

Case study: Latin America

In 2018, the number of refugees and asylum-seekers in Latin America grew considerably. This was mainly a result of people fleeing Venezuela. By the end of 2018, more than 3 million Venezuelans had left their homes for a variety of reasons. People are also fleeing other countries in Latin America.

But who are they and why do they flee?

Here are some real-life facts and figures about 988 displaced people who shared information about their situation with UNHCR at the southern border of Mexico in January 2019.

Ask your pupils the following questions:

How many people (of the 988 interviewed) at the Mexico border were women?

How many were children and teenagers?

How many children are travelling without their father, mother or legal guardian?

Conclude with a discussion of the figures in this note.



35%

are **women**



9%

are **minors** who travel **without** their father, mother or **legal guardian**



31%

are **children** and **teenagers**

In January 2019, **UNHCR** conducted **409 interviews**, representing **988 people** in the **southern border of Mexico**

Why do people flee?

Here are some real-life facts and figures about 988 displaced people who shared information about their situation with UNHCR at the southern border of Mexico in January 2019.

Ask your pupils the following questions:

Why do you think are the main reasons for people to flee their homes?

Where do people go when they flee violence, war or persecution?

Where can people go to be in safety?

Can they stay in another country when they leave?

Conclude by showing the figures in this note to your pupils. Explain basic concepts by watching these animations:

[Who is a refugee?](#)

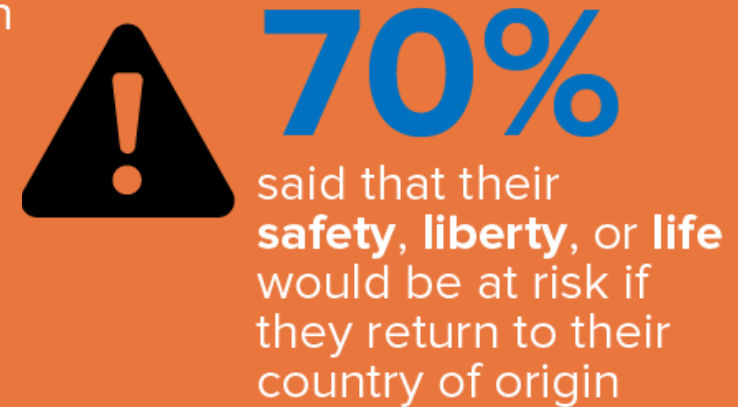
[Who is a migrant?](#)

[Who is an asylum-seeker?](#)

[Who is an internally displaced person?](#)

[Refugee rights](#)

In January 2019, **UNHCR** conducted **409 interviews**, representing **988 people** in the **southern border of Mexico**



Where do they come from?

In January 2019, **UNHCR** conducted **409 interviews**, representing **988 people** in the southern border of Mexico

Here are some real-life facts and figures about 988 displaced people who shared information about their situation with UNHCR at the southern border of Mexico in January 2019.

Ask your pupils the following questions:

UNHCR interviewed people at the southern border of Mexico. Can you locate that border on a map?

Which countries share a border with Mexico?

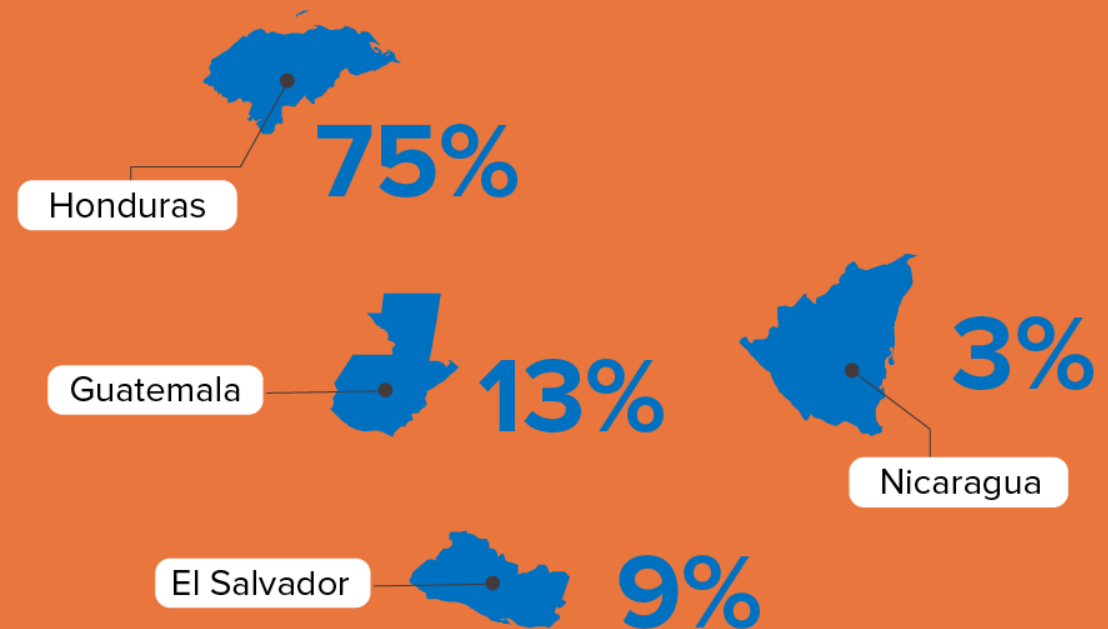
Can you guess where the people came from who shared information with UNHCR on the southern border of Mexico?

Conclude by showing the countries in this note to your pupils. Let them look up the countries on a map. Have them look up information about the situation in each of these countries.

Explain basic concepts by watching these animations:

[Where do refugees come from?](#)

[Where do refugees go?](#)



Source: UNHCR survey, January 2019, see www.acnur.org/op/op_fs/5c59d76e4/monitoreo-de-proteccion-en-ciudad-hidalgo-mexico.html (in Spanish)

More teaching resources on www.unhcr.org/teaching-about-refugees