

HIGHLIGHTS

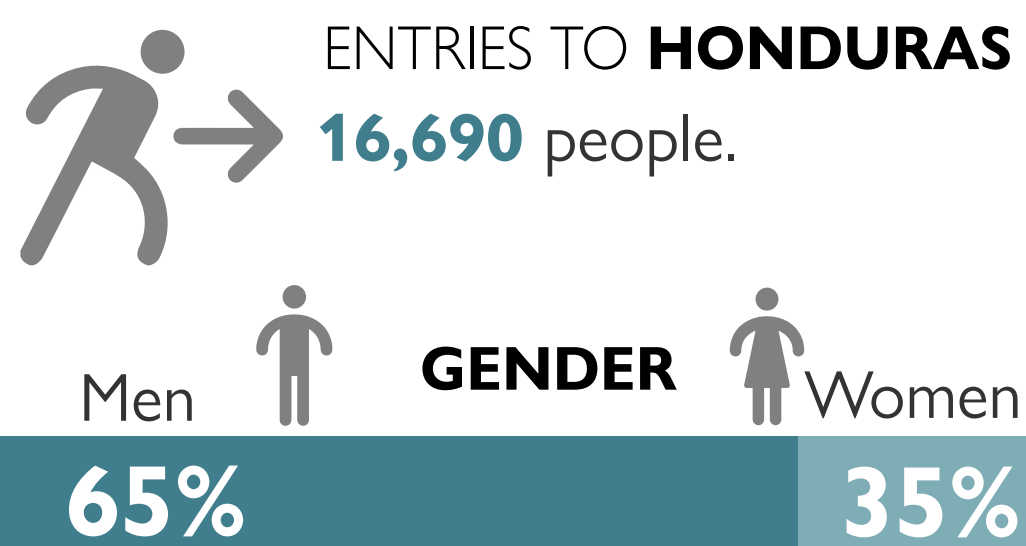
IRREGULAR MIGRATION FLOW

An irregular migration flow is understood to be the number of international migrants who arrive (enter) or depart (exit) a country during a period established irregularly through unofficial crossing points. These data are a dynamic measure for counting the number of people who cross a border and include those migrants who cross one or more times in a set period.

The data collected show the perception of key informants, so the data is interpreted as averages and general estimates of the situation.

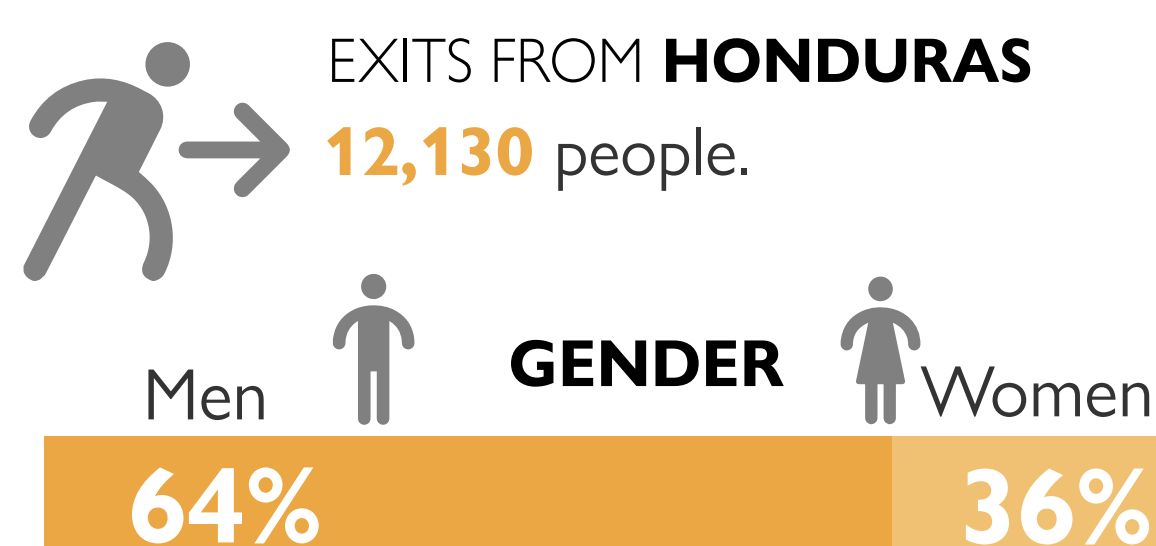
ENTRIES TO HONDURAS

The border localities in which information was collected from key informants were Agua Caliente, Corinto, Guasaule, La Apertura (Trojes) and Las Manos, and in all of them, with the exception of Agua Caliente, significant quantitative data on entries was collected.

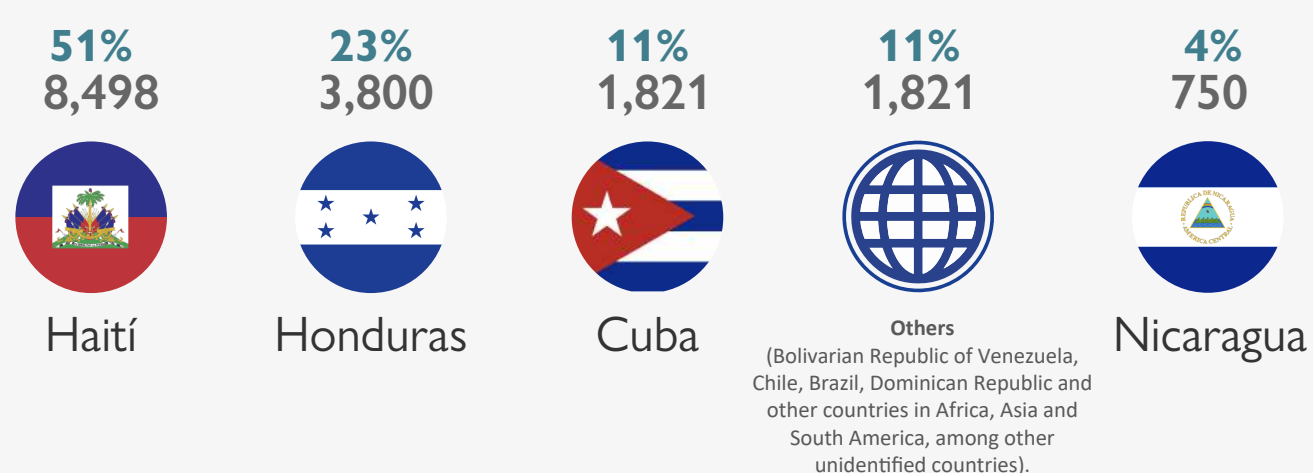


EXITS FROM HONDURAS

The border localities in which information was collected from key informants were Agua Caliente, Corinto, Guasaule, La Apertura (Trojes) and Las Manos; however, only in Agua Caliente and Corinto there was significant quantitative exit data collected.



MAXIMUM VALUE BY NATIONALITY



MAXIMUM VALUE BY NATIONALITY



STRANDED POPULATION



Stranded population refers to migrants who are unable to return to their country of origin, to regularize their situation in the country in which they reside or to access regular migration channels that would allow them to move to another country. The term may also refer to migrants who are stranded in the country of destination, transit or origin for humanitarian or security reasons and are therefore unable to return home or continue their journey elsewhere.¹ People stranded in La Apertura (Trojes) were identified; however, there is no precise information regarding the number or profile of those stranded people.

¹-IOM. Glossary on Migration (Geneva, 2019)

8 key informants

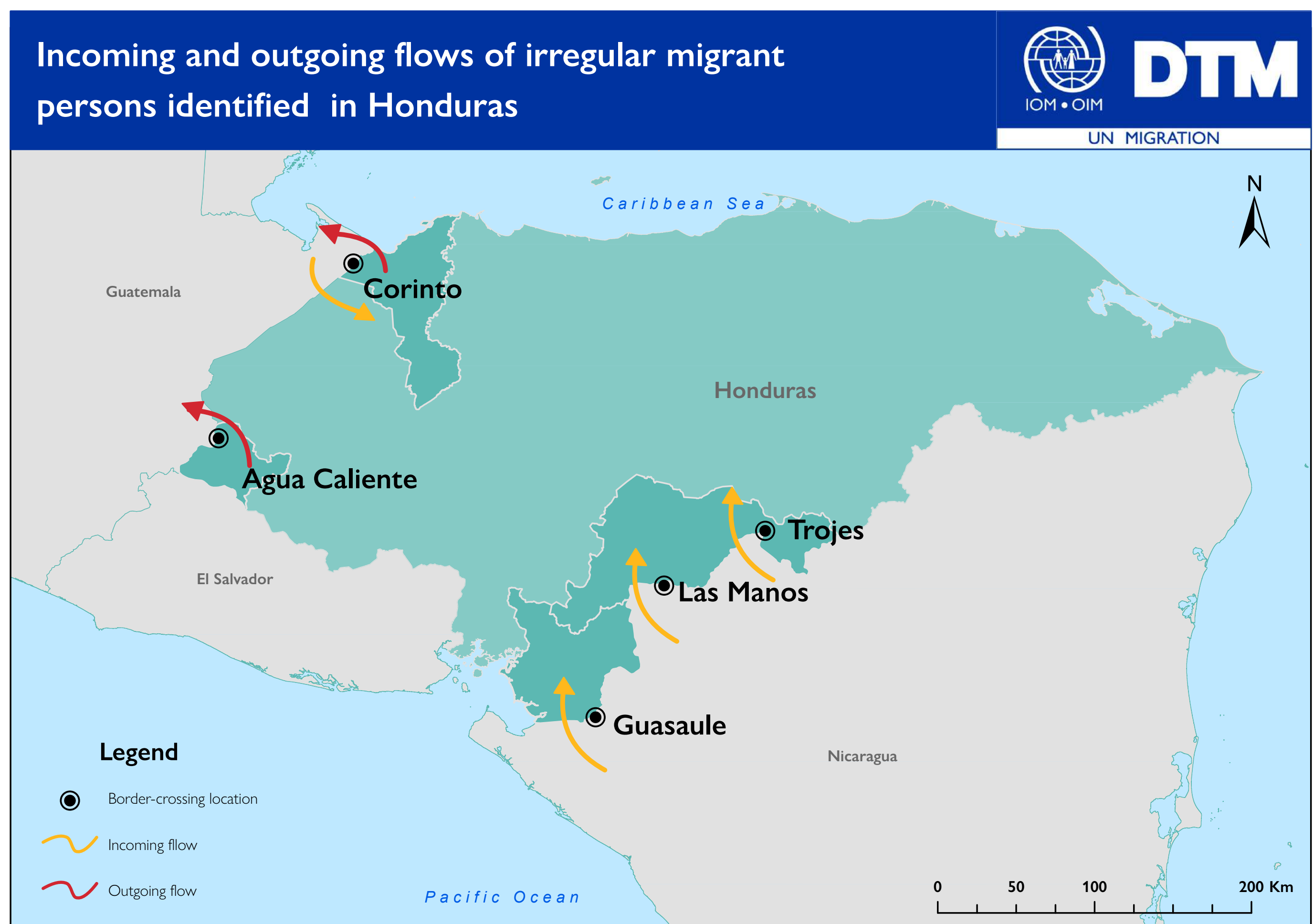
The DTM (Displacement Tracking Matrix), through the flow monitoring and mobility tracking subcomponents, is a methodology whose purpose is to quantify and analyze trends in migration flows and the presence of migrants in specific localities during a specific period. Data collection was based on interviews and focus groups with strategically selected key informants under remote and face-to-face modality. Information was obtained from the House of the Directorate of Children, Adolescents and Family (DINAF), the National Directorate of Border Police Services (DNSPF), the National Migration Institute (INM), the Community Living Forces of Trojes and Guasaule (Community 7 May - Mata Guineo), the Catholic Church, the International Health Office and Civil Society. These interviews were conducted in August 2021.

The data collected are the result of systematic records of field observations or migration control operations or

show the perception of the key informants consulted. In both cases, estimates may be biased due to the difficulty of estimating irregular flows not recorded by the authorities. In addition, there are important discrepancies between the estimates of population flows of the different key informants, in quantitative and qualitative terms, and the information available does not allow to judge the quality of each piece of information. Therefore, the results of this report are general approximations of the situation.

For the data on nationality estimates, the total number of migrant flows reported in the round for each locality is considered, with which a calculation is made of the maximum value by nationality, locality and current round, which makes it possible to visualize the total number of nationalities reported by the key informants in the round. The maximum value is used in each case, nationality and locality.

LOCATION



Basemap source: ESRI and UN World Map.

Note: This map is for illustrative purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration.



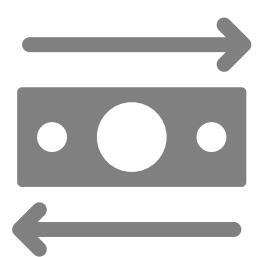
Street sales of face masks. Northern Central American countries (Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador) © IOM 2020



The largest irregular migration flow into Honduras is through the southern borders of the country, mainly through La Apertura (Trojes), where the migration phenomenon can be observed in the streets of the communities of Cifuentes and Mata Guineo, mostly with extraregional migrants from Haiti and Cuba, in route to the United States. Extraregional irregular migration has been increasing in recent months, and the entry of Haitians in family groups is noteworthy.



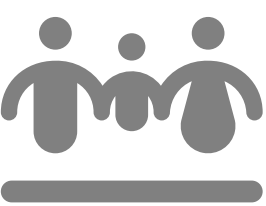
The local government of Trojes has taken drastic measures in relation to the transit of migrants through the municipality, as indications have been issued to reduce the irregular entry of migrants into Honduran territory². These measures include the prohibition of the use of public transportation and lodging services.



On the other hand, irregular migration in the department of El Paraíso has had a mainly economic impact on the communities, as the illegal trafficking of migrants has become an alternative means of livelihood for these populations and local businesses have been able to increase the cost of products by selling in dollars. The extraregional migrant population is a victim of fraud and in response to this problem, the neighbors of the transit communities have joined together to defend the human rights of migrants and thus prevent persecution against them.



As part of the response to the transit of extraregional migration in Honduras, the National Migration Institute (INM), specifically at its headquarters in Choluteca, grants a "Salvoconducto" (order of expulsion from the country) with a payment of \$190. This document is a fine for entering the country irregularly, the charge is stipulated in the Regulations of the Migration Law, Article 136, paragraph 5, and applies without exception to all persons. The expulsion order does not specify the border post through which the migrant must leave the country, this allows migrants to transit within Honduras in a safer way and to leave the country within 3 days.

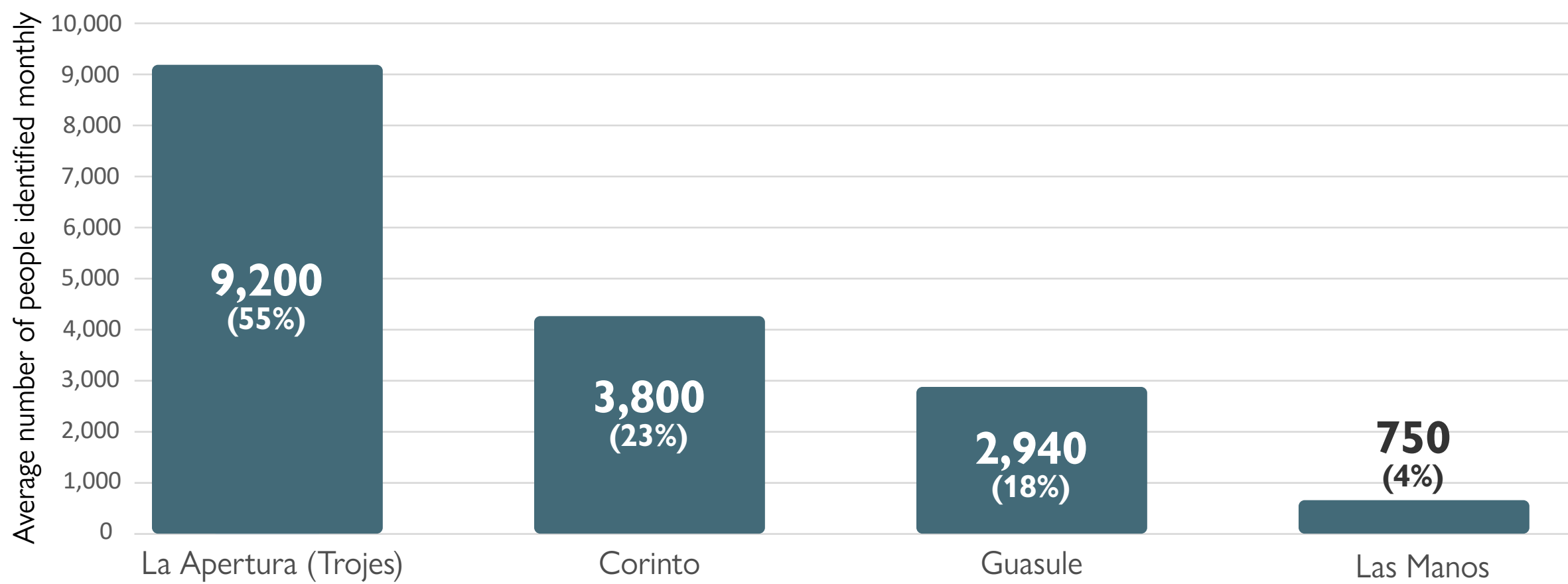


At the same time, Honduran nationals continue to position themselves as one of the main outgoing migration flows. The search for better socioeconomic conditions and displacement due to violence continue to be the main reasons for Honduran migration. Particularly, persecution and threats from gangs against men under 17 years of age have intensified, forcing this population to migrate in an irregular manner due to internal displacement.

²- La Tribuna. Precarious situation of more than 50 Haitian immigrants in the municipality of Trojes (2021). Available at: www.latribuna.hn/2021/07/01/precario-situacion-de-mas-de-50-inmigrantes-haitianos-en-el-municipio-de-trojes/

INCOMING MIGRATION FLOW

Approximate monthly incoming flow of migrants in irregular status by border locality (July, 2021)



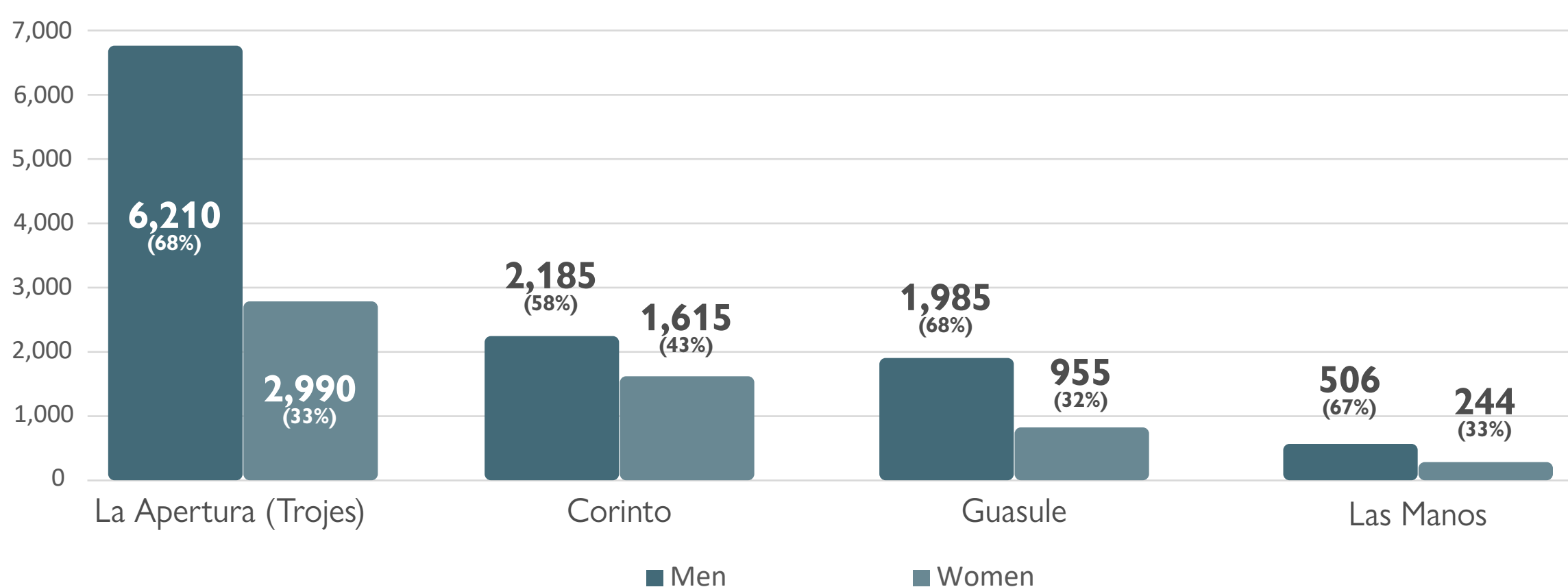
With respect to incoming migration flows, data provided by key informants showed that in July, La Apertura (Trojes) was the main border entry point, with 9,200 entries, with approximately 300 people per day. This flow has a south-north direction, so the migrants that make up this flow are in transit through Honduras, bound for North America.

On the other hand, the migration flow entering through Corinto stands out, with 3,800 migrants identified. The particularity of this flow is that it is a return flow in a north-south direction.

Sixty-five percent of the migrants who entered were men. In relation to people in vulnerable conditions, there are still limitations for field staff to identify differentiated profiles, so that a quantitative approach is available according to the capacities of each key informant.

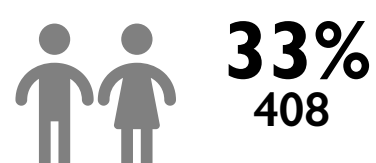
Despite these limitations, accompanied minors are the most represented category of people identified as vulnerable, with 408 children and adolescents between 6 and 17 years of age, and 815 children under 5 years of age. Minors represent 7 percent of the migration flow. A total of 8 pregnant women were reported as part of the migration flow as part of the vulnerable population at the Guasaule border.

Approximate entry of irregular migrants by gender and border location (July, 2021)

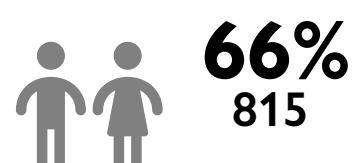


Persons of migration flow identified under some condition of vulnerability, July 2021

Minor between 6 and 17 years of age



Minors under 5 years of age



Pregnant women



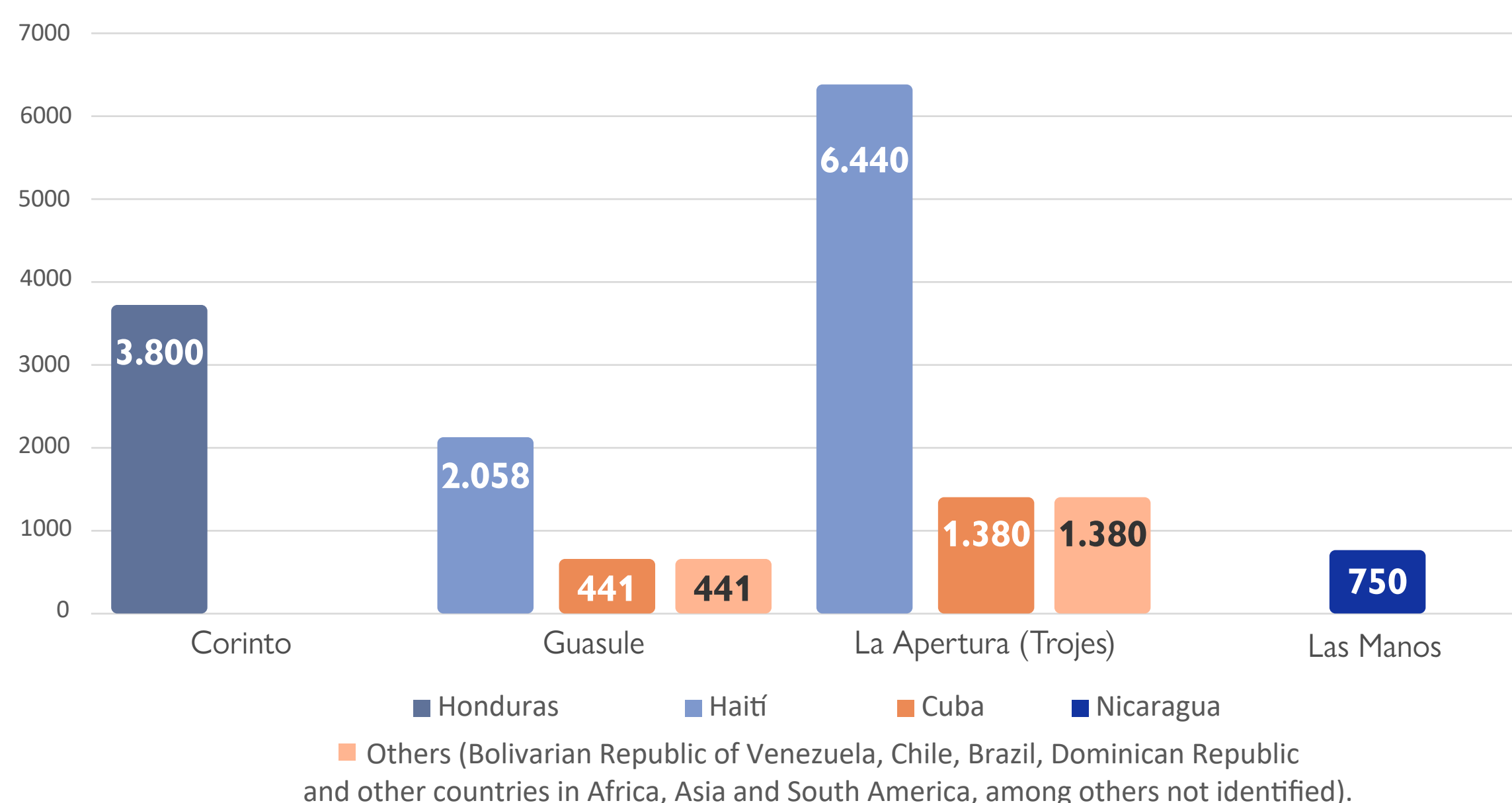
The incoming flow was divided among four main nationalities, Haiti, Honduras, Cuba and Nicaragua; however, other nationalities are reported in smaller numbers, such as the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Chile, Brazil, Dominican Republic and other countries in Africa, Asia and South America, among others not identified, which transit through the borders of Guasaule and La Apertura.

Migrants entering through the southern border of Honduras (Guasaule, Las Manos and La Apertura -Trojes) are extraregional and Nicaraguan. Extraregional migrants are particularly vulnerable due to the apparent deterioration of their physical and mental health with diseases related to dehydration, gastrointestinal problems, malnutrition, and blisters on their feet, among others.

Likewise, Nicaraguan migrants state that they are victims of political persecution and due to the lack of economic resources to pay for a COVID-19 test, they must choose to migrate in an irregular manner. All these people are in transit through the country, with no intention of remaining in Honduras.

Migrants entering through Agua Caliente and Corinto are Honduran nationals returning to their country of origin after unsuccessful attempts to migrate to the United States. These people travel in family groups or migrate alone, and also state that they must return due to the various obstacles encountered during their passage through Mexico, including the difficulty in paying for the trip, food, and on some occasions, they must remain on the streets as a result.

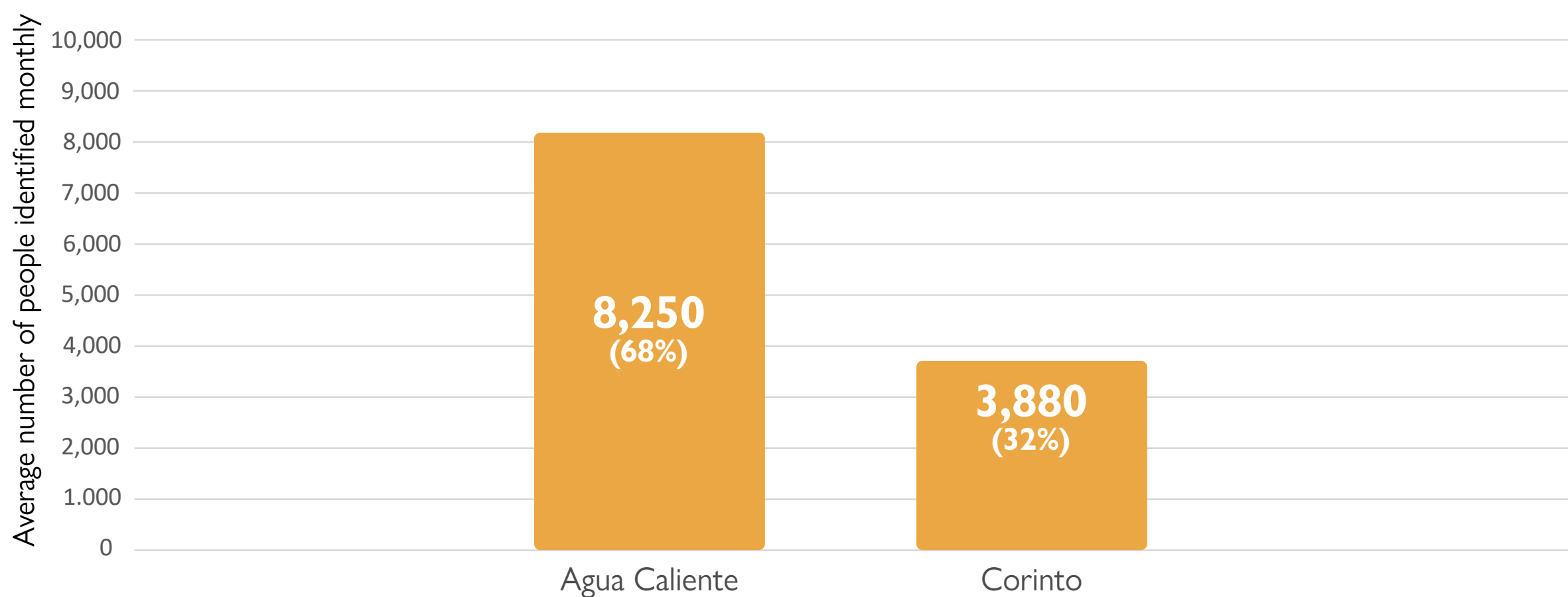
Approximate entry of irregular migrants by nationality and border location (July, 2021)



Regarding the reasons for which the people who made up the migration flow in transit through Honduras migrated, the main reasons were the search for improvements in their socioeconomic conditions, displacement due to violence and political conflicts, in addition to seeking family reunification and a better quality of life.

OUTGOING MIGRATION FLOW

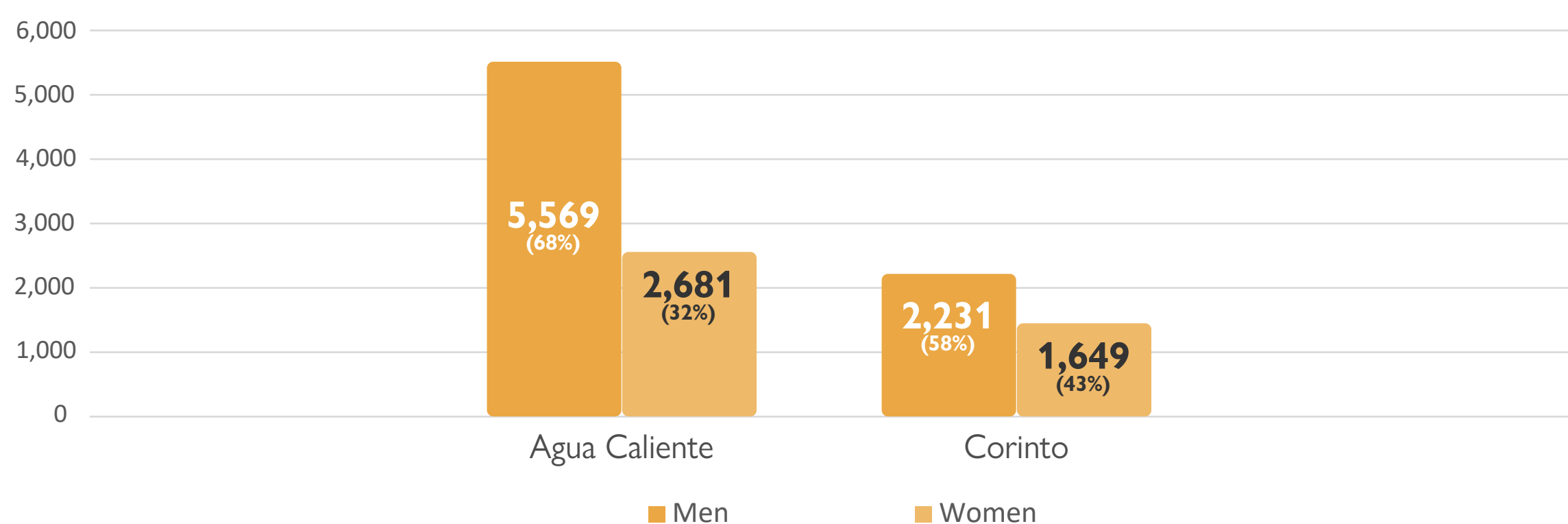
Approximate monthly outgoing flow of irregular migrants by border location (July, 2021)



According to information provided by key informants, of the two border localities evaluated, Agua Caliente registers an average of 250 migrants per day and in Corinto the figure reaches 80 migrants per day.

Regarding the composition of the migration flow by gender, 68 percent of the people in Agua Caliente are men, while in Corinto they represent 58 percent. At the general level, women represent 36 percent, while men represent 64 percent.

Approximate outgoing flow of irregular migrants by gender and border location (July, 2021)



In relation to people in vulnerable conditions, there are still limitations for field staff to identify differentiated profiles, so that a quantitative approach is available according to the capabilities of each key informant.

Despite these limitations, accompanied minors are the most represented category of people identified as vulnerable. In total, 185 children and adolescents between 6 and 17 years of age and 447 children under 5 years of age left Honduras. Minors represent 4 percent of the migration flow.

Persons of migration flow identified under some condition of vulnerability, July 2021

Minor between 6 and 17 years of age

29%
185

Minors under 5 years of age

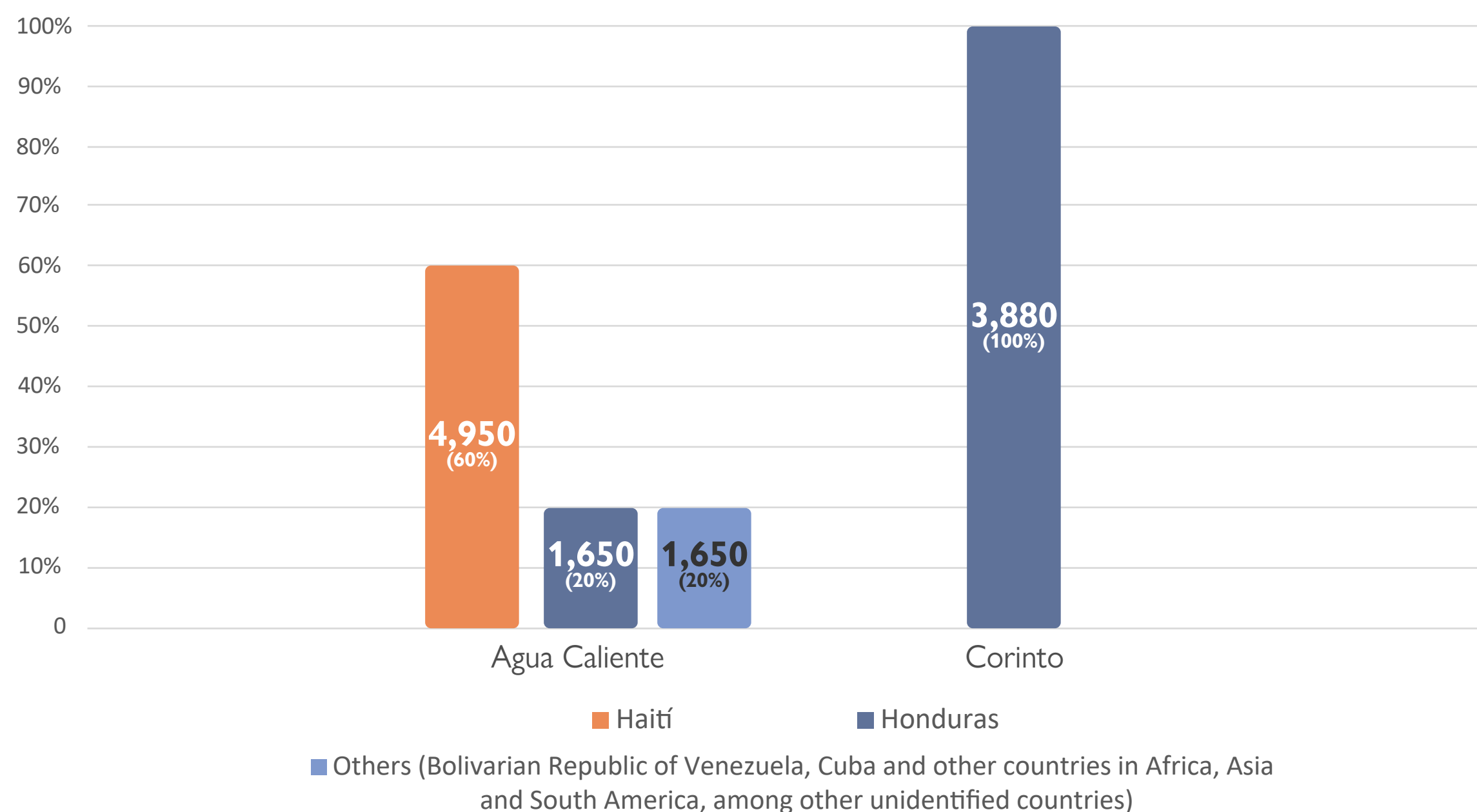
70%
447

Pregnant women

2%
10

In terms of nationalities, it is noteworthy that the people who leave through the Agua Caliente border are related to the profile of those who enter through the La Apertura border in Trojes. Therefore, the nationalities mostly identified in the outgoing flow through Agua Caliente are from Haiti, Cuba, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, African countries, Asia and other South American countries, as well as Honduran nationals.

Approximate outgoing flow of irregular migrants by nationality and border location (July, 2021)



Regarding Hondurans and Haitians, it was possible to identify groups apparently made up of families. In the particular case of Hondurans, it was identified that the reasons for migration are based on the search for improvements in the socioeconomic conditions of the families, mainly the search for employment and education for their children. Migrants consider that after the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, access to education has been limited and restricted for adolescents and children.

Stranded population in border localities



According to key informants, specifically the Pastoral of the Catholic Church, in the community of Cifuentes (Trojes) in La Apertura, they have received migrants from outside the region who do not continue their journey for up to a week after arriving due to lack of money, in some cases waiting for their relatives to send them money or for the church, with the support of the community, to raise funds to help them continue their journey. However, there is no precise quantification of the number of people in this situation.

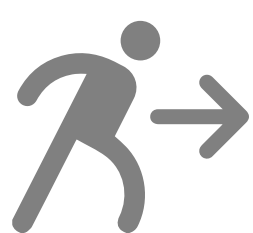
CONCLUSIONS



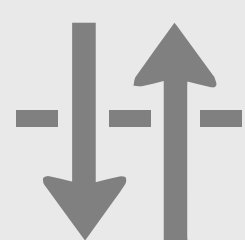
Unlike the previous round, which was carried out through virtual interviews, for this round 7 there were field visits to the borders, which allowed to obtain data closer to reality, since the institutions that participate as key actors do not have information on irregular migration movements. The key informants in the field that should be considered important are civil society, the security forces and the churches.



The southern borders of Honduras are mainly used as a transit point for extra-regional migrants from Haiti, Cuba, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, African countries, Asia and other South American countries, with a larger number of Haitian migrants. The busiest border is La Apertura (Trojes) with 9,200 irregular migrants entering in July, mostly made up of families, women, men, boys and girls from 0 to 5 years of age, and pregnant women in vulnerable conditions, with dehydration, stomach problems, malnutrition, blisters, among others.



The most transited borders with departures of irregular migrants are Agua Caliente and Corintos. The Agua Caliente border is the busiest, with 68 percent of migrants using this exit point, while the remaining 32 percent use Corintos.



The most transited border by the Honduran population for irregular entries and exits is Corintos, since access is easier and it is located near the city of San Pedro Sula. The irregular migration flow for the month of July is constant, since, according to informants, no large mass transit has been seen. For the month of July, approximately 12,130 migrants left in an irregular manner and 16,704 migrants entered. It should be noted that irregular migration is currently occurring mostly in families.



Field work by IOM officers. Northern Central American countries (Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador) © IOM 2020

This publication was possible with the support from the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) of the United States of America Department of State, in the framework of the Western Hemisphere Program. The views expressed do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Government of the United States of America. This publication has not been officially edited by IOM