EL SALVADOR:
FLOW MONITORING SURVEY
ON PROFILES AND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS OF MIGRANTS IN TRANSIT

ROUND 2:
31 OCTOBER 2018
1 OBJETIVES AND METHODOLOGY

General Objective:
Provide a profile of the migrant population traveling in caravans and their needs to support humanitarian action in transit, reception and reintegration.

Specific Objectives:
1. Estimate profiles, group composition and expectations.
2. Identify key humanitarian needs.
3. Provide inputs to support coordination efforts on protection, reception, attention and reintegration of migrants.

Methodology:
The total estimated population crossing the borders between El Salvador and Guatemala on 31 October 2018 was at least of 1,700 people. From previous activities on the field during the period 30-31 October, the team estimated that less than half of this population was traveling in groups of different size. Given that: 1) It was not possible to assume people were traveling exclusively with their household members (there could be close relatives, friends, etc.); 2) The target population was not located at a fixed point; and 3) the probable geographical distribution of gathering points; the NTMI team proposed the concept of “traveling group” as unit of analysis for this survey. We define “traveling group” as the persons who share directly the same resources during the trip and can belong to the same household or have close ties between them. For the purposes of the analysis, this concept identifies a head of the “traveling group” as key informant and includes migrant persons traveling by themselves as a 1-person group.

The total number of surveys corresponds to the minimum sample required so that a continuous variable can represent a population of 1,200 individuals (heads of traveling group) estimated to have crossed the borders during the 31 October 2018 with 95% confidence and an error margin of +/- 5.1%. It is important to clarify that, with such a small sample, by disaggregating general indicators in more than 2 levels (i.e. sex and urban/rural area at the same time), the data loses its representativeness.

Lastly, the categories for responses were not read aloud to the person being interviewed to minimize bias induced by the surveyor. All collected information is anonymous (the survey does not include any questions on personal identification), it follows IOM’s data protection principles and requires the express consent of the respondent before beginning the survey.

Technical Note:

Target Population: Salvadoran migrants in transit departing on 31 October 2018 in the context of the migrant caravan.

Analysis Unit: Traveling group of migrants in transit.

Key Informant: The head of the traveling group.

Coverage: National. Migrants in transit through the La Hachadura and San Cristóbal border crossings.

Sample Size: 228 men and 58 women for a total of 286 heads of traveling group.

Sample frame: Semi-probabilistic and stratified per estimated flow by border.

NTMI
https://mic.iom.int/
General Information

60.1% URBAN AREA
39.9% RURAL AREA

286 PERSONS SURVEYED
20% WOMEN
80% MEN

Population Pyramid

Population Included in the Sample
(Heads of Traveling Groups + Group Members)

Total Population in Sample: 529

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-6 Years Old</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-12 Years Old</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-17 Years Old</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-50 Years Old</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>83.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 and older</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>124</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>529</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 12.1% were children and adolescents
- 83.7% were adults between 18 and 50 years old
- 4.2% were adults of 51 years old and above

From the Heads of Group...

8.1% Identified themselves with a group from the LGBTI community,
78.7% were heterosexual and 13.3% did not respond.

Reported Reasons to Migrate

Multicausal Analysis

Better Conditions 79.8%
Violence/Insecurity 45.7%
Family Reunification 2.9%

On average, female heads of traveling group were 32 years old
whereas males were 31. Family reunification as a direct motivation
to migrate was considerably lower than better conditions and violen-
ce/insecurity, partially, due to the average age of the respondents.
Nonetheless, when asking respondents with US as their destination
why had they chosen that destination, 21.9% mentioned the presence
of family in the US as a factor.
## General Information

### Average Schooling Years of Heads of Traveling Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Average Schooling Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Occupations of the Heads of Traveling Group

- Construction
- Commerce
- Agriculture and Farming
- Textile Manufacturing
- Call Center
- Mechanics
- Public Services
- Unknown
- Arts
- Middle-Level Technical and Professionals
- Services
- Domestic Labour
- Unemployed
- Sports
- Craftsman
- Transportation
- Domestic Labour
- Student
- Security
- Home
- Professional
- Scientific/Social
- Arts
- Public Services
- Call Center
- Sports
- Unknown
- General
- Textile Manufacturing
- General

### From the Heads of Group...

- 67% of males were traveling by themselves, whereas the same indicator for females was 41%.
- 38.1% were traveling in groups
- 61.9% were traveling by themselves

### Average Age of the Head of Traveling Group

- **31 Years Old**
- **Males:** 31
- **Females:** 32

### From the Population Traveling in Groups:

- 55% were traveling with relatives
- 34.9% were traveling with non-relatives
- 10.1% were traveling with both relatives and non-relatives

### Average Schooling Years (Eight Grade)

- **7.9**

### Average Group Size

- **3.3**

### Of all people interviewed identified the US as their destination

- **84.9%**

### Destinations

- **11.5%** Mexico
- **3.6%** others
of the persons interviewed stated knowing the current mechanisms to request asylum, refuge, or some other form of protection in their countries of destination.

of the persons interviewed manifested the need of some sort of medication.

The top of mind of medications was:

- Acetaminophen
- Diclofenac
- Ibuprofen
- Serum
- Muscle Relaxant
- Asucrasil
- Cardio bolg
- Rash/chafing cream
- Foot Cream
- Beclomethasone
- Cough and Throat
- Syrup
- Nutrition
- Medicine
- Prednisone
- Salbutamol
- Alerfin

IOM recommends to all humanitarian assistance teams on the field not to provide over-the-counter medications such as: Ibuprofen, acetaminophen, etc. without due medical examination.

Without a medical examination, these medications can have cross effects with other treatments, or generate additional problems when combined with diseases prevalent in children and/or endemic to the region (i.e. using aspirin or ibuprofen in patients with dengue fever).

Additionally, we suggest consulting if the children have their vaccines card completed, as well as if pregnant women carry with them their respective prenatal control documents and vaccines certifications.

of all groups included someone who suffered from a disease which they considered to be particularly serious.

- Allergy
- Arthritis
- Asthma
- Dermatitis
- Cognitive Disability
- Spine injuries
- Renal and kidney diseases
- Gastritis
- Hypercholesterolemia
- Hypertension
- Migraine
- Flu
- Blood Pressure
- Auditive Problems
- Heart Problems
- Sight Problems
- Sinusitis
- Heart Murmur
- Cough

of traveling groups included at least 1 pregnant woman. However, 13.8% of female heads of traveling groups did not respond to the question or stated she did not know. The average months of pregnancy was 4.

of traveling groups included at least one breastfeeding mother. The average age of the infants was 14 months.
WHY DO YOU TRAVEL IN THE CARAVAN?

“Higher chance of making it”

“So I don’t pay someone who will leave me stranded”

“We can support each other”

“It’s safer and less expensive”

“It’s safer because we are more”

“Because it’s our only opportunity”

“Because it’s better to go with company”

“I feel encouraged with the caravan”

“Because I already graduated from the university and there weren’t jobs for me”

With support from the IOM emergency fund for the Northern Triangle of Central America