On December 20 and 21 of 2018, IOM applied surveys at the El Barretal shelter and in the surroundings of the Benito Juárez sports complex located in Tijuana, Baja California, on the northern border of Mexico. IOM established these two monitoring points due to the confluence of migrants who formed part of the Caravan of Central American Migrants, which headed north in the months of October and November of 2018.

The data collection was carried out at the screening points in El Barretal and in the surroundings of the Benito Juárez sports complex in Tijuana, Mexico, where the number of records was 320 and 73 people respectively.

At the time of the survey the El Barretal shelter had approximately 1,550 migrants; hence 21% of the hosted migrants were surveyed. In the surroundings of the Benito Juárez sports complex, 1,000 people were housed during the application of the survey, meaning IOM interviewed 7.3% of migrants sheltered in this facility.

The confidence level of the survey is 95% with a 5% margin of error.
Most of the people surveyed were men (82%), between the range of 19 to 45 years. Most people reported Honduras as their country of nationality, followed by El Salvador and Guatemala, and in small percentages people from Nicaragua were interviewed.

33% of people indicated they were single, 42% reported they were in a civil union and 25% were married. 100% indicated that their journey was by land.
83% declared having a paid job before leaving their country of origin. Concerning the sectors of occupation, the most representative sector is the agricultural industry, which represented 28% of the people interviewed. The industrial sector is the second most represented, with 15% of the mentions of the people interviewed. Additionally, the construction sector is the third most important having 14% of the mentions among people interviewed. The commercial sector has 11% of the mentions, being the fourth most represented.

76% of people said they had had a health complication recently or during their journey. Of these, 66% were respiratory diseases, 6% digestive problems, 3% superficial cures and less than 1% psychological ailments.

The violence experienced in their countries of origin (47%) and the lack of socio-economic opportunities (45%) are the main reasons that motivated people to migrate. 2% indicated that they travelled with the objective of reuniting with their relatives in their country of destination.
The interviewees were asked about their immigration plans in the coming days. 68% of respondents said they continue to contemplate and search for the most suitable way, from their perspectives, to enter the United States. 22% prefer to seek employment in Mexico and 4% considered that they wanted to return to their country of origin.

4% weighed the option of applying for asylum in Mexico, the United States or a European country, because their motives to migrate are related to some violence suffered or persecution in the state of origin.

Regarding return, 85% state that they do not consider returning to their country of origin as an option in the coming months.

Regarding diasporas and migratory networks, people were asked if they have acquaintances in their final destination. 58% said they have relatives or acquaintances in their country of destination, of which 40% have someone who can receive them. 30% indicated that they do not have anyone awaiting them.