

Guadalajara, refugio de migrantes centroamericanos

Guadalajara, refuge for Central American migrants

Guadalajara, refúgio de migrantes da América Central

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Resumen

El artículo plasma de manera sencilla la situación de los migrantes centroamericanos en su odisea para tratar de alcanzar el sueño americano, encontrándose con la posibilidad de cambiar sus planes para residir temporal o definitivamente en la ciudad de Guadalajara Jalisco.

Palabras Clave: Centroamérica, Estados Unidos, Guadalajara Jalisco, Migrantes.

Abstract

The article simply depicts the situation of Central American migrants in their odyssey to try to achieve the American dream, finding the possibility of changing their plans to reside temporarily or permanently in the city of Guadalajara Jalisco.

Key words: Central America, United States, Guadalajara Jalisco, Migrants.

Resumo

O artigo simplesmente retrata a situação dos migrantes centro-americanos em sua odisséia para tentar realizar o sonho americano, podendo mudar seus planos de residir temporária ou permanentemente na cidade de Guadalajara, Jalisco.

Palavras-chave: América Central, Estados Unidos, Guadalajara Jalisco, Migrantes.

Fecha Recepción: Mayo 2017

Fecha Aceptación: Noviembre 2017

Introduction

Several concerns arise about the situation faced by migrants because they claim to have a better living condition, every day can be observed in Guadalajara, a greater number of Central American foreigners asking for financial support, which is why pretends to know the social phenomena that are being presented and that have made that in the city can be observed more and more this type of scenarios. The main places where migrants are found are Washington, Chapultepec, England avenues and "The Beast" routes.

Migration according to a report by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), in 2013 the number of migrants in the world was 232 million people, migration is no longer only from poor countries to rich countries, It also occurs from rich countries to rich countries, from rich countries to poor countries and from poor countries to poor countries.

Day by day Central American migrants follow the Pacific route, risking their lives to reach the United States and live the "American dream" that means the possibility of aspiring to a better quality of life, since this country is located mostly in America. North is the richest, most powerful and most influential of the earth, its economy has managed to maintain a stable global GDP growth rate and moderate unemployment, which is why it is the most attractive

place to receive migrants, but to achieve this Central American migrants inevitably run into the soil of Guadalajara.

Due to the dangers and injustices that they live day by day during the trip, some migrants are considering giving up, such a situation generates a question, which arises as a question: Are Central American migrants taking the city of Guadalajara as a second option?

Goals

1. Know the situation of migrants in transit through the city of Guadalajara Jalisco.
2. Identify the problems they face on their way to the United States.
3. Measure the possibilities of temporary or permanent residence in the city of Guadalajara of Central American migrants, according to their experience.

Method

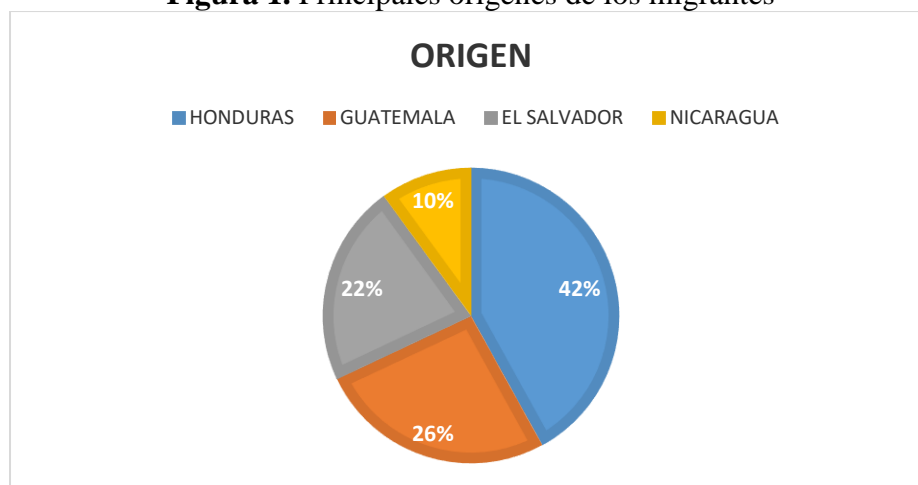
The investigation was of a descriptive type since it is intended to show part of the reality experienced by migrants on their way to the United States, in addition to knowing the reasons that force them to take the decision to migrate from their native country, and finally the reasons for which many of them decide to change their final destination to settle in the city of Guadalajara Jalisco.

To find information we talk to volunteer migrants and apply 50 questionnaires, through which we explore the difficulties and conflicts they face not only in the legal aspect, but also sociocultural in this city, being able to mention some of the questions such as: what were the reasons for those who decided to emigrate? What have been the difficulties that have been presented to them to arrive? Yes, have you had problems with the authorities? How long have they been stranded in the city? If they travel alone, how have the people treated them? If they have received any kind of help? What kind of support have you received? And finally, have you considered Guadalajara as a second option to live permanently?

The methodology is Survey type. Following Casas Anguita J, et al. (2003, p.143), can be defined as «a technique that uses a set of standardized research procedures through which a series of data is collected and analyzed from a sample of cases representative of a larger population or universe, which aims to explore, describe, predict and / or explain a series of characteristics ».

The application of a questionnaire was implemented to know the situation of the Central American migrants in their passage through Guadalajara in their sights to achieve their American dream, for them a questionnaire was applied in Chapultepec avenues, Aviation, England and train tracks, to 50 Central American migrants in Guadalajara, of which 90% of those interviewed were men and 10% women, mostly Hondurans with a 42% percentage, 26% of Guatemalan origin, 22% Salvadorans and 10% Nicaraguans (Figure 1).

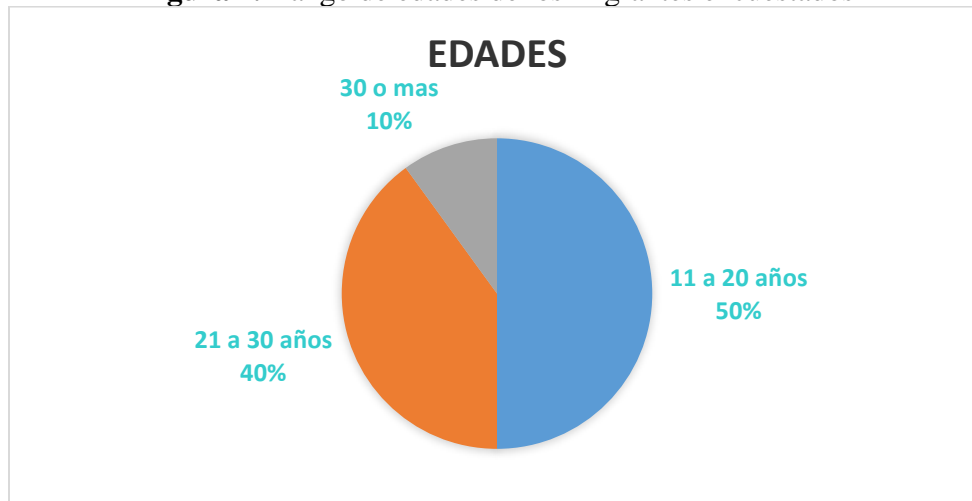
Figura 1. Principales orígenes de los migrantes



Fuente: Elaboración propia a partir de respuestas de cuestionarios aplicados a migrantes.
(Hernández & Corona, 2018)

In addition, as regards the ages of the people who intervened to answer the questionnaire, 50% are between the ages of 11 to 20 years, 40% from 21 to 30 years and 10% above 31 years (Figure 2).

Figura 2. Rango de edades de los migrantes encuestados



Fuente: Elaboración propia a partir de respuestas de cuestionarios aplicados a migrantes.
(Hernández & Corona, 2018)

The migration of Central Americans through Mexico

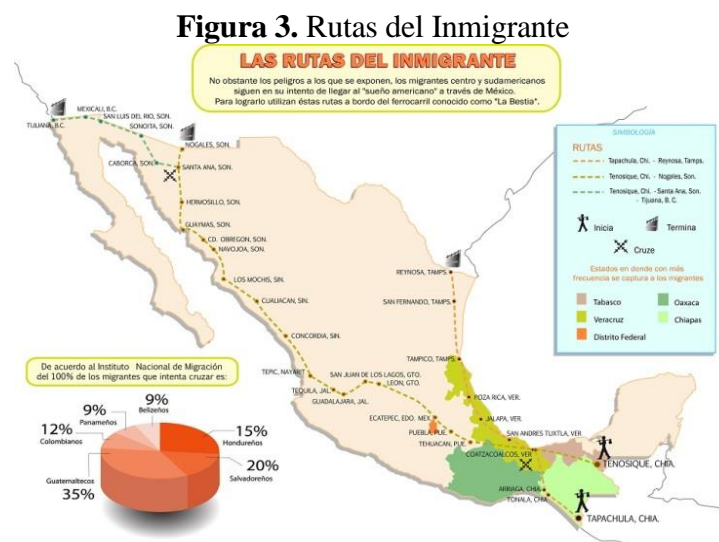
Migration is not a new phenomenon in Central America, an area geographically comprised of seven independent countries: Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama, thanks to the armed conflicts that these countries experienced in the 70s and 80s, Many Central Americans, especially countries such as Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador fled to the United States to avoid violence by both the guerrillas and their governments, which resulted in the tripling of population in the US. (Carrasco, 2013).

Mexico is a country of origin, transit and increasingly, the destination of immigrants, mostly from Central America. The reason that it is on the rise to be the destination of migrants, is to the increase in the difficulty of reaching its fixed destination: the United States of America (USA), with the finalization of reaching the "American dream". The increase in insecurity, the costs of the "coyotes" and the increasing severity of the Mexican authorities, contributes to being considered by some of the migrants, an alternative option, in which, what stands out is the "good treatment" that is held by the Mexican population.

"The beast" is a train that transports goods from the south to cities bordering the United States, can transport between 1,000 and 1,500 migrants, the journey can last approximately three weeks. This transport is used by the migrants because it offers the possibility of crossing a part of the Mexican territory without paying the use of transport or a coyote, however, many die in the attempt because the railroad is loaded with dangers, among them , fall on the wheels, attackers, murderers, drug traffickers, etc.

There are two routes of the train the first route of the Beast begins in the state of Chiapas, passes through Veracruz and ends in the state of Tamaulipas until Reynosa.

The other Tapachula-Nogales-Tijuana route is the longest, starting in Chiapas, crossing states such as Guanajuato, Querétaro, State of Mexico, Jalisco, Nayarit, Sinaloa, Sonora and Baja California, ending their journey in Nogales, Sonora (Figure 3).



Fuente: (Tim, 2017)

Guadalajara is a city that turns out to be, like many others in the country, a refuge for migrants whose intention is to reach the United States.

Nowadays it is increasingly common to find you on the streets of the metropolitan area, migrants who left their country trying to find a better quality of life in different aspects, such as economy, security and even emotional stability.

Nowadays, displacements are becoming more common and are due to different factors, among them, the lack of sustained economic development, unemployment, low salaries, increase in the basic basket, environmental factors, are placed in second place in a row. of violence, a situation that allows us to confirm that the governments of Central America continue without attacking the structural causes that originate the migration of their nationals, providing serious violations of their human rights, violence is the third cause of migration. Few Central Americans receive humanitarian visas from the United States, therefore, most opt for the undocumented route, but for that they must cross the Mexican territory. (Jesuit Refugee Service Mexico, 2015)

Little by little the transit of people has increased, at the beginning the road was fluid, but it has become more difficult for the Mexican authorities, among them customs, migratory, federal and municipal that began to charge for services, all this gave rise to arise the mafia of "polleros" or "coyotes", Mexican or Central American people who provide and facilitate the transit to the border, these groups and more aspects have caused insecurity to migrants, since the prices for these services are high and migrants they are in desperate need of access to the means to gain access, resulting in assaults, violence and in general the violation of their human rights.

Figura 4. La Bestia



Fuente: Foto: Carlos-Villalon

In addition to the option of the beast, there are others among them, walking, truck or even in a van. All the mentioned options are used, however, the most viable option is still the train because it does not represent a monetary discharge (Figure 4).

Main dangers when crossing Mexico

In addition to all the odyssey they are going through to get to Mexico, Central American migrants face high risks of violations of their rights when passing through Mexico, police persecution, robberies, rapes, extortion, discrimination, deportations, among others. . According to a study carried out by the Documentation Network of Migrant Defender Organizations [REDODEM], in 2015, during the same year 1768 of the 30 321 migrant people were treated in the shelters and said they had been victims of some crime . Of the crimes recorded, 66.5% were robberies, 25.7% extortions, 2.6% injuries, and 1.4% kidnappings, of which 45.7% by members of organized crime, 12.8% individuals and 41.5% by the same authorities, among them federal, municipal and state police, confronting these results with their own, we found that 90% of the respondents said they had been victims of some crime and only 10% did not live it. With regard to the types of crimes of which they have been victims of one or more of them, 32% abuse of authority, 58% theft and 52% injuries.

Noting that the problem of insecurity they face continues to prevail and is one of the most difficult to transit, just remember the events between August 22 and 23, 2010, in San Fernando Tamaulipas, members of the "Los Zetas" cartel "They murdered 72 migrants from Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Brazil and Ecuador who refused to participate in drug trafficking. Seven years have passed and, to date, the remains of several victims remain pending. (Vanguard, 2017). Situations like this there are many, they seem to have no end and the situation is increasingly violent.

Along the way, migrants suffer accidents for a variety of reasons, including the region's natural fauna, snakes and poisonous insects, especially at night, when migrants sleep in the open, large bodies of water : dams, rivers, lakes and sea; sunstroke, road accidents and the train "The Beast", one of the main road hazards. (Northern Border, 2001)

Central American migration in the territory of Guadalajara

Figura 5. Migrantes en tránsito por Guadalajara



Fuente: El Diario NTR, foto: Grisel Pajarito

Guadalajara, is the most populated city in the state of Jalisco, is located in western Mexico, the center of Jalisco, in the geographical area known as Valle de Atemajac. It is part of the Bajío macro region, specifically in the central west. It is the second most populated megalopolis in the country with 4,495,182 inhabitants and is part of the metropolitan area of Guadalajara, along with eight other municipalities, considered the second most populated urban area in Mexico and the tenth in Latin America.

Western Mexico is a geographical area where, as in other parts of the country, migratory dynamics converge in a complex and multidimensional way. It is a place of transit, return, stagnation or residence of different groups (Figure 5).

It is one of the most important routes linked to migration, this route has a history that can be traced back more than 100 years, since it links the north with states traditionally expelling migrants such as Guanajuato, Michoacán, Jalisco and Zacatecas (R Machuca, personal communication, February 28, 2014). The influx of migrants that, based on the increase in violence on the shortest route, tend to change their itinerary. It coincides, at least for the metropolitan area of Guadalajara, with a real increase in flow, towards the United States or

in reverse transit. This is how the organization FM4 Paso Libre-Dignidad y Justicia considers it on the AC road.¹

Guadalajara, without being its purpose, was established as one of the points of the pacific-western route of the railroad of migrants who travel illegally to the United States, mainly Central Americans from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador. The western route was until 2010 little known media and little traveled by migrants, it is a route that duplicates the rail routes of the center and the gulf since it has a length of 4137 km from the city of Irapuato Guanajuato to the last station of Mexicali, Baja California

According to the information record of FM4 free passage, this route is the option that offers greater guarantees for migrants, most use it for greater security and more because of the great tragedies that have occurred in the other rail corridors, although it is longer and in The transit has less humanitarian aid, but in return means greater chances of reaching their destination alive.

According to the results of the sample, it is perceived that for the migrants the city of Guadalajara offers a very welcoming environment compared to other states of the Mexican Republic, the police do not usually persecute them as in other places, there is an opportunity to ask for help in the surroundings of the Historical Center, the Calzada Independencia, Chapultepec and the Avenidas Niños Héroeas, near these streets they pass the train tracks and make cardboard houses next to the tracks, near where the FM4 dining room is located.

In the study conducted with the migrants, it turned out that the time they had stranded in the city until the day of the interview was one week or less 38%, and 54% had from two weeks to a month and 8% more than a month .

¹ FM4, en su reporte Migración en tránsito por la zona metropolitana de Guadalajara (2013) afirma que, de acuerdo con la atención de migrantes en su comedor, el flujo por la zona metropolitana ha aumentado en los últimos años. “Tomando en cuenta las cifras de 140 mil eventos de migración de tránsito indocumentado por México a partir de 2010 (INM, 2012) o la de 400 mil que estimamos organismos de la sociedad civil, podríamos suponer que es un escaso porcentaje de migrantes el que usa esta ruta ferroviaria. No obstante, nuestras cifras muestran una alta que podría evidenciar el aumento del flujo migratorio de casi 400% de 2010 a 2011, el 150% de 2011 a 2012 y la tendencia parece continuar para 2013” (2013, p.30).

They were asked if they traveled alone accompanied by 12% answered that alone and 88% accompanied, of these, 14% did it accompanied by relatives and 74% with friends.

In relation to the treatment received in the city, 82% said they had been treated well to date, 12% regular and 6% wrong.

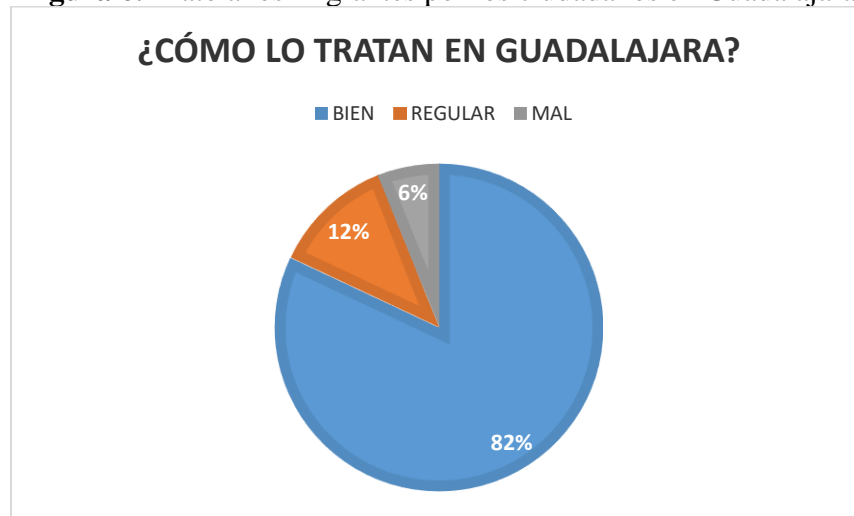
FM4 Paso Libre-Dignidad y Justicia en la camino AC

It is important to highlight the existence of different non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that help migrants on their way to the United States of America, which try to cover some of their needs, in the metropolitan area of Guadalajara, a sample is the FM4 Organization . It is a non-profit organization that is made up of activists, academics, professionals and religious. Its mission is to achieve a dignified and fair treatment that respects the human rights of migrants through the metropolitan area of Guadalajara through humanitarian aid. (FM4, 2017).

All of the migrants surveyed stated that they had received some kind of help from someone or NGO. As for what kind of help they have received, the following were considered: economic, food, lodging, work, medical attention and legal advice. 74% said that all the previous options, 10% medical attention, 8% economic, 6% food and 2% lodging.

It is clear that, despite the great difficulties and obstacles, to mention some of the security, economic, health and legal issues that migrants face every day on their way to the border, 78% of respondents do not give up the American dream , however, 22% share the possibility of abandoning the dream to become residents of Guadalajara, all this is due to the myriad of problems that occur more and more in their journeys. It is important to highlight that although the percentage of people who renounce to continue with their American dream and also contemplate the possibility of filing in our State, 82% show that they have been treated in a good way by the Tapatíos (Figure 6).

Figura 6. Trato a los migrantes por los ciudadanos en Guadalajara

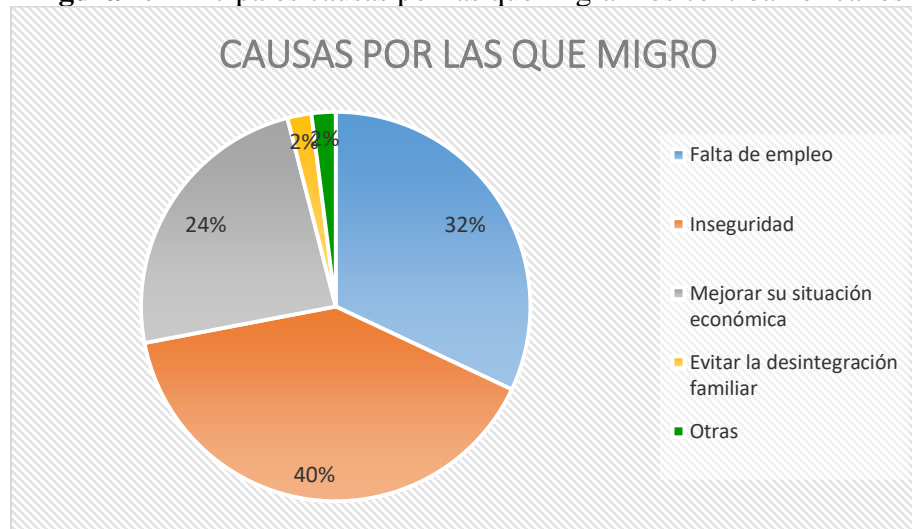


Fuente: Elaboración propia a partir de respuestas de cuestionarios aplicados a migrantes.
(Hernández & Corona, 2018)

Results

The reasons why the encuetados decided to leave their country of origin were the following: 40% indicates that due to insecurity, 32% in the absence of employment, 24% to improve their economic situation, 1% avoid family disintegration, 1% other (Figure 7).

Figura 7. Principales causas por las que migran los centroamericanos



Fuente: Elaboración propia a partir de respuestas de cuestionarios aplicados a migrantes.
(Hernández & Corona, 2018)

When asked if it was their first time doing this journey, 68% answered no, of which 38% tried it a second time, 35% a third 27% more than three times, while 32% did so for first time. Of those who stated that it was not their first time, 82% had already had the experience of deportation (Figure 8).

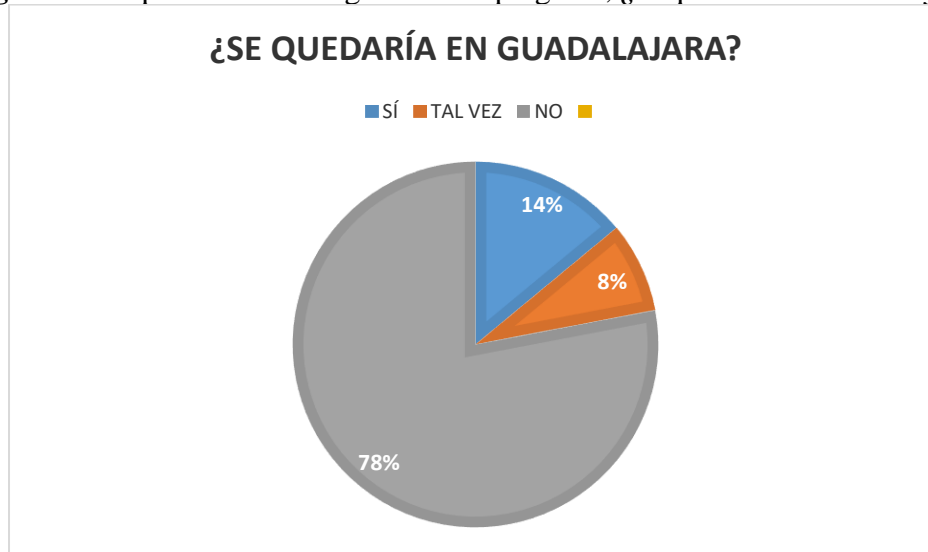
Figura 8. Experiencias de los migrantes



Fuente: Elaboración propia a partir de respuestas de cuestionarios aplicados a migrantes.
(Hernández & Corona, 2018)

A satisfactory data obtained is that 86% of the migrants interviewed are satisfied by the treatment they have received from the citizens of Tapatia, 14% have decided to reside in the city due to the good attention of the people and possible job opportunities, 8 % are considering it and while 78% are still standing to fulfill "the American dream" (Figure 9).

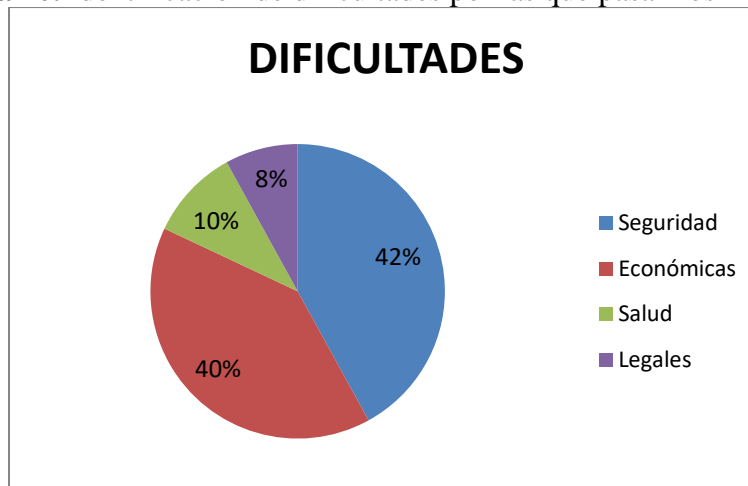
Figura 9. Respuesta de los migrantes a la pregunta, ¿se quedaría en Guadalajara?



Fuente: Elaboración propia a partir de respuestas de cuestionarios aplicados a migrantes.
(Hernández & Corona, 2018)

Regarding the difficulties they have faced on their way to the border, 42% mention security, 40% economic difficulties, 10% health problems and 8% legal, in addition to having been extorted by 82% by authorities mostly 68% federal, 8% by state authorities, 16% municipal and in a lower percentage by immigration authorities (Figure 10).

Figura 10. Identificación de dificultades por las que pasan los migrantes



Fuente: Elaboración propia a partir de respuestas de cuestionarios aplicados a migrantes.
(Hernández & Corona, 2018)

Conclusions

The group of migrants in question is a population that travels in precarious and limited conditions, putting themselves in very vulnerable situations. It could be considered a common pattern among the migrants in question, each of them is aimed at finding a better quality of life, both economic, emotional stability, etc.

It is manifest on the part of the migrants that their journey to the United States of America is surrounded by risks, since during this they can be subject to crimes such as robberies, sexual violations, extortion, among others, by criminal groups or the authorities themselves, which should be concerned about protecting their integrity as persons (Figure 11).

Figura 11. Principales delitos de los que son víctimas los migrantes en tránsito



Fuente: Elaboración propia a partir de respuestas de cuestionarios aplicados a migrantes.
(Hernández & Corona, 2018)

The survival instinct forces them to look for strategies or change their plans, although in a very low percentage 14% opt for the city of Guadalajara as the place to settle and conclude their American dream transforming it and realizing it in their dream of Guadalajara, this due to the pleasant experience they have had with the people in the treatment offered.

Notwithstanding the results, both in Jalisco and in the country in general, the sectors: public, private and social, should converge to join efforts to provide better quality in the treatment of migrants, inform them and support them to make better decisions than do not put your physical and emotional integrity at risk. Well, finally we are just a journey in your path, that we should not contribute to make your experience more bitter, even of what you can experience in the United States of America itself.

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