



The caravan marches on: Migrants resume their journey after taking the day off as Mexico warns there are now 14,000 making their way to the US

- Mexican officials put the total number of migrants making their way to the US at 14,000
- That included 7,000 in southern Mexico, 3,000 on Guatemala's border with Mexico, and 4,000 behind them in Guatemala and Honduras
- How it has changed since then is hard to determine but it has grown exponentially since the first group set off
- On Tuesday, after President Trump said he had 'no proof' there were criminals among the migrants, the Department of Homeland Security said it had
- They include people with 'long histories' from the Middle East, South East Asia and Africa
- The migrants - who are moving at roughly 40 miles per day - are still more than 1,000 miles from the US border
- The Mexican government has already received more than 1,500 asylum claims since the caravan set off

By [JENNIFER SMITH FOR DAILYMAL.COM](#)

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The migrant caravan resumed its march through [Mexico](#) on Wednesday as the country's officials warned that the total number of people now heading towards the US is close to 14,000.


On Wednesday morning, the main group of around 7,000 mostly Honduran migrants left Huixtla before the sun rose after spending a day there recuperating and honoring a man who died on Monday by falling from the back of a truck.

Today they will march 40 miles to the town of Mapastepec then they will rest there for the night. They are still 1,100 miles from the US-Mexico border.

At this rate of around 40 miles a day, it will take them another 25 days at least to get to the point on the Texan


border which they are likely to attempt to cross.

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Migrants left Huixtla in southern Mexico on Wednesday morning to make their way towards the town of Mapastepec around 40 miles away. These are the migrants who are the furthest ahead and there are 7,000 of them in total, according to officials. They spent the two nights in Huixtla and have now resumed their journey





Migrants walk along the road from Huixtla to Mapastepec on Wednesday morning while some cram into trucks in the next leg of the journey




Despite the death of a man who fell from an overcrowded truck in Tapachula on Monday, many clambered on top of vehicles to try to speed up the journey and give their weary feet a rest on Wednesday morning




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The line of thousands of migrants is more than a mile long and is slowly snaking along Mexico's highways from town to town, working its way gradually north



The first caravan set off from San Salvador last week and crossed through Honduras and Guatemala with relative ease before arriving at Mexico's border with Guatemala on Friday. After briefly clashing with police, they were let through and are now marching north towards the US. The second caravan is now in Chiquimula, Guatemala, and is being bused to the border to catch up with the others

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The group has been gradually increasing their pace since crossing over into Mexico. On their first day of walking, they covered 19 miles. On Monday, they walked 25 miles to Huixtla. They have almost double the ground to cover to get to Mapastepec.

Behind them are an additional 7,000, according to Mexican officials cited by local newspaper [El Universal](#).

That includes around 3,000 who entered Mexico on Monday after being delayed on its border bridge with Guatemala, 2,000 in a second caravan now in Chiquimula, Guatemala, and an additional 2,000 who are planning to mobilize in Honduras in the next few days.

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Trump tweeted on Wednesday morning that the US is a 'great

As the migrants continued in their journey, President Trump continued complaining about it on Twitter.

Sovereign Nation' which will not allow people to enter illegally

'For those who want and advocate for illegal immigration, just take a good look at what has happened to Europe over the last 5 years. A total mess!

'They only wish they had that decision to make over again.

'We are a great Sovereign Nation. We have Strong Borders and will never accept people coming into our Country illegally!' he tweeted on Wednesday morning.

On Tuesday, the president was admitted he had 'no proof' for his claim that there were 'people from the Middle East' among the thousands of Central Americans in the group.

The Department of Homeland Security, however, confirmed it for him.

In a series of tweets on Tuesday, spokesman Tyler Houlton said that not only were there Middle Easterns among the group, there were criminals from 'Africa and South East Asia' too.

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WHO ARE TH

According to the Mexican government, the most recent statistics are;

Main caravan in Mexico: up to 10,000

2nd caravan in Guatemala:
1,500-2,000

2,000 planning to mobilize in
Honduras

500 planning to mobilize in El
Salvador




Migrants sit on top of a packed truck and some cling on to the sides as they make their way to Mapastepec, their next stop in Mexico





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The migrants climbed into smaller vehicles on Wednesday to be taken part of the 40 mile journey from Huixtla



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Others braved the journey on foot, setting off early, before the sun rose, to try to beat the temperatures




Among those in the caravan are small children who were packed on to pick up trucks



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Before the sun rose on Wednesday, the group led the way with candles and lighters. They are battling stifling temperatures which have caused concern among Red Cross doctors and humanitarian groups



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Some of the migrants held Mexican and Honduran flags on Wednesday morning as they set off in the dark to walk 40 miles



The group rose before sunrise on Wednesday to resume their journey after taking Tuesday off to rest in honor of a man who died falling from a truck he had hitched a ride on. Some are in wheelchairs, there are countless babies and the group also includes some elderly

'DHS can confirm that there are individuals within the caravan who are gang members or have significant criminal histories.

'Citizens of countries outside Central America, including countries in the Middle East, Africa, South Asia, and elsewhere are currently traveling through Mexico toward the U.S,' he said.

He went on: 'Stopping the caravan is not just about national security or preventing crime, it is also about national sovereignty and the rule of law. Those who seek to come to America must do so the right and legal way.'

On the Guatemalan border with Honduras, which has seen abnormal levels of traffic in the past week, there was an increased police presence on Tuesday after President Trump threatened to cut aid to the region.

Trump discusses the possibility of terrorists in migrant caravan

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On the Honduran border with Guatemala, local troops put barbed wire around the border gate amid news thousands more migrants were planning to set off in new caravans


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On Monday, a man died falling from a truck as he was driven from Tapachula, a border town, to Huixtla, 40 miles away. Police are warning residents there, who have rushed to help by giving the migrants water and supplies, not to let too many onto their vehicles because it is so dangerous

Thousands of migrant caravan advance towards the United States


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On Wednesday morning, police had covered the fence there with barbed wire in an attempt to stop any new migrants who might try to climb over it.

In 2017, Guatemala said it received more than \$230million in aid from the US.

THIRD CARAVAN PLANNED IN EL SALVADOR

It remains unclear when those in Honduras who are yet to set off are planning to.

The true picture of the size of the crowds is difficult to determine because the groups are moving sporadically and chaotically all the time.

All are determined to flee Honduras or Guatemala in search of a better life in the US.

Some have already lived in America and have been deported but they believe this is their chance to get back in and resume their old lives.

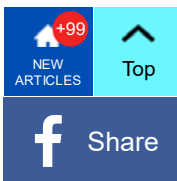
Their hopeful plans have consistently infuriated President Trump who has repeatedly labeled their effort an 'assault on the country'.

Not all of the migrants, however, appear to be planning on making America their home. The Mexican government has already received more than 1,500 asylum claims since the caravan set off.

The UN has warned that many of those making the journey are at risk of being kidnapped or trafficked as they gradually walk through Mexico.

Adrian Edwards, a spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, said Tuesday in Geneva the agency is concerned about 'the developing humanitarian situation and the known kidnapping and security risks in areas the caravan may venture into.'

A group of around 250 people is planning to set off from Honduras what will become a migrant caravan on October 1.



According to **NBC**, US officials are monitoring the group, which is discussing its plans over WhatsApp.

Though the group is significantly smaller than the others already on their way, US officials are particularly concerned that it may include members of MS-13, an El Salvadorian gang notorious for recruiting youngsters and applying unthinkable violence to its rule.



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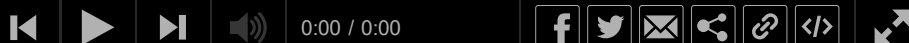
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The largest group has spent the last two nights in Huixtla (above), sleeping in its town squares and in the streets. They have been given handouts and were seen by volunteer doctors




The main group, which has around 7,000 people in it, spent Tuesday resting in Huixtla (above) out of respect for the man who died getting from Tapachula to Huixtla on the back of a truck




Caravan 2.0: In addition to the 7,200 migrants who are in the first group, a second caravan has formed in Guatemala and is preparing to cross the border into Mexico. They are pictured on Monday night as they arrive in Chiquimula, 280 miles from Mexico's border. Another 2,000 people at least are behind them in Honduras, according to local media

Migrant caravan swells to thousands as it heads to US border


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'In any situation like this it is essential that people have the chance to request asylum and have their international protection needs properly assessed, before any decision on return (or) deportation is made,' he added.

President Trump is however confident that the migrants pose the biggest threat.

In a flurry of comments outside the White House on Monday afternoon, he said: 'I have reports that there's a lot of everybody in that group. It's a horrible thing.'

He insisted during one exchange that a mid-morning tweet about '[c]riminals and unknown Middle Eastern[ers]' would be proven true – that they're really there – if reporters would only look in the right places.

'You know what you should do?' Trump asked. 'Go into the middle of the caravan. Take your cameras and search, okay?'

'Go into the middle and search,' the president said. 'You're going to find MS-13. You're going to find Middle Eastern[ers].'

'You're going to find everything. And guess what? We're not allowing them in our country. We want safety. We want safety.'

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Migrants cross Suchiate river into Mexico on rafts

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