

61

Events reported by key informants regarding departures or preparations for departure from the coasts of Senegal

EVENT DETAILS



14 boats left the coast of Senegal



663 migrants left aboard these boats



Observed boats left from **Senegal** to the Canary Islands or to/ via Mauritania



16 lists are open along the Senegalese coastline with a view to registering more migrants. Currently **1,475** potential migrants have registered

Potential risks:

- Overcrowding of boats and increasing number of deaths and disappearances as a result of increased registrations
- Increase in the number of shipwrecks due to hazardous quality of boats
- Extortion, exploitation, and abuse of migrants due to isolation of departure areas

Departure zones:

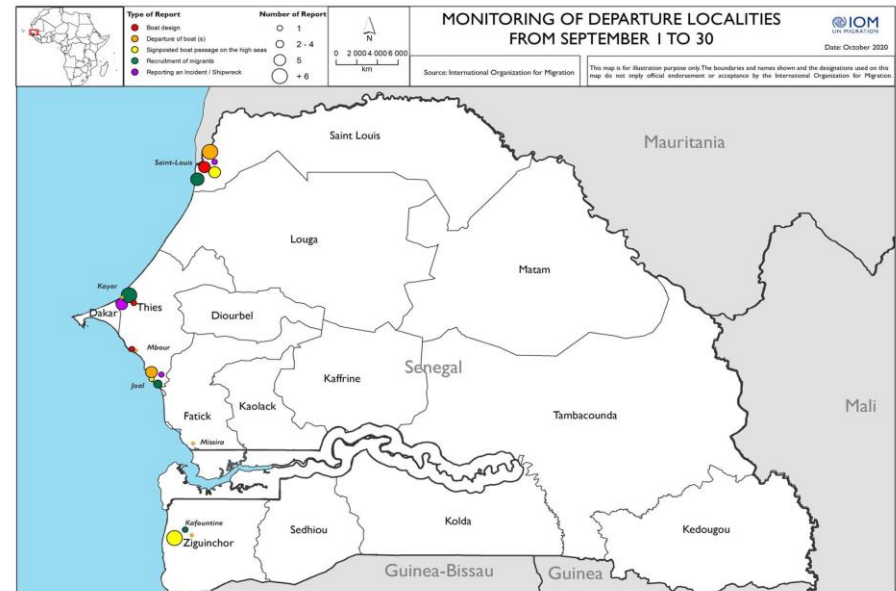
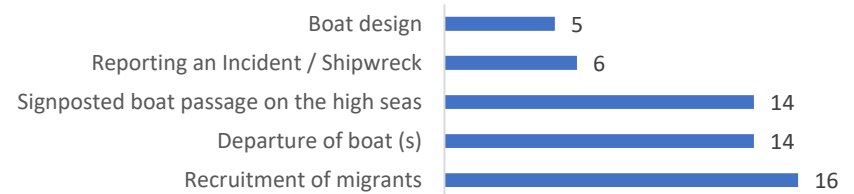
- ✓ North of St-Louis
- ✓ Gandiol
- ✓ Mbour
- ✓ Joal
- ✓ Barra (The Gambia)



This document presents data collected in September 2020 by key informants along the Senegalese coastline on irregular migration movements from Senegal to the Canary Islands (Spain).

Between **1 September and 30 September 2020**, **61 events** were reported. These events related to departures of boats (**14**) from the coasts of Senegal (**north of St-Louis, Gandiol, Mbour, Joal**), and Barra (in Gambia), and the recruitment of potential migrants (**16 lists currently open with 1,475 registered**) with a view to leaving in the near future.

Fig. 1- Types of reported events (1—30 September 2020)



Since 2019, a growing number of migrants are taking the Western African Maritime Route. This route, which had been active in the past, and notably in 2006, has once again become a route favoured by migrants. The route generally consists in crossing from the coasts of Morocco or Mauritania to the Canary Islands (Spain). However, journeys are often prepared from the coasts of Senegal and include several intermediate steps and periods of transit.

In 2006, more than **32,000** migrants from the West and Central African region travelled along the Western African Maritime Route. In 2019, **2,698** migrants arrived in the Canary Islands, and this number grew to more than **6,000** in 2020 (to 30 September).

MIGRANT PROFILE AND PREVALENCE OF SHIPWRECKS

Country of origin of migrants

Demographic profile

Monitoring of incidents / shipwrecks

Main nationalities of migrants leaving the coasts of Senegal

Senegal, The Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria, Niger, Mali, Guinea Bissau, Côte d'Ivoire.



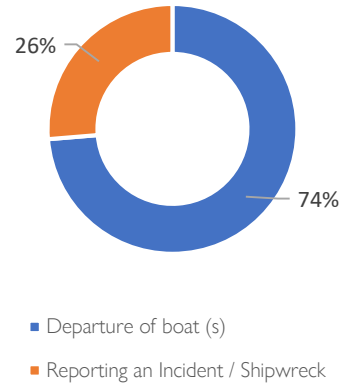
608 adult men boarded from the Senegalese coasts; 92% of travellers.



13 adult women boarded from the Senegalese coasts; 2% of travellers.



42 child migrants boarded from the Senegalese coasts; 6% of travellers.



Wreckage of a ship onboard which migrants were travelling © Nina Moudio / IOM

METHODOLOGY

The tool monitoring migration movements from the maritime coasts of Senegal to the Spanish Canary Islands (most frequently through several intermediate stages) aims to document migrations by the Western African Maritime Route (demographic profiles, travel modalities, frequency, conditions of travel, organization). The methodology combines three tools: monitoring of departures, mapping of departure areas and counting.

This report presents data collected through the departure monitoring tool in September 2020 at several departure points along the Senegalese coastline (see Map on page 1 for exact locations). The tool employs key informants who report on events on a daily basis. Every reported event is recorded in a database using a dedicated data collection form. The search for information (events) along the coast is facilitated by seasoned informants.

DATA SOURCES AND NOTES :

There are some limitations to the data provided by key informants on the movements that occur along the coast during maritime migration in Senegal. The data available is sparse and rarely contains information on the exact date of travel or the list of migrants who embarked. Furthermore, there is no perfectly harmonized data with the Spanish government on arrivals to the Canary Islands (Spain) from Senegal.

DATA COLLECTION STEPS



Design and deployment of a collection form.



Key informant assessment via smartphone.



Total number of key informants working for this project.



From St-Louis to Ziguinchor, informants living in its localities cover the Senegalese coast.