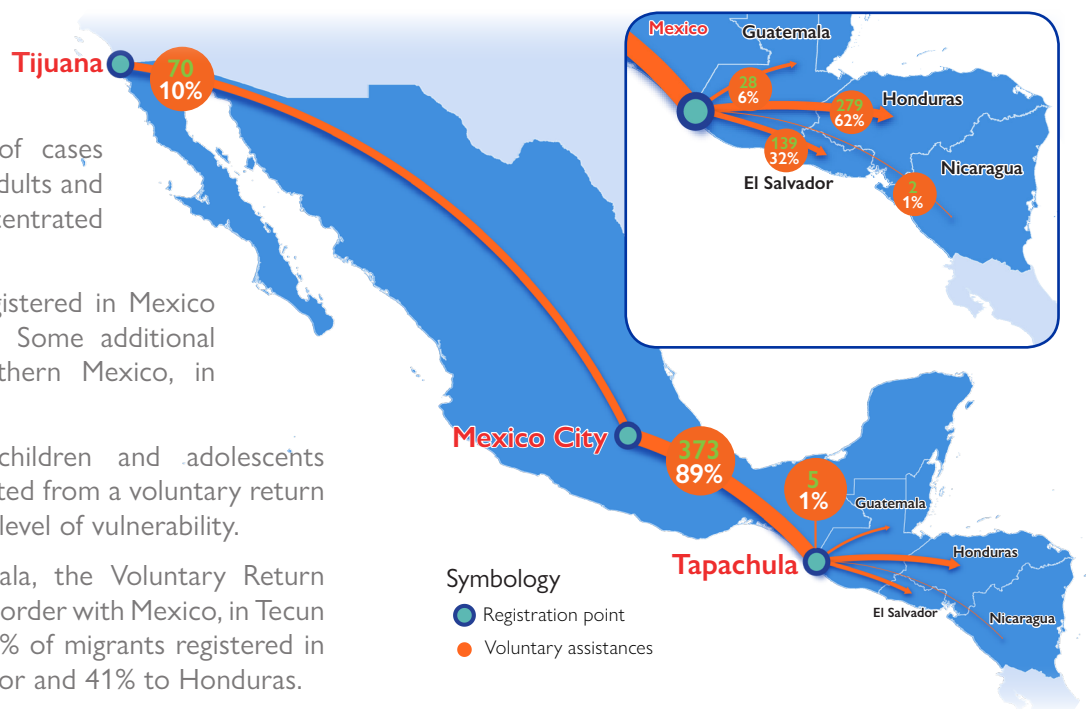
By land  
84%



By air  
6%

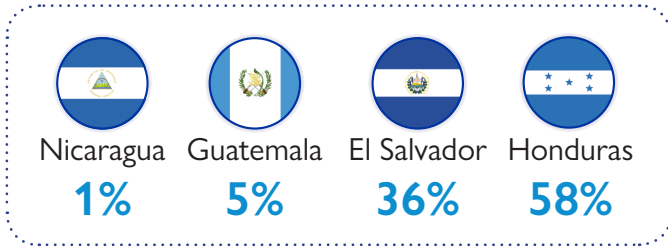


By air and land  
10%



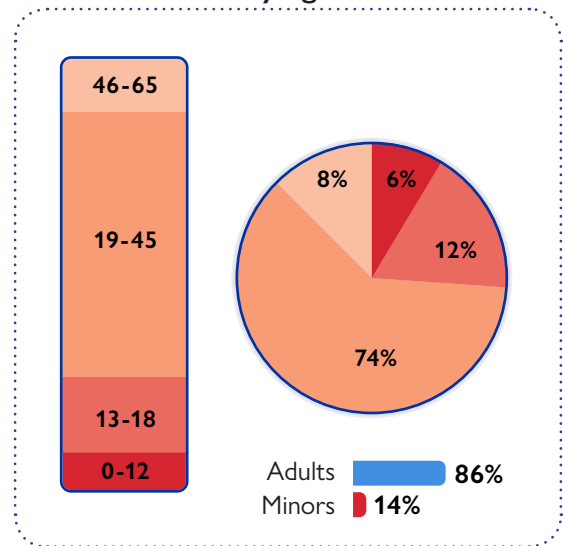
## MIGRATION PROFILE OF ASSISTED PEOPLE

### By nationality



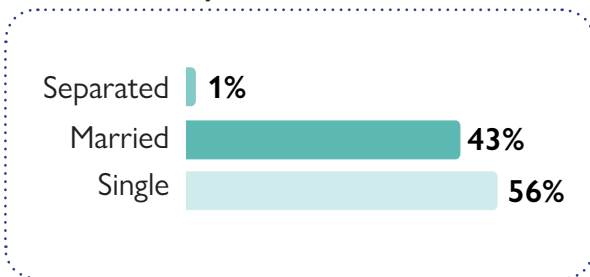
Most of the people who have been assisted are of Honduran nationality (58%) or Salvadoran nationality (36%), naturally due to the migratory flows resulting from the caravans originating from these countries. 81% of migrants are men and only 19% are women. Ages of the migrants are concentrated between 19 and 35 years (58%) and most are single (56%).

### By age



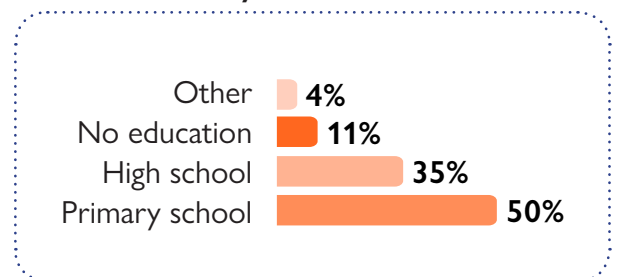
The educational profile of these people is characterized by being at the primary level (50%), consisting of 15% women and 85% men and at the secondary level (35%), in which 21% are women and 79% are men. The 11% of the population does not have any type of education, of which 41% area migrants who are minors to 5 years old and who still have not entered general basic education and 59% are adults who did not have access to basic education (of the adults, 7% are women and 93% are men).

### By Marital status

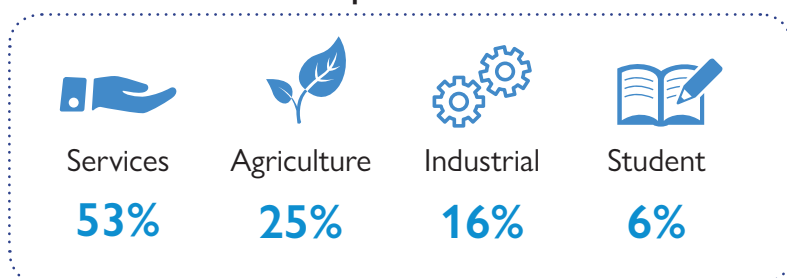


In addition, in their countries of origin, most people worked in the service sector (53%), followed by the agricultural sector (25%). In the service sector, people have mostly primary (50%) and secondary (37%) education levels. In the agricultural sector, the level of education is also mostly at the primary level with 56% and is followed by the secondary level at 15%.

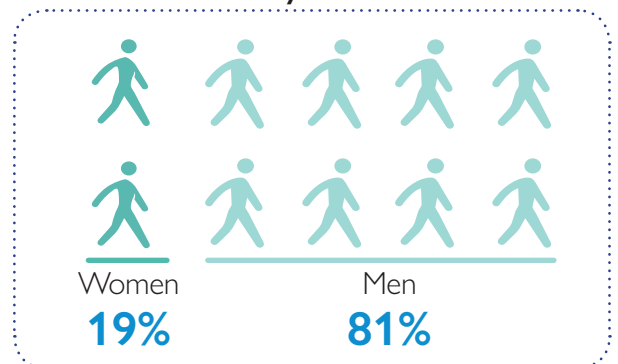
### By education



### Occupation area

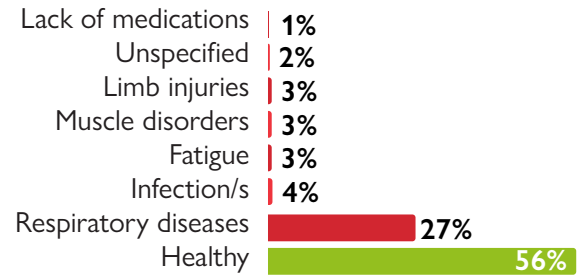


### By sex



## BY HEALTH CONDITION

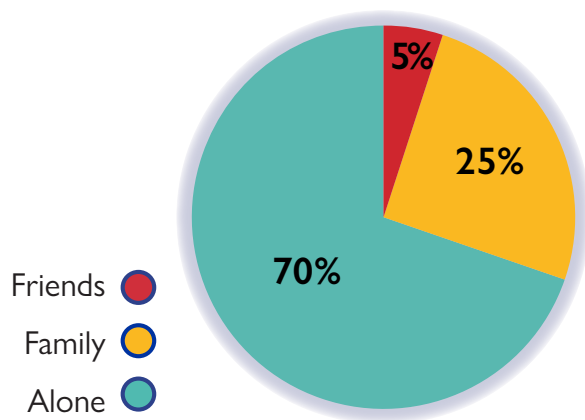
Regarding the health conditions of migrants, the majority are self-perceived as healthy, however it was identified at the time of the screening process that approximately one third suffered from respiratory diseases, as well as some cases of infections and affectations in muscles and extremities.



## RELATIONSHIP WITH THOSE WHO TRAVEL

The following chart shows the familiar relationship between the people who are part of the migrant caravan. In the first category, the data show that most migrants are travelling alone (70%), followed by migrants travelling with first-degree relatives, i.e. parents, siblings and children (25%), and finally, a small percentage of migrants (5%) state that they traveled with friends or acquaintances.

Regarding migrants who are travelling with family members, 21% are minors between 0 and 17 years of age, and 17% are under 13 years of age.



## REASONS FOR MIGRATING

In the adjoining graph, three categories were used that summarize concisely the main reasons for migration.

The search for better living conditions has been highlighted as the main reason why migrants were mobilized, as many of them referred to conditions of unemployment and inequality in their countries of origin.

Secondly, the violence and insecurity experienced has been another of the fundamental causes of the mobilization of migrants into the caravans, many of them mentioned threats by gang members. Finally, some people (2%) have stated that their reason for joining caravans was the desire to find relatives in the destination country.

