



**DTM**  
IOM DISPLACEMENT  
TRACKING MATRIX

DTM ACTIVITIES  
IN NIGER ARE  
SUPPORTED BY:



**OIM**  
ONU MIGRATION

Projet financé par l'Union européenne  
Projet mis en œuvre par l'OIM



**FLOW MONITORING REPORT**

**NIGER**

**JANUARY 2021**



**OIM**  
ONU MIGRATION

### INTRODUCTION

In order to better understand migratory movements and trends in West and Central Africa, IOM, through the *Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)*, implements the activity of Monitoring flows of populations (*Flow Monitoring, FM*).

Flow monitoring, which is implemented in close collaboration with the authorities and national and local partners, is made up of two tools: the *Flow Monitoring registry (FMR)*, which collects key data on the extent, origin, destination and methods of mobility flows, and individual surveys (*Flow Monitoring Survey, FMS*), conducted among travelers in order to obtain information on the profiles, migratory routes and intentions of migrants. The monitoring of population flows thus collects data on migratory flows and trends, the profiles of travelers and the journeys and intentions of migrants, in order to provide a better understanding of mobility in West and Central Africa.

In **Niger**, the DTM collects data at 6 *Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs)*, in order to identify areas with high cross-border and intra-regional mobility and collect data on mobility trends, profiles and the journey of travelers in the country.

This report presents the data obtained through the flow monitoring recording activities in January 2021, at the level of the 6 FMPs installed in Niger.

For more information on the flow monitoring methodology, please see the last page of this report.

### KEY FIGURES



**6** flow monitoring points (FMPs) in Niger



**1,936** travelers on average observed daily



**10% increase** of travelers since the previous month



**25%** incoming individuals recorded



**36%** outgoing individuals recorded



**60,022** total individuals observed at all Niger FMPs



**91%** are nationals of Niger, Nigeria, and Chad

### TRAVELLER PROFILES AND MOBILITY TRENDS

**Migration trends:** During the period covered, 1,936 people were, on average, observed at the FMPs each day. This corresponds to an increase of one per cent compared to December 2020, when the daily average was 1,874 individuals. This increase is due to the end of rural work increases their migration. In addition, restricting mobility in the interior of the country has had an impact on the flow of migrants' means of transport due to COVID-19.

**Type of flows:** Of the individuals observed, more than a third (39%) conducted an internal movement, while 61 per cent conducted a cross-border movement. Of the cross border movements, 36 per cent were leaving Niger and 25 per cent entered Niger. The share of internal flows decreased by 13 percent compared to the previous month, indicating that despite the official closure of borders, a decreasing number of cross-border movements are carried out each month due to COVID-19.

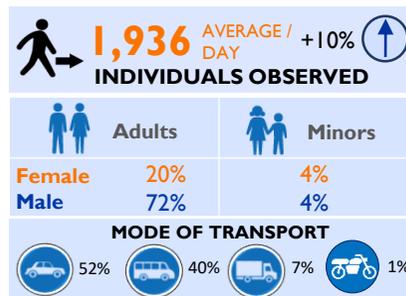
**Provenance and destination:** During this month of January, the main countries of provenance and destination of travelers were Niger (77% and 66% respectively), Nigeria (17% and 16% respectively), Algeria (4% and 9% respectively) and Libya (2% and 9% respectively). The people observed traveled mainly by private vehicles (52%) and bus (40%) but also by truck (7%) and motorbike or three-wheeled vehicle (1%).

**Traveler Profiles:** Of the observed travelers, 72 per cent were adult males, while 20 per cent were adult females and 8 per cent were children. Among the travelers, 5,306 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 4 per cent of children under five years old, less than 1 per cent of elderly people, and less than 3 per cent of pregnant women. The travelers were mainly nationals of Niger (73%), Nigeria (15%), Chad (3%), Sudan (2%) and Cameroon (1%). It should also be noted that 6 per cent of travelers had another nationality, underlining Niger's central position as a transit country for migratory flows in West and Central Africa.



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### TRAVELLER PROFILES



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

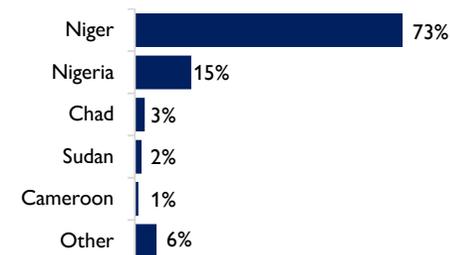


VULNERABILITIES

### PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

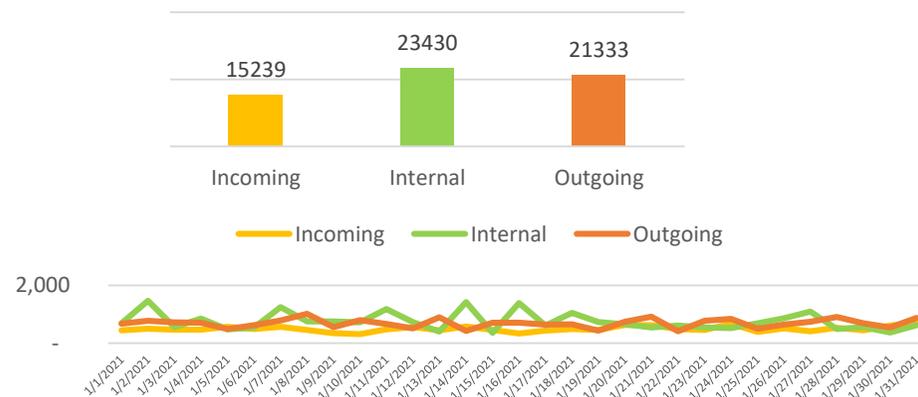
Provenance of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	77%	Niger	66%
Nigeria	17%	Nigeria	16%
Algeria	4%	Algeria	9%
Libya	2%	Libya	9%

### NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



pp : point pourcentage

### DIRECTION OF FLOWS



REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS

### ARLIT

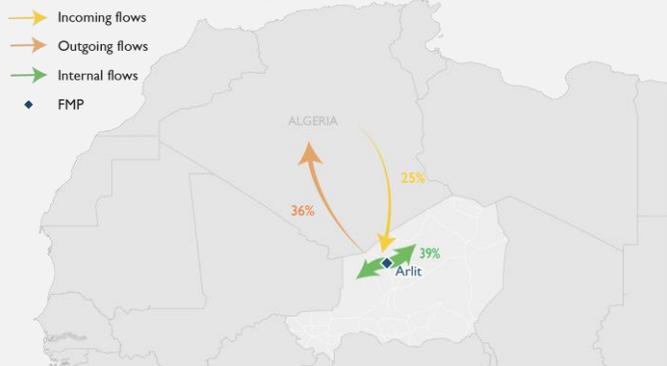
**OVERVIEW OF THE FMP:** The Arlit flow monitoring point captures both cross-border flows to and from Algeria, and internal movements between Arlit and other localities in Niger. The FMP at Arlit has been active since February 2016.

**Migration trends:** During the period covered, an average of 735 people were observed at the FMP each day. This corresponds to an increase of 15 per cent compared to the period in December 2020, when the daily average was 637 individuals. This increase is due to the surge of COVID-19 in Algeria which gives an opportunity to smugglers to help migrants cross borders. Nevertheless, significant movements were observed for the resumption of gold mining activities in the north of the country, which also serves as a bridge to connect Niger to North Africa (Algeria and Libya) for some migrants. For the latter, passing through gold panning sites allows them to bypass the restrictions of Law 036/2015 which criminalizes the illicit transport of migrants.

**Type of flows:** Among the individuals observed, more than a third (39%) carried out internal movement, mainly to gold mining sites in northern Niger, while 61 per cent carried out cross-border movement (36% cent left Niger and 25 % were returning to Niger).

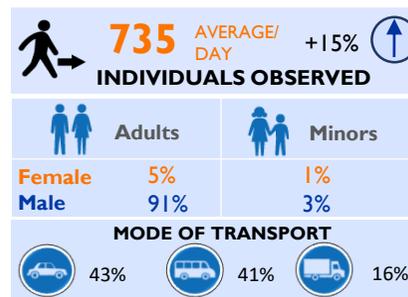
**Provenance and destination:** During the month of January, the main countries of origin and destination of travelers were Niger (93% and 80%, respectively) and Algeria (7% and 20%, respectively). The people observed traveled mainly by private vehicles (43%) and by bus (41%) but also by trucks (16%).

**Traveler Profiles:** Of the observed travelers, an overwhelming majority (91%) were adult males, while 5 per cent were adult females and 4 per cent were children. Among the travelers, 607 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 1 per cent children under five years old, less than 1 per cent of elderly people and less than 1 per cent unaccompanied children. The travelers had various nationalities, the most prevalent being nationals of Niger (70%), Nigeria (7%), Chad (6%), Sudan (5%), Mali (2%) and other nationalities observed (10%). This diversity of nationalities reflects the fact that Arlit is a key crossing point along migratory routes to North Africa and to gold mining sites.



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### TRAVELLER PROFILES



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

VULNERABILITIES

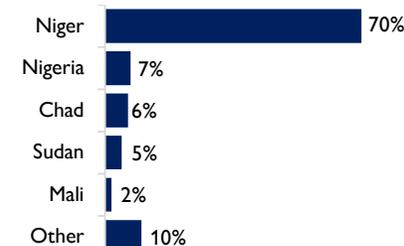


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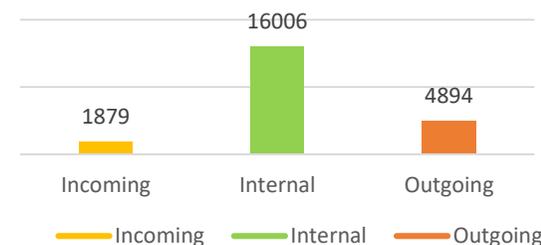
### PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

Provenance of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	93%	Niger	80%
Algeria	7%	Algeria	20%

### NATIONALITIES OBSERVED

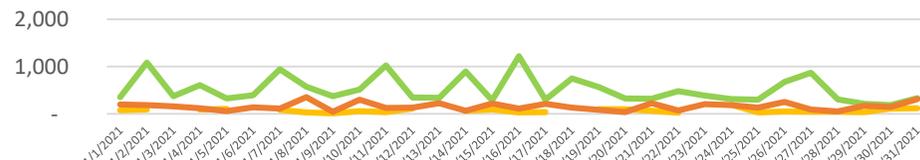


### DIRECTION OF FLOWS



REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS



### SÉGUÉDINE/MADAMA

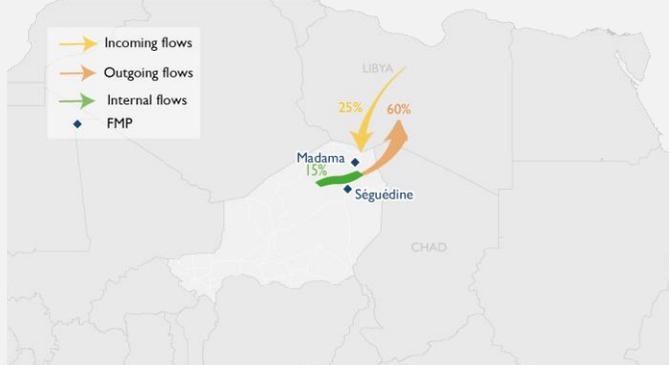
**OVERVIEW OF THE FMP:** The Séguédine and Madama flow monitoring point captures cross-border flows to and from Libya. The Séguédine FMP has been active since **February 2016**. Given the immensity of the Agadez region which covers 703,000 km<sup>2</sup> (larger than France and 21 times larger than Belgium), a **new FMP (Madama)**, located near the Libyan border, was activated in **January 2019** to better capture cross-border movements due to the proliferation of bypass roads to avoid border checkpoints. Thus, the two FMPs are complementary, **Séguédine only records outgoing flows and Madama records incoming flows**.

**Migration trends:** During the period covered, an average of 232 people were observed at the FMP each day. This corresponds to a decrease of 8 per cent from the December 2020 period, when the daily average was 253 individuals. This decrease can be attributed to fear around a rise in insecurity due to kidnappings, and trafficking of migrants in Libya.

**Type of flows:** More than a half of the travelers passing through Séguédine and Madama (60%) were leaving Niger, while a quarter (25%) returned to Niger. In addition, 15 per cent made an internal movement towards the various localities of Niger.

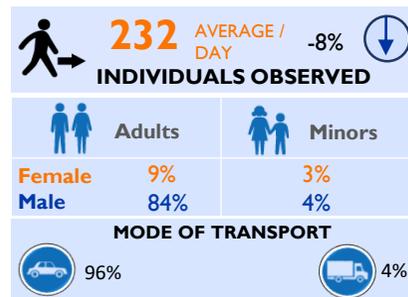
**Provenance and destination:** During the month of January, the main countries of origin and destination of travelers were Niger (85% and 32% respectively), Libya (14% and 68% respectively) and a small portion to Chad (1% and 1%). The people observed traveled mainly in private vehicles (96%) and trucks (4%).

**Traveler Profiles:** Of the identified travelers, the vast majority (84%) were adult males, while 9 per cent were adult females and 7 per cent were children. Among the travelers, 346 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 2 per cent children under five years old, less than 2 per cent of the elderly people and less than 1 per cent of people living with physical or mental disabilities. The majority of travelers (85%) were Nigerien nationals while 6 per cent were Nigerian nationals, 3 per cent Chadian nationals and 1 per cent were Libyan nationals. It should also be noted that 5 per cent were made up of other nationalities, reflecting the fact that migrants from all over the region pass through Séguédine and Madama to reach North Africa and for some, Europe.



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### TRAVELLER PROFILES



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



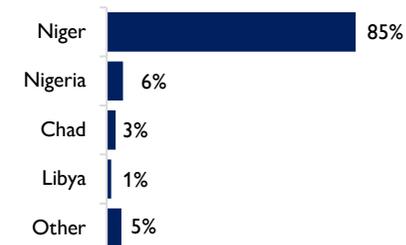
VULNERABILITIES

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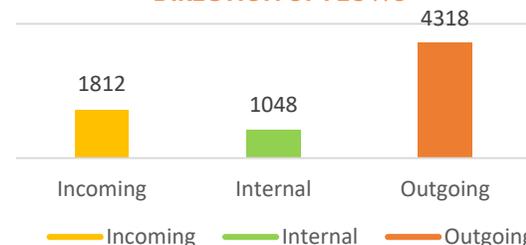
### PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

Provenance of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	85%	Libya	68%
Libya	14%	Niger	32%
Chad	1%	Chad	1%

### NATIONALITIES OBSERVED

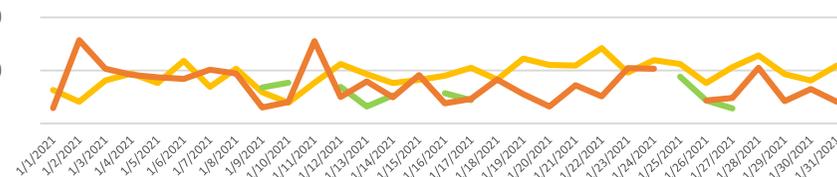


### DIRECTION OF FLOWS



REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS



### MAGARIA

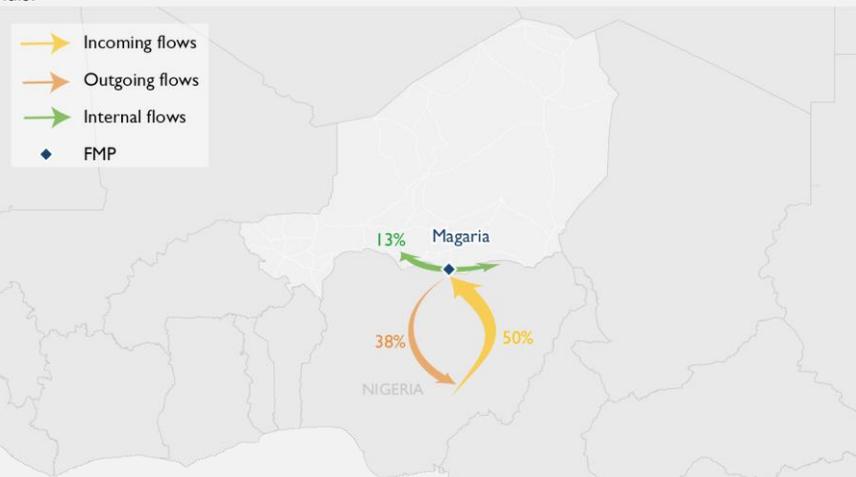
**OVERVIEW OF THE FMP:** The Magaria flow monitoring point was established to observe cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria, as well as internal flows. Magaria is a town on the border with Nigeria, where a large number of people travel from Nigeria, the country being one of the main countries of origin for migrants traveling to the Mediterranean. Magaria is mainly used by Nigerian and Nigerian traders who have historically maintained an economic exchanges. Most of the basic necessities for the Zinder and Diffa regions pass through this locality. Magaria's FMP was activated in **August 2018**.

**Migration trends:** During the period covered, an average of 186 people were observed at the FMP each day. This corresponds to an increase of 9 per cent from December 2020, when the daily average was 171 individuals. This increase in daily flows is due to the reopening of Nigeria's borders.

**Type of flows:** Among the individuals observed, the majority were returning to Niger (50%), while 38 per cent left Niger and 13 per cent moved internally, within Niger.

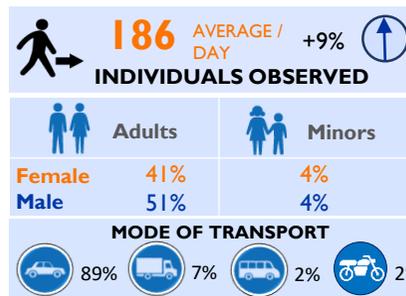
**Provenance and destination:** During the month of January, the main countries of origin and destination of travelers were Nigeria (55% and 33% respectively) and Niger (45% and 67% respectively). People traveled mainly by private vehicles (89%) but also by truck (7%), bus (2%) and motor cycles or three-wheels (2%).

**Traveler Profiles:** Of the identified travellers, 51 per cent were adult males, while 41 per cent were adult females and 8 per cent were children. Among travelers, 310 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 2 per cent of children under five years old, less than 1 per cent of people living with physical or mental disabilities, less than 2 per cent of pregnant women, and less than 1 per cent of children unaccompanied. The majority of the travelers observed were either Nigerien (77%) or Nigerian (23%) nationals.



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### TRAVELLER PROFILES



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



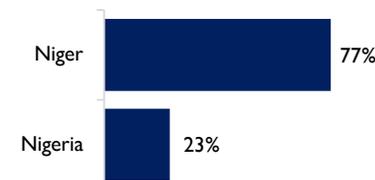
VULNERABILITIES

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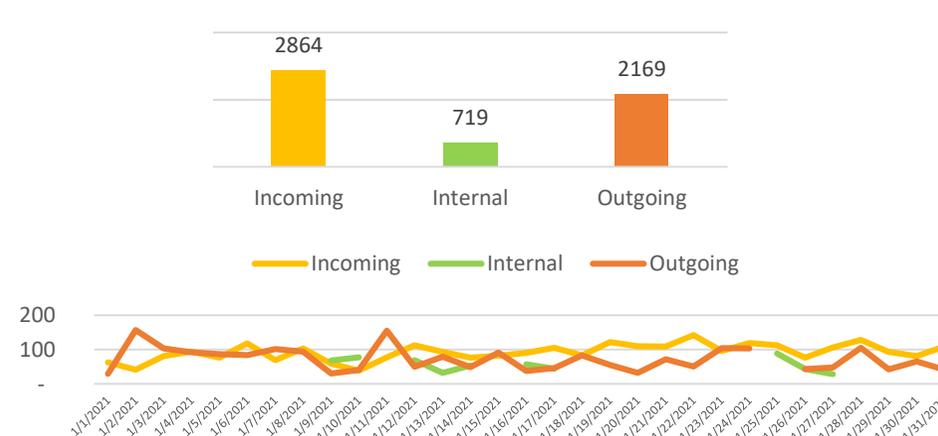
### PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

Provenance of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	55%	Niger	67%
Nigeria	45%	Nigeria	33%

### NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



### DIRECTION OF FLOWS



### DAN BARTO

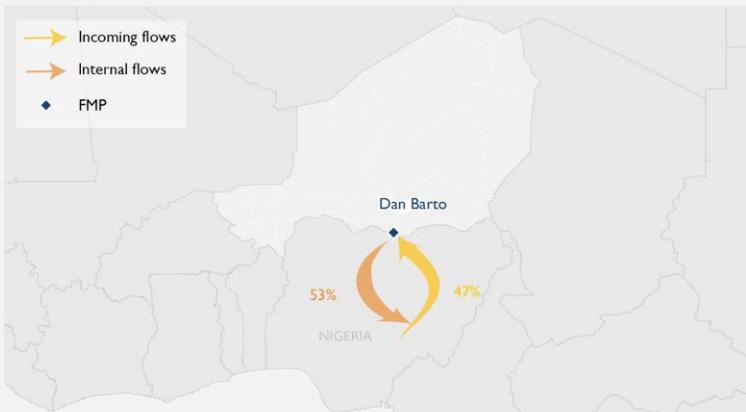
**OVERVIEW OF THE FMP:** Dan Barto's flow monitoring point records cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria. Dan Barto is a town near the border with Nigeria, where large numbers of people transit from Nigeria, which is one of the main countries of origin for migrants traveling to the Mediterranean. Dan Barto is mainly used by Nigerien and Nigerian traders who have a close economic relationship. Nigeriens go to Nigeria to buy basic necessities while Nigerians come to Niger to buy raw materials, animals and grains (millet, beans, etc.). Dan Barto's FMP has been active since **August 2018**.

**Migration trends:** During the period covered, an average of 291 people were observed at the FMP each day. This corresponds to a decrease of 8 per cent compared to the period of December 2020, during which the daily average was 316 individuals. This decrease is due to the reopening of Nigeria's borders which broke down mass concentration of travelers at parking points and internal movement through Niger but more towards Nigeria.

**Type of flows:** During the month of January, no internal movement were observed due to the fact that the individuals observed were heading to Nigeria as a result of the reopening of its borders, meanwhile 100 per cent of travelers conducted a cross-border movement. Of these, 47 per cent left Niger and 53 per cent were entering Niger.

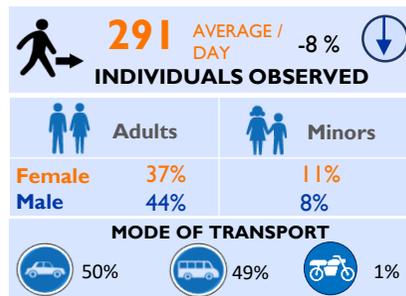
**Provenance and destination:** During the month, the two countries of origin and destination of travellers were Niger (51% and 47% respectively), and Nigeria (49% and 53% respectively). The people observed traveled mainly by private vehicles (50%), by bus (49%) and motorcycles (1%).

**Traveler Profiles:** Of the observed travellers, 44 per cent were adult males, while 37 per cent were adult females and 19 per cent were children. Among travelers, 1,885 people with vulnerabilities have been identified, including less than 12 percent children under five years old and less than 9 per cent of pregnant women. The travelers were of various nationals, including Nigerien (51%), Nigerian (43%), Ghanaian (3%) and 3 per cent of others.



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### TRAVELLER PROFILES



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



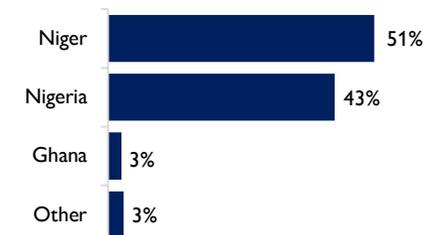
REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS

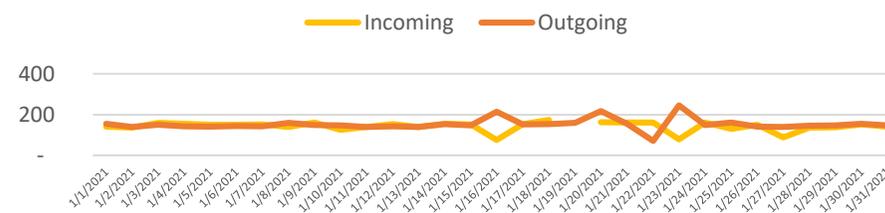
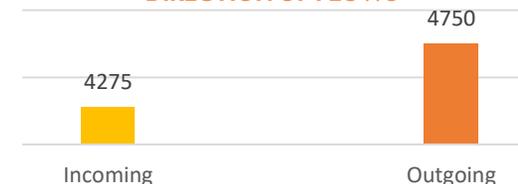
### PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

Provenance of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	51%	Nigeria	53%
Nigeria	49%	Niger	47%

### NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



### DIRECTION OF FLOWS



### DAN ISSA

**OVERVIEW OF THE FMP:** Dan Issa's flow monitoring point records cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria. Dan Issa is a town near the border with Nigeria, through which large flows from Nigeria pass, often heading to the Mediterranean via Agadez and Libya. Dan Issa's FMP has been active since September 2018. Dan Issa is mainly used by Nigerian and Nigerian traders who maintain economic exchanges: most of the basic necessities for Niamey and Maradi pass through this locality.

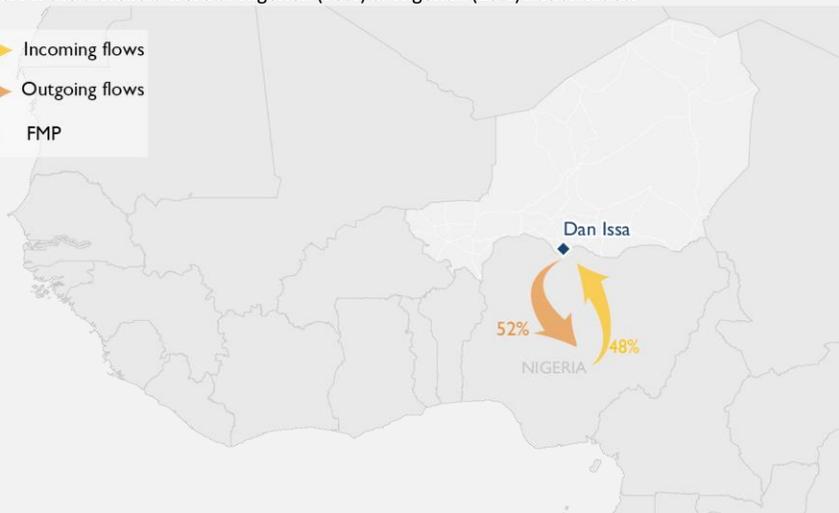
**Migration trends:** During the period covered, an average of 264 people were observed at the FMP each day. This corresponds to an increase of 18 per cent from the period in December 2020, when the daily average was 299 individuals. This increase is explained by the opening of Nigeria's borders.

**Type of flows:** All travelers observed at Dan Issa conducted a cross-border movement, outgoing (52%) or incoming (48%) from Nigeria.

**Provenance and destination:** During the month of January, the main countries of origin of travelers were Niger (51% and 49% respectively), and Nigeria (49% and 51% respectively). The people observed traveled mainly in private vehicles (52%), trucks (45%), as well as motorcycles (3%).

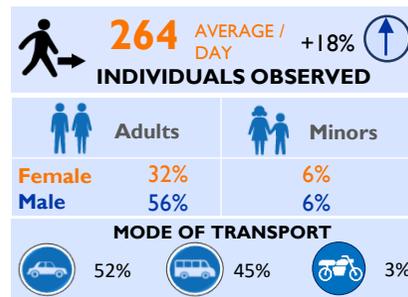
**Traveler Profiles:** Of the identified travelers, 56 per cent were adult men, while 32 per cent were adult women and 12 per cent were children. Among the travelers, 1,875 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 10 per cent of children under five, less than 4 per cent of elderly people, less than 1 per cent of people living with physical or mental disabilities, and less than 8 per cent of pregnant women, less than 5 per cent of the elderly, and less than 1 per cent of people living with physical or mental disabilities. All the travellers were of Nigerian (75%) or Nigerien (25%) nationalities.

- Incoming flows
- Outgoing flows
- FMP



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### TRAVELLER PROFILES



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

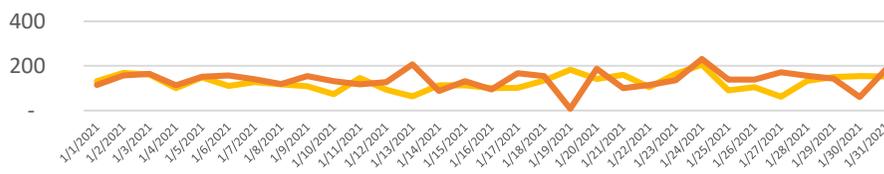
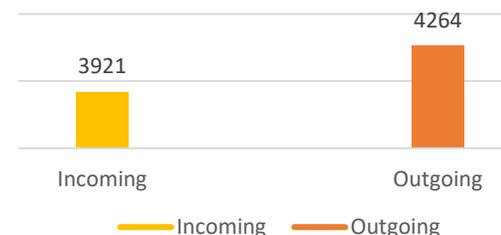


REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS

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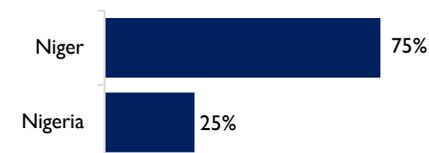
### DIRECTION OF FLOWS



### PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

Provenance of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	51%	Nigeria	51%
Nigeria	49%	Niger	49%

### NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



### TAHOUA

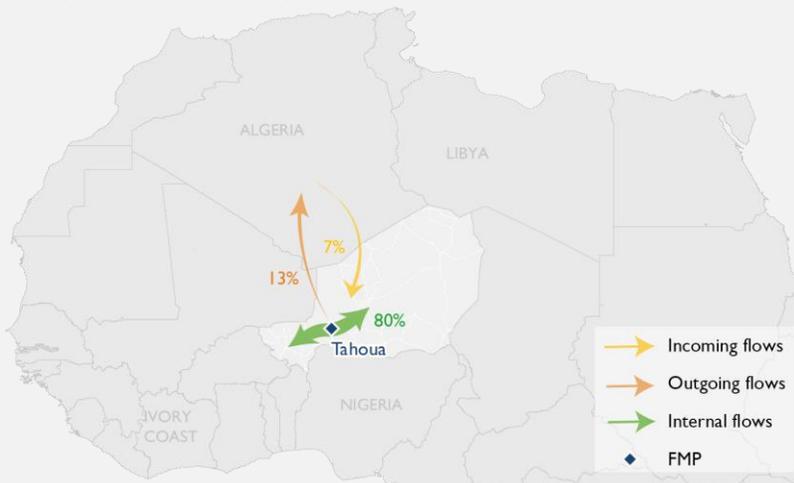
**OVERVIEW OF THE FMP :** The Tahoua flow monitoring point captures cross-border and internal movements. Tahoua is a town in central Niger through which migrants transit from Nigeria and other West African countries such as Cameroon, Benin, Ivory Coast, The Gambia and Mali. Most of them take the road from Agadez to Algeria and Libya. Tahoua's FMP was activated in **August 2018**.

**Migration trends:** During the period covered, 228 people were, on average, observed at the FMP each day. This corresponds to an increase of 47 per cent from December 2020, when the daily average was 155 individuals. This increase is due to reopening of Nigeria's borders.

**Type of flows:** Among the individuals observed, the vast majority (80%) conducted an internal movement, while 20 percent conducted cross-border movements. Of those moving across the border, 13 per cent of the flows were reported as outgoing and 7 per cent were incoming. The predominant share of internal flows reflects Tahoua's position in central Niger, as a junction of the main roads crossing the country.

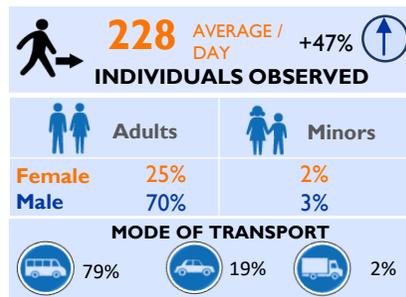
**Provenance and destination:** During the month of January, almost all travelers were traveling from either Niger (93%), 6 per cent from Algeria and there was only 1 per cent of travelers from Nigeria. In terms of destination, the vast majority (97%) went to another city in Niger, but a small proportion (3%) went to Libya. The people observed traveled mainly by bus (79%), private vehicles (19%) and trucks (2%).

**Traveler Profiles:** Of the observed travelers, 70 per cent were adult men, while 25 per cent were adult women and 5 per cent were children. Among the travelers, 283 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 1 per cent children under five years old, less than 1 per cent of elderly people and less than 1 per cent of pregnant women. The travelers were mainly nationals of Nigerian (94%), Cameroonian (1%), Beninese (1%) but other nationalities (4%) were also observed.



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### TRAVELLER PROFILES



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

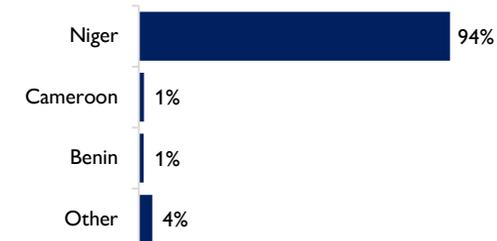


VULNERABILITIES

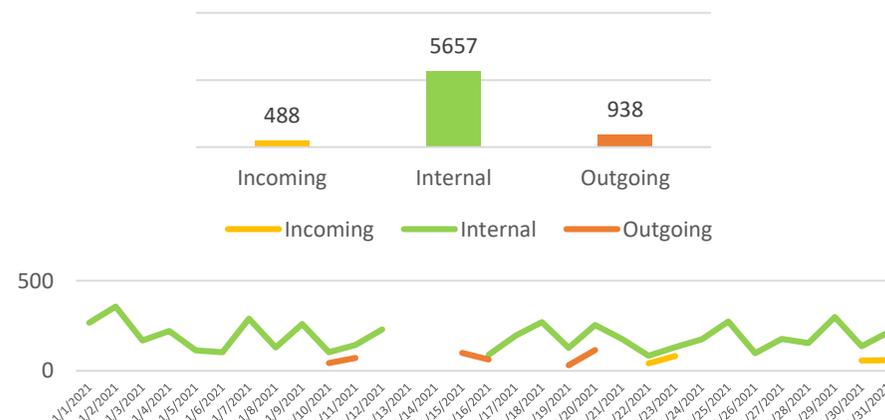
### PROVENANCE AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

Provenance of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	93%	Niger	88%
Algeria	6%	Libya	6%
Nigeria	1%	Algeria	6%

### NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



### DIRECTION OF FLOWS



REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS

**INTRODUCTION:** Flow monitoring, implemented by the IOM through the Travel Monitoring Matrix (DTM), aims to collect data on the number and characteristics of travelers observed in high mobility areas, through Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) installed in these areas.

**METHODOLOGY:** Flow Monitoring Point (FMP) is a data collection exercise that aims to identify areas prone to cross-border and international migration and to highlight the characteristics and journeys of people passing through these areas. Areas of high mobility are identified at the national level with the help of national authorities. The DTM teams, in partnership with local authorities, then carry out work to identify strategic transit points at the local level. At each of these FMPs, two main data collection methodologies are used: the *Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR)* and *individual surveys (FMS)*.

The FMR collects data at the various crossing points through direct observation and key informant interviews with bus station staff, government officials, drivers, etc. The FMR is based on a combination of direct observation and key informant interviews

of truck drivers or the migrants themselves. The **FMR** collects information on the number of passengers passing through the crossing points, their nationalities, places of origin and intended destinations, and the means of transport used.

At each FMR, data are collected by a team of two to five interviewers. Data collection is conducted daily, between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., which is the time of day when the greatest number of passengers pass through the FMPs. However, these schedules can be adjusted to suit the time period and context. Data are collected through a form administered to key informants and direct observation.

**FMS** allow for more in-depth data collection through interviews with a sample of travelers who pass through the crossing points to better understand their profiles. Surveys are conducted daily with a randomly selected sample of travelers who pass through the crossing points. The main data collected are the traveler's nationality, age, gender, education, employment status, reasons for travel, origin, destination, and needs and vulnerabilities.

**LIMITATIONS:** The data used in this analysis are derived from surveys of a sample of travelers who passed through the three crossing points mentioned above, between April and June 2020. Therefore, they cannot be generalized to the migrant population as a whole, as they present only the specific situation of the respondents. The temporal coverage of these surveys is also limited to working days and a limited time window.

In addition, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, IOM adapted its strategy and methodology by implementing precautionary and risk mitigation measures during data collection operations at the FMP level, as well as during the training of interviewers. Thus, standard operating procedures were put in place to ensure compliance with the risk prevention and mitigation measures decreed by the Government of Niger. These measures include respect for social distancing, distribution of personal protective equipment for interviewers, sensitization of field staff and the conduct of a limited number of training sessions.

#### **DEFINITIONS :**

**Outgoing flow:** This term refers to travelers who arrive at the FMP with

the intention of heading to a country other than Niger.

**Inflow:** This term refers to travelers arriving at the FMP from a country other than Niger.

**Internal Flow:** This term refers to travelers who have departed from one area of Niger and arrive at the FMP with the intention of traveling to another area of Niger.

Note that upon request, further analysis (e.g., by tracking point) can be carried out by the DTM team.

*The views expressed in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of IOM, donors and partners. IOM strongly believes that humane and orderly migration is beneficial for migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM works with its partners in the international community to help solve the operational challenges posed by migration; to promote a better understanding of the issues at stake; to encourage the development of a more inclusive society; and to support the development of a more effective migration policy.*