

# PROTECTION MONITORING: MEXICO

## SNAPSHOT MAYO 2022

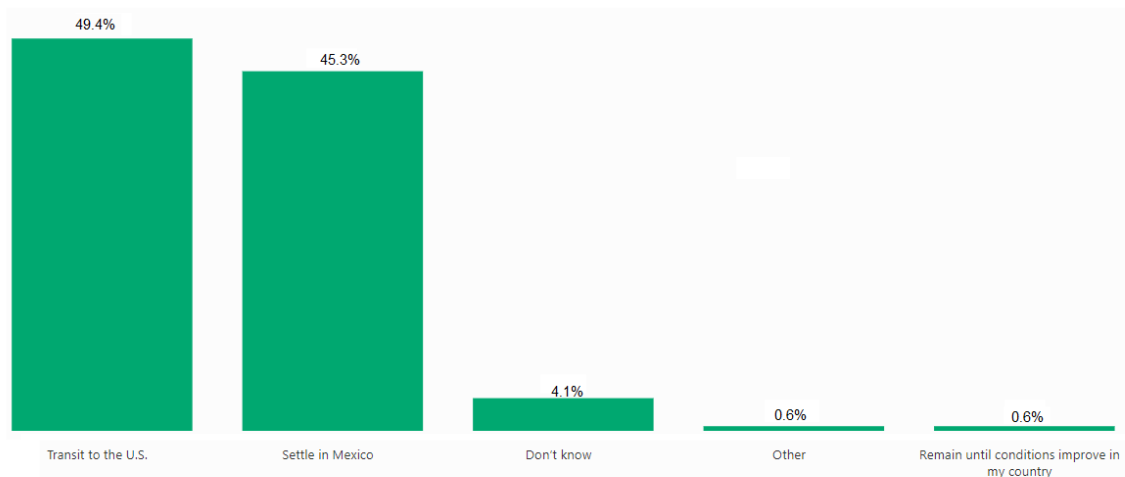
This SNAPSHOT summarizes the findings of Protection Monitoring conducted in Ciudad Juarez and Tapachula, Mexico in Mayo 2022 as part of the humanitarian intervention of the **Danish Refugee Council (DRC)** and the **Jesuit Refugee Service Mexico (JRS)**, as part of a consortium with Save the Children Spain and Mexico, Plan International Spain and Mexico and HIAS Mexico, with the financial support of the European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO). To view the interactive Dashboard with the results from this period and from the beginning of the Protection Monitoring program, click [here](#).

During the month of May, a lot of movement was observed among the mixed migratory flows in **Ciudad Juarez**, with new arrivals of people seeking to enter the United States territory along with frequent departures of groups of people processed as exceptions to Title 42. The lifting of the Title 42 restrictions scheduled for May 23 [was indefinitely postponed](#) in the context of domestic litigation in the United States. This has left the limited exceptions programs as the only way to access U.S. territory and has [aggravated the humanitarian situation](#) in the area.

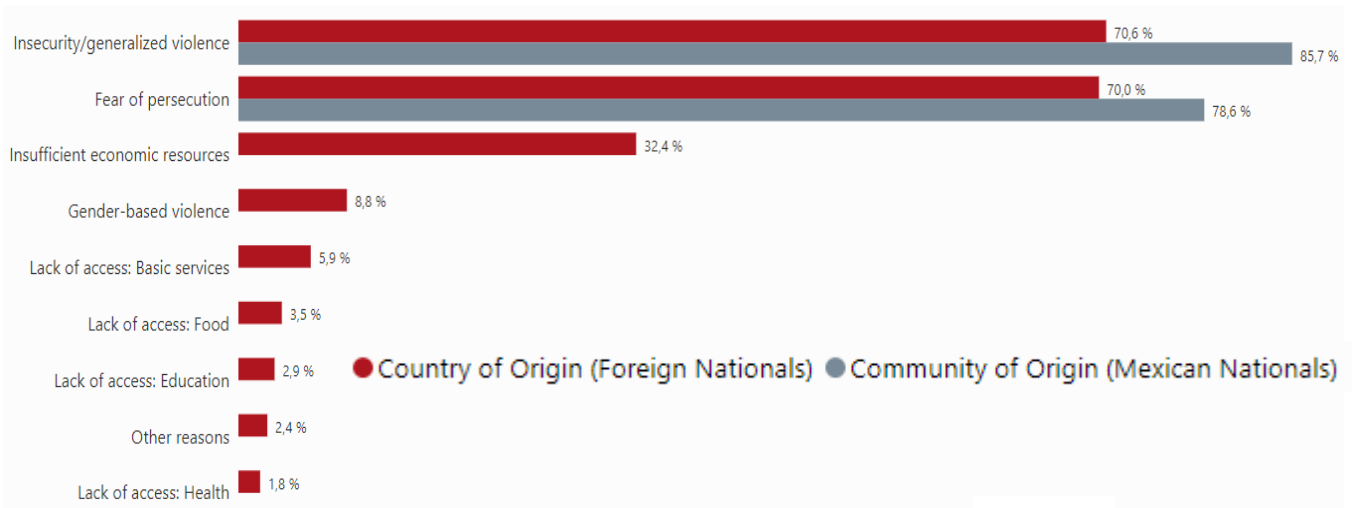
The humanitarian situation of persons of concern in **Tapachula** continued to deteriorate during the month, impacted by an increase in new arrivals to the area. Mass demonstrations in the Bicentennial Park and disturbances in front of the office of the Mexican Commission for Refugee Aid (COMAR, by its Spanish acronym) confirmed the population's dissatisfaction with the precarious living conditions and the few possibilities of leaving Tapachula. The protesters also alleged [corrupt practices](#) by some public officials. Waiting times for an appointment with COMAR exceeded the processing times for a humanitarian visa (TVRH, by its Spanish acronym) with the National Migration Institute (INM), which led to shorter stays in Tapachula.

### KEY FIGURES\*

#### INTENTIONS



#### FLIGHT MOTIVES



\*During May, 184 interviews were conducted, covering a total of 435 people.

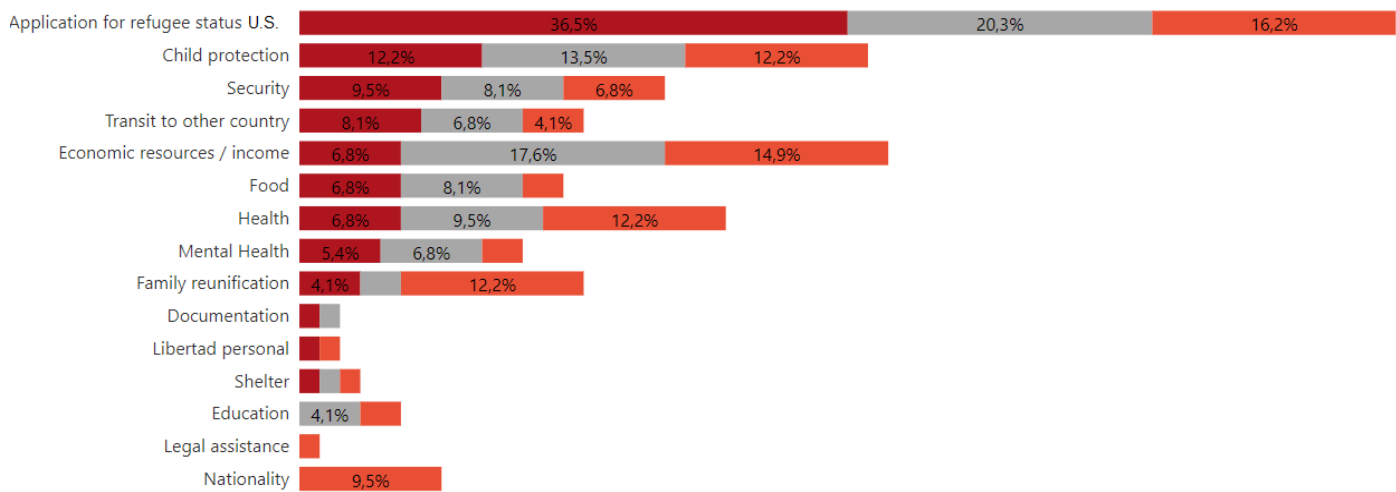
## SPECIFIC NEEDS & PRIORITIES:

Approximately half of those monitored in May – 50.6% – reported specific needs associated with some type of vulnerability. The largest proportion of these were children and adolescents at risk. Within this category, 93.6% were people under 18 who are not receiving formal education. The fact that this is the main situation of vulnerability detected reflects the particular impacts on children and adolescents who suffer a developmental interruption that prejudices them for the rest of their lives and confirms the overwhelming need for specific measures to protect the rights of this population group.

In Tapachula, language barriers continue to be the main factor that generates vulnerability, reported by 35.3% of those who claim to have specific needs in this location. Although the presence in Tapachula of Haitians and people of other nationalities who do not communicate in Spanish has solidified over several years, there is still a lack of adequate measures to attend to their needs. This [prejudices](#) their access to services and assistance programs, as reported to the media by representatives of the Haitian community in the country. On the other hand, the main risk situation in Ciudad Juarez was reported by at risk caregivers. The fact that 33.7% of specific needs in this location correspond to people migrating alone with at least one dependent under their care, reinforces the importance of differentiated measures to support single-parent families. The vast majority of these – 87.9% – are single mothers who face additional barriers to generating income and meeting the basic needs of their families due to their childcare responsibilities.

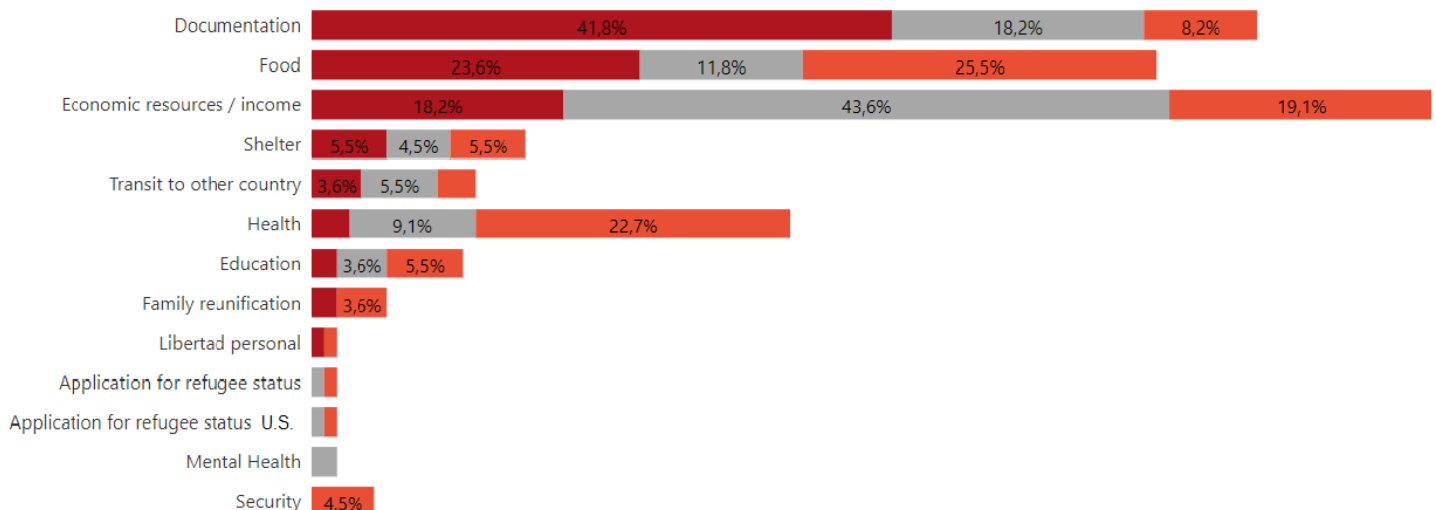
Regarding the priorities of the population, the greatest number of people monitored across the two locations reported prioritizing economic income. This confirms the insufficiency the existing offer of assistance in Tapachula and Ciudad Juarez, leaving people without the possibility to cover their most basic needs. In Ciudad Juarez, the recent trend of the population to prioritize access to the asylum procedure in the United States continued, while in Tapachula, the documentation continued to predominate as a priority. This data affirms the impacts of practices and policies limiting access to immigration status on the safety and dignity of persons of concern.

### CIUDAD JUAREZ



### TAPACHULA

● Priority 1 ● Priority 2 ● Priority 3



## NORTHERN BORDER:

### WITH THE CONTINUATION OF TITLE 42, PERSONS OF CONCERN SEEK TREATMENT AS EXCEPTIONAL CASES

At the beginning of the month, [local authorities](#) announced that, in coordination with some humanitarian actors, they would accompany some cases to be considered exceptions to the suspension of the U.S. asylum procedure, generating much expectation among the population of concern around the possibility of being included in these so-called 'crossings' to the United States. The population of concern, however, continues to lack information on the criteria for participation in these programs, leading to [protests by the Haitian population](#), denouncing their exclusion from these programs. At the end of the month, entries of Title 42 exceptions slowed down – potentially due to high demand among the population of concern in the face of the postponed suspension of Title 42 –, which has compounded the frustration and need to have accurate and up-to-date information on access to U.S. territory in order to make informed decisions. Many of those monitored said they depend on those the managers of the shelters where they are housed for information on how to access the asylum procedure in the United States, and some mentioned having received erroneous or inaccurate information that led to confusion.

Monitoring activities carried out at the *Estación Migratoria* revealed the presence of some people of Haitian nationality who, despite having a humanitarian visa (TVRH), had been detained due to alleged doubts about the authenticity of their documents. That these people had spent various days in the custody of INM, the same authority that issues the TVRH, suggests elements of arbitrariness that are particularly worrying considering a [recent report](#) that highlights the link between immigration detention and the disappearance of migrants in Mexico. In addition, it reinforces the need to guarantee the implementation of the May decision of the [Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation](#), holding that migratory revisions that are carried out based on skin color, language or other subjective characteristics violate the right to equality and non-discrimination, and are unconstitutional.

## SOUTHERN BORDER:

### PRECARIOUS CONDITIONS AND GREATER ACCESS TO TVRH LEAD TO SHORTER STAYS IN TAPACHULA

Living conditions for persons of concern in Tapachula continued to deteriorate. [Saturation of civil society shelters](#) was observed, along with an increase in people living on the streets, including families with children. Protection activities confirmed that there was no room in the safest shelters for these families. Likewise, some of those monitored reported facing arbitrary increases in prices, particularly with respect to rental prices for private housing, simply for being foreigners. Some of the information obtained confirmed that persons of concern had not received the agreed upon compensation for work they had performed and had been threatened by the person who had hired their services, including threats of being reported to immigration authorities. In the middle of the month, the Ministry of Health announced a plan to strengthen public policies in order to provide [comprehensive healthcare](#) for the migrant population in Chiapas. Nonetheless, assistance activities revealed many health needs among the population of interest. These precarious conditions continue to encourage the departure of a large part of the population of interest from Tapachula to other parts of the country and even to the United States.

The changes adopted in April in the INM procedures in Tapachula continued to produce effects during May, including greater access of the population of concern to the TVRH. Monitoring revealed that even people who did not have a *constancia* from the COMAR had obtained the TVRH, which facilitated secondary movements to other parts of the country. In parallel, irregular movements of persons of interest within Mexican territory persisted, in part due to long waiting times of up to two months to obtain an initial appointment with COMAR and begin the process of obtaining documentation. The INM reported the detection of a vehicle in which [some migrants traveled covertly](#), ostensibly because they lacked authorization to move regularly through the territory. In this same sense, local media reported [an accident](#) in another part of Chiapas that killed four migrants and left more than a dozen injured. These events confirm the adoption of riskier practices to be able to cross the country irregularly due to the barriers to obtaining immigration documentation.