



### HIGHLIGHTS

- ⇒ A total of **35,902** regular movements (**23,537** at Beitbridge and **12,365** at Forbes) were observed during the month in review.
- ⇒ IOM Zimbabwe facilitates repatriation of **92** Malawian irregular migrants stranded in Zimbabwe.

### DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

**REGULAR MIGRATION:** movement of persons that occurs in compliance with the laws of the country of origin, transit and destination. (IOM Glossary)

**IRREGULAR MIGRATION:** movement of persons that takes place outside the laws, regulations or international agreements governing the entry into or exit from the State of origin, transit or destination. (IOM Glossary)

### REGULAR MIGRATION

#### BEITBRIDGE BORDER POST (MATABELELAND SOUTH PROVINCE)

In May 2020, the average daily number of individuals observed at Beitbridge crossing points increased by **53** per cent compared to the previous month. A total of **23,537** movements comprising **12,185 (52%)** entries and **11,352 (48%)** exits were recorded at the Crossing Points during the month in review.

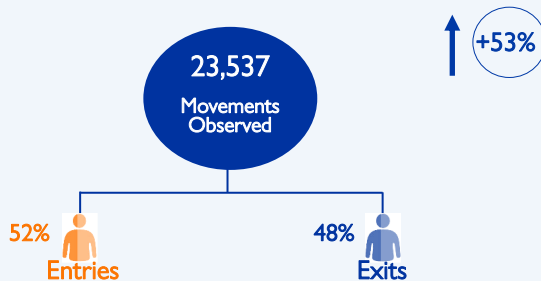


Fig 1 – Summary of Regular Migration Movements at Beitbridge Border Post in May 2020

The majority of the migrants were truck drivers transporting commercial cargo and travellers with special clearance arrangements like bereavement.

	Entries	Exits
March	176,095	153,990
April	7,584	7,839
May	12,185	11,352

Table 1 – Cumulative Summary of Regular Migration Movements at Beitbridge Border Post for Mar – May 2020

Fig 2 below shows cumulative entries and exits at Beitbridge Border Post from March 2020 to May 2020. As shown in the chart there was an increase in the number of flows declining trend in movements continues as a result of COVID-19 movement restrictions. Entries and exits for the month increased by **53** per cent from the previous month's statistics.

#### CUMULATIVE REGULAR MIGRATION FLOWS THROUGH BEITBRIDGE BORDER POST

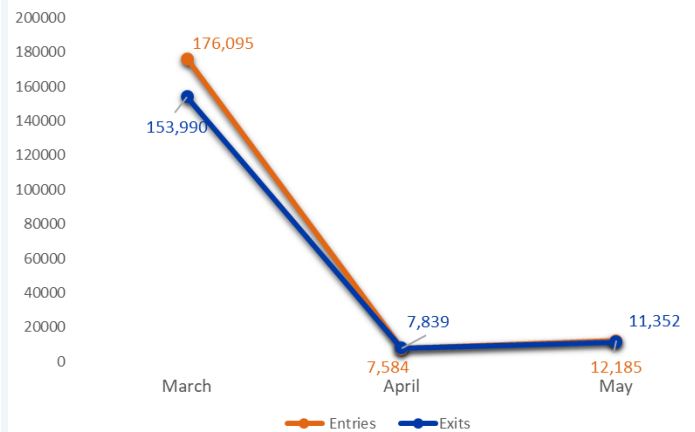


Fig 2: Summary Regular Migration Flow from March 2020 to May 2020

### STATISTICS FOR (MARCH – MAY 2020)

AVERAGE MONTHLY ENTRIES	65,288
AVERAGE MONTHLY EXITS	57,727
AVERAGE MONTHLY FLOWS	123,015

#### FORBES BORDER POST (MANICALAND PROVINCE)

A total of **12,365** movements were recorded at the Forbes Border Post during the month of May 2020, representing a **4** per cent decrease in comparison to movements recorded in April 2020.

The month in review recorded **6,019 (49%)** entries and **6,346 (51%)** per cent exits at the Forbes Border Post as shown below.

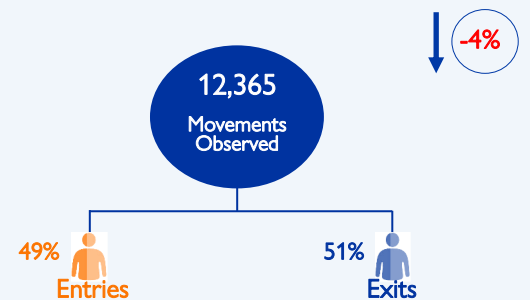


Fig 3 – Summary of Regular Migration Movements at Forbes Border Post in May 2020

Information presented in this report is a compilation of available data from Government sources: Immigration Officers, Border Patrol Officers, Department of Social Welfare and other organizations. DTM team categorized and analyzed the data to produce this Flow Monitoring Report.

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	Entries	Exits
March	20,024	18,237
April	6,137	6,758
May	6,019	6,346

Table 2 – Summary of Regular Migration Movements at Forbes Border Post for Mar – May 2020

Fig 4 below shows cumulative entries and exits at Forbes Border Post from March 2020 to May 2020. As shown in the chart a declining trend in movements continues as a result of COVID-19 movement restrictions. Entries and exits for the month declined by 2 and 6 per cent respectively from the previous month's statistics.

#### CUMULATIVE REGULAR MIGRATION FLOWS THROUGH FORBES BORDER POST

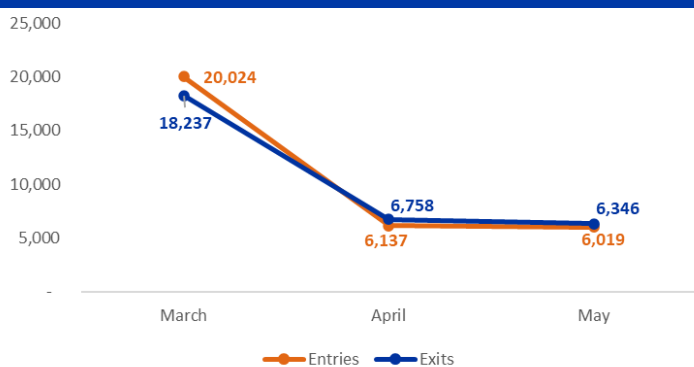


Fig 4– Summary of Regular Migration Movements at Forbes Border Post for Mar – May 2020

## MIGRATION HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

IOM carries out health assessments for various categories of migrants, including resettling refugees, labor migrants and displaced persons, either before departure or upon arrival. This reduces contamination risks and manages the potential public health impact of human mobility on migrants, receiving countries and communities.

A total of **69** applicants went through the migration health assessment during the month in review. The applicants comprised **57** per cent females and **43** per cent male as shown below, with **25** percent being minors below the age of **18** years.



Fig 5 – Health Migration Assessment Applicants May 2020

The majority of the applicants who went through the health assessments in May 2020, applied for settlement and dependants visa (**46%**), followed by work visa (**32%**), other visa types (**10%**), students without scholarship (**6%**), family reunion visa and students with scholarship visas (**3%**) each as illustrated in Fig 6.

#### HEALTH ASSESSMENT APPLICANTS BY VISA TYPE MAY-2020

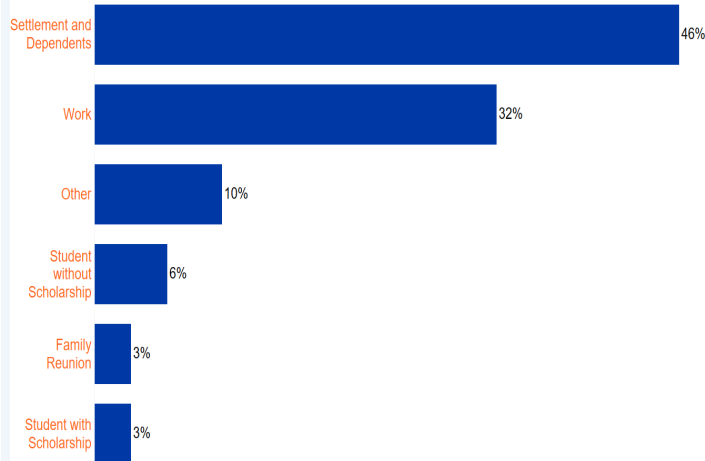


Fig 6 – Health Assessment Applications by Visa Type May 2020

The types of visa application applied for in the past 3 months indicates a desire for long-term migration for most applicants. As shown in fig 7 below.

#### CUMULATIVE HEALTH ASSESSMENT APPLICANTS BY VISA TYPE MARCH - MAY 2020

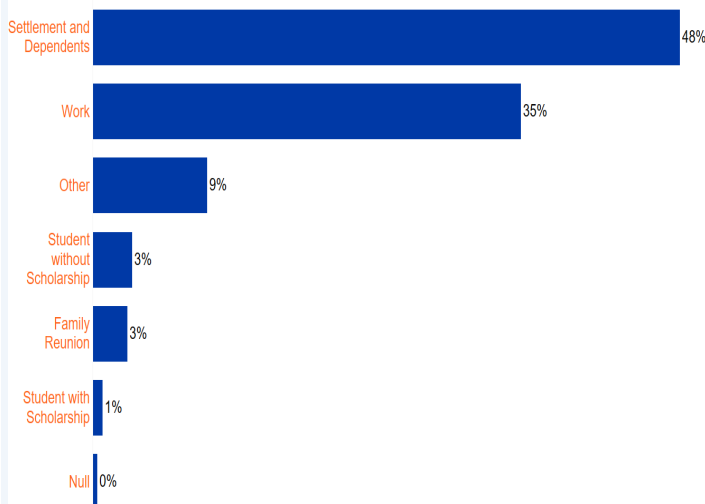


Fig 7 – Cumulative Applicants by Visa Type from March - May 2020

## ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION

IOM through its Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) Programme assists migrants or asylum seekers willing to return to their country of origin with administrative, logistical or financial support.

On the 23rd of May 2020, in response to a request from the Embassy of Malawi in Zimbabwe, IOM facilitated the safe and dignified return of **92** Malawian migrants (**86** male and **6** female) stranded in Zimbabwe. The repatriation was done in collaboration with relevant Zimbabwean authorities and Malawi Embassy Officials in Zimbabwe to facilitate the voluntary return of the stranded migrants who were located in three different holding facilities in Zimbabwe.

The migrants were met at the Point of Entry (Mwanza Border) by IOM Lilongwe staff and the Malawian authorities where they were provided with onward transportation to their final destination.

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Photo: Malawian Migrants departing Zimbabwe for Malawi ©IOM 2020; Evans Malewa

## IRREGULAR MIGRATION

If the rapid spread of the virus continues to affect neighbouring countries, the new restrictive measures will most probably further exacerbate the socio-economic impact in vulnerable migrants.

These migrants working under informal or casual arrangements in neighbouring countries are not entitled to COVID-19 assistance from the respective host Governments, forcing them to return to their home country, Zimbabwe Through self-repatriation or IOM'S assisted voluntary return and reintegration program.

It is projected that, at least, **20,000** migrants will be received in the following months. The significant influx of returnees will create an additional burden on a country, where already **7.5** million of the population are grappling with food insecurity, and approximately **43,523** internally displaced population (IDPs) are still struggling with recovery.

## RETURNEES FROM SOUTH AFRICA

A total of **3,032** Zimbabwean migrants returned from South Africa through the Beit Bridge Reception Centre. The returnees were quarantined at provincial quarantine centres in their intended destination provinces for a minimum seven days as per the screening guidelines, pending discharge on the 8th day depending on the outcome of the test results. Approximately **41** per cent of the returnees in May came under the self repatriation arrangements.



A fleet of hired buses transporting self repatriation migrants from South Africa

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After screening and testing the returning migrants were transferred to quarantine centres closest to the returnee's intended final destination.

Point of Entry	Apr- May 2020	Male Adults	Female Adults	Children	Origin of the Movement into Zimbabwe
Beitbridge	3,421	1,966	1,429	26	South Africa
Plumtree	1,641	1,113	526	2	Botswana
Kazungula	102	51	51	0	Zambia, Namibia
Victoria Falls Land border	170	84	86	0	Various locations
Victoria Falls Airport	3	0	3	0	Various locations
Chirundu	275	115	149	11	Zambia, Malawi & DRC
Forbes	646	361	248	37	Mozambique, Botswana & South Africa
Sango	147	31	116	0	Mozambique
	<b>6,405</b>	<b>3,721</b>	<b>2,608</b>	<b>76</b>	

Table 3 – Cumulative Summary of Returnees by Point of Entry from April to May 2020

## IOM COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

IOM country offices in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Malawi are in the process of coordinating with the embassy of Malawi in the repatriating the estimated 5,000 Malawian migrants stranded in South Africa.

IOM is scaling up operations to respond to the new evolving context, as co-lead of the POE pillar, IOM is providing technical support to the government in the COVID-19 national response plan to strengthen government capacity in migration management, ensuring all returnees are screened, registered, profiled and transported to their respective provincial quarantine facilities, to meet the mandatory quarantine period of seven days. In addition, IOM is providing support to the other pillars of the response with different interventions.

IOM has conducted a Situation analysis of the migrants returnees, to advocate for support to assist the vulnerable population who return to the country empty handed. There is an urgent need to promote reintegration assistance to avoid stigmatization and social tension in receiving communities.

During the period 14 to 18 May 2020 the POE pillar conducted an assessment of all the provincial identified quarantine facilities. IOM in collaboration with WHO and Government agencies, Ministry Of Health and Child care (MoHCC), Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare and District Civil Protection department (DCP), is analyzing a quarantine assessment of 60 identified facilities at provincial/district level, where migrant returnees are being transported after arrival, registration and profiling. Most of these quarantine centres are government premises. The assessment indicates that such facilities are not equipped to cater for the returnees in a dignified manner.

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IOM has redirected activities from the counter trafficking program to assist migrant returnees, who could be potential victims of trafficking (VoT) due to their vulnerability in neighboring countries.

As part of its support to the Government of Zimbabwe (GoZ), IOM supported the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) pillar through a donation of equipment and chemicals to the Beitbridge quarantine centre. The donated equipment included infrared thermometers, knapsack sprayers, pedal waste receptacles, disinfection chemicals and hand sanitizers. The donation will go a long way in minimizing risk of infection within the quarantine centre through regular disinfection.



Handover of IPC equipment and chemicals to the District Environmental Health Officer at Beitbridge Quarantine Centre (© IOM 2020)

IOM scaled up support to the Ministry of Public Service Labour and Social Welfare in the profiling and registration of migrants returning through the Beitbridge quarantine centre through the deployment of additional staff to assist with electronic registration and data management within the facility in a bid to improve the quality of data.

IOM is in the process of recruiting additional staff for deployment in five border posts, to conduct registration and profiling of the returnees, to have a deeper understanding of their vulnerabilities, and tailor further livelihood and assistance interventions. The additional staff will assist in the coordination of transport for returnees, food distribution as well as disseminating information to stakeholders to ensure a joint and coordinated response.

In addition, they will conduct, population mobility mapping exercises and coordinate with rapid response surveillance teams in all provinces to follow up on migrant returnees in the communities after the seven day mandatory quarantine period, reinforcing surveillance, contact tracing and ensuring further self-quarantine measures are taken into consideration when returning to their places of destination.

IOM in conjunction with the Department of Social Welfare distributed food packs to returnees from South Africa who were discharged from two provincial Quarantine Centres. Beneficiaries received 25kg of mealie-meal, 2kg rice, 2kg sugar, 2.5kg flour, 2litres cooking oil, 410g beans and one bar washing soap. The beneficiaries greatly appreciated the assistance for it is going to help them restart their lives in a dignified manner when they get home. The returnees are part of **205** Zimbabweans who were assisted by private funds, the GoZ and IOM to return home.



Handover of food packs to returnee beneficiaries after completion of the 7 day mandatory quarantine (© IOM 2020)

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