



**DTM**

IOM DISPLACEMENT  
TRACKING MATRIX

DTM ACTIVITIES  
IN NIGER ARE  
SUPPORTED BY:



**IOM**  
UN MIGRATION

Project funded by the European Union  
Project implemented by IOM



**FLOW MONITORING REPORT**

**NIGER**

**MAY 2021**

**IOM**  
UN MIGRATION

## INTRODUCTION

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

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 travellers 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 travellers and the journeys and intentions of migrants, in order to provide a better understanding of mobility in West and Central Africa.

In **Niger**, DTM collects data at 7 *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 May 2021, at the level of the 7 FMPs installed in Niger.

For more information on the Flow Monitoring methodology, please see the last page of this report.

## KEY FIGURES



**7** Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) in Niger



**2,047** travellers on average observed daily



**10% decrease** in travellers since the previous month



**31%** incoming individuals recorded



**34%** outgoing individuals recorded



**63,464** total individuals observed at all Niger FMPs



**92%** are nationals of Niger, Nigeria and Chad

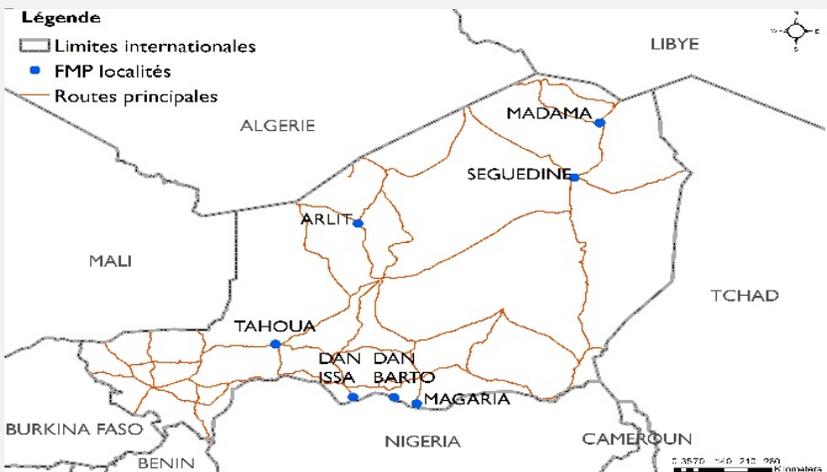
### TRAVELLER PROFILES AND MOBILITY TRENDS

**Migration trends:** During the period covered, 2,047 people were, on average, observed at the FMPs each day. This corresponds to a decrease of 10 per cent compared to April, when the daily average was 2,277 individuals. This decrease is due to several reasons, including the insecurity that has plagued some areas of the FMPs, the arrest of certain migrants by the police, the arrival of the rainy season, which pushes some migrants to prepare their fields, as well as the wishes of smugglers and migrants to celebrate Ramadan with their families, which have influenced the flows compared to the previous month.

**Type of flows:** Of the individuals observed, more than a third of flows (35%) were internal movements while (65%) conducted were border movements. In the border movements, 34 per cent were leaving Niger and 31 per cent were entering Niger. The internal flows decreased by 20 per cent compared to the previous month of April.

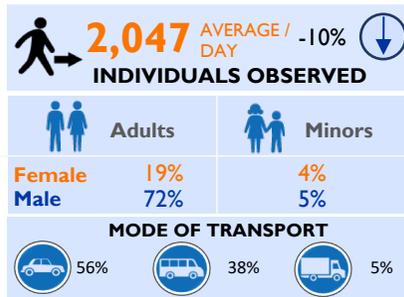
**Origin and destination:** During the month of May, the main countries of origin of travellers were Niger (69%), Nigeria (21%), Algeria (6%), Libya (4%) and Chad (<1%), while the main destination countries were also Niger (66%), Nigeria (17%), Algeria (9%), Libya (8%) and Chad (<1%). The people observed traveled mainly by private vehicle (56%), by bus (38%), and by truck (5%).

**Traveller Profiles:** Among the travellers observed, 72 per cent were adult men, while 19 per cent were adult women and 9 per cent were children. Additionally, 5,563 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 4 per cent of children under five, less than one per cent of the elderly, less than 3 per cent of pregnant women and less than one per cent of unaccompanied children. The travellers were mainly Nigerian (74%), Nigerian (15%), Chadian (3%) and Sudanese (2%) nationals. It should also be noted that 6 per cent of travellers 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



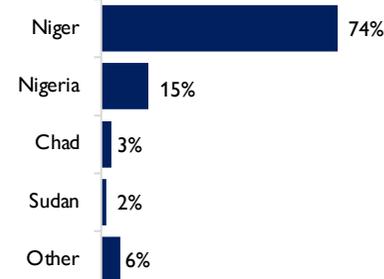
VULNERABILITIES

pp: percentage point

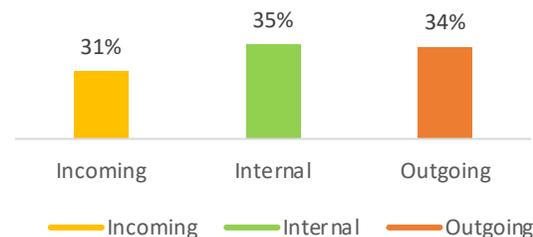
### ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

Origin of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	69%	Niger	66%
Nigeria	21%	Nigeria	17%
Algeria	6%	Algeria	9%
Libya	4%	Libya	8%
Chad	<1%	Chad	<1%

### NATIONALITIES OBSERVED

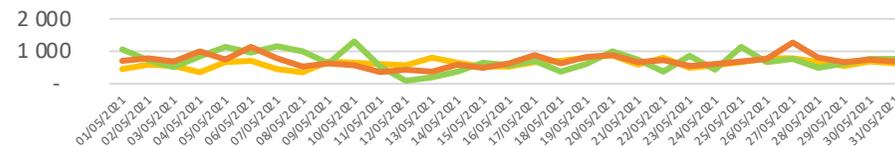


### DIRECTION OF FLOWS



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**.

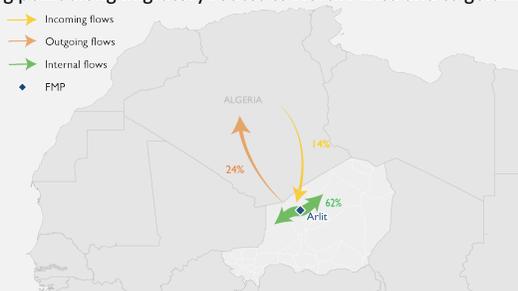
**Migration trends:** During the period covered, an average of 767 people were observed at the FMP each day. This corresponds to a decrease of 25 per cent compared to the period in April, when the daily average was 1,016 individuals. This drop is explained by the preparations for the holiday and the intention to go to celebrate Ramadan with the family have caused several smugglers and drivers to suspend their activities to return, abandoning some migrants in the desert. This had a drastic impact on the flows observed during this month.

Nevertheless, significant movements were observed to resume gold-panning activities in the north of the country, which also serves as a bridge linking Niger to North Africa (Algeria and Libya) for certain migrants. For the latter, passing through gold panning sites allows them to circumvent the restrictions of Law No. 036/2015 which criminalizes the illicit transport of migrants.

**Type of flows:** Among the individuals observed, nearly two-thirds (62%) carried out an internal movement, mainly towards gold washing sites in northern Niger, while 38% carried out a border movement (24% left Niger and 14% returned to Niger).

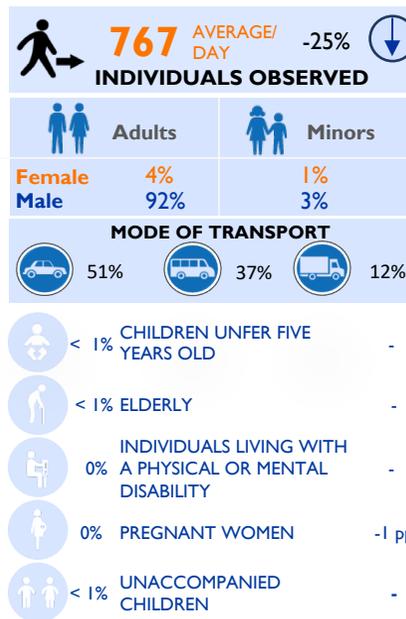
**Origin and destination:** During the month of May, the main countries of origin of travelers were Niger (86%) and Algeria (14%), and those of destination were also Niger (76%) and Algeria (24%). The people observed traveled mainly by private vehicle (51%), by bus (37%) and by truck (12%).

**Traveller Profiles:** Of the travellers observed, an overwhelming majority (92%) were adult men, while 4 per cent were adult women and 4 per cent were children. Among the travellers, 503 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than one per cent of children under five, less than one per cent of the elderly and less than one per cent of unaccompanied children. The travellers were of various nationalities with more than half Nigerien (71%), Chadian (7%), Nigerian (6%), Sudanese (4%) and Malian (2%). However, other nationalities were also 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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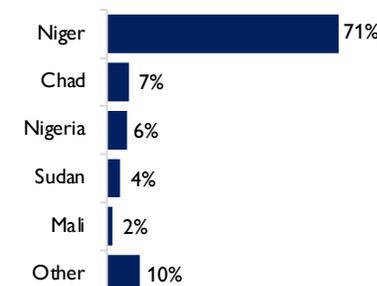
### TRAVELLER PROFILES



### ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

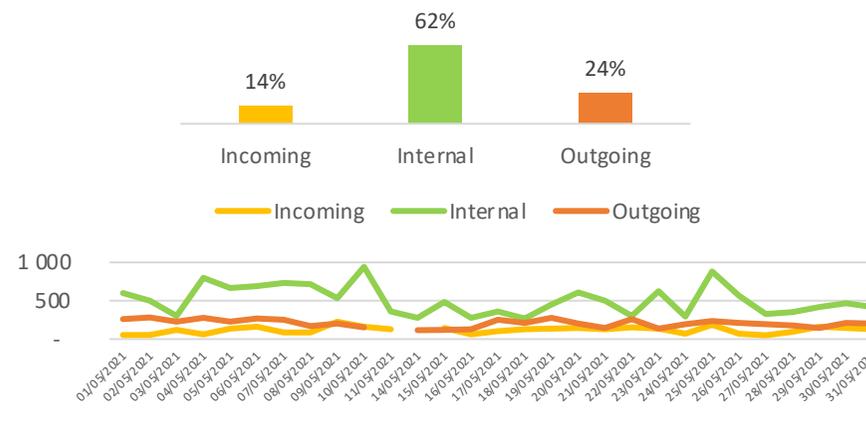
Origin of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	86%	Niger	76%
Algeria	14%	Algeria	24%

### NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



pp: percentage point

### DIRECTION OF FLOWS



### SÉGUÉDINE/MADAMA

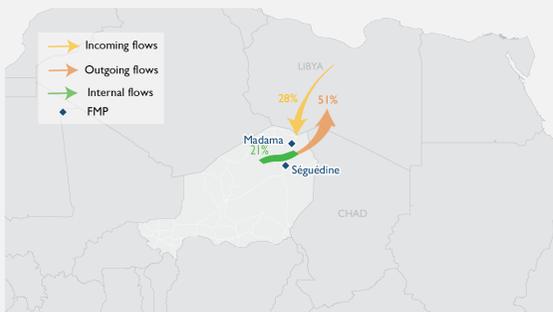
**OVERVIEW OF THE FMP:** The Séguédine and Madama Flow Monitoring Point captures cross-border flows to and from Libya. The Séguédine FMP has been active since **February 2016**. Given the immensity of the Agadez region which covers 703,000 km<sup>2</sup> (larger than France and 21 times larger than Belgium), 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 recording outgoing flows and Madama recording incoming flows**.

**Migration trends:** During the period covered, an average of 288 people were observed at FMPs each day. This corresponds to a 6 per cent decrease from the April period, when the daily average was 308 individuals. This decrease is explained by events that marked the first half of May, namely the two attacks perpetrated, including one in the area of the Eguini well located 15 km northwest of Dao, where the military camp is located, and the second one, 95 km from Latéye to the east on the Zuwarké road which caused loss of human life and property taken but the vehicles were abandoned. These events created insecurity in the area.

**Type of flows:** More than half of travellers passing through Séguédine and Madama left Niger (51%), while almost a third returned to Niger (28%). In addition, 21 per cent made an internal movement towards the various localities of Niger.

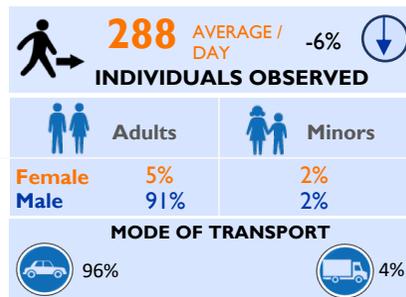
**Origin and destination:** During the month of May, the main countries of origin of travellers were Niger (68%), Libya (22%) and Chad (3%), while those of destination were Libya (51%) and Niger (49%). The people observed traveled mainly in private vehicle (96%) and truck (4%).

**Traveller Profiles:** Of the travellers identified, the vast majority (91%) were adult men, while 5 per cent were adult women and 4 per cent were children. Among the travellers, 206 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than one per cent of children under five, less than one per cent of the elderly and less than one per cent of individuals living with a physical or mental disability. Most of the travellers (88%) were Nigerien while 4 per cent were Chadian, 3 per cent were Nigerian and 2 per cent Libyan. It should also be noted that 3 per cent had other nationalities, reflecting the fact that migrants from all over the region pass through Séguédine and Madama to reach North Africa and, for some, to reach Europe.



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#### TRAVELLER PROFILES



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



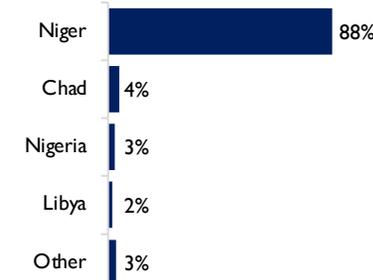
VULNERABILITIES

pp: percentage point

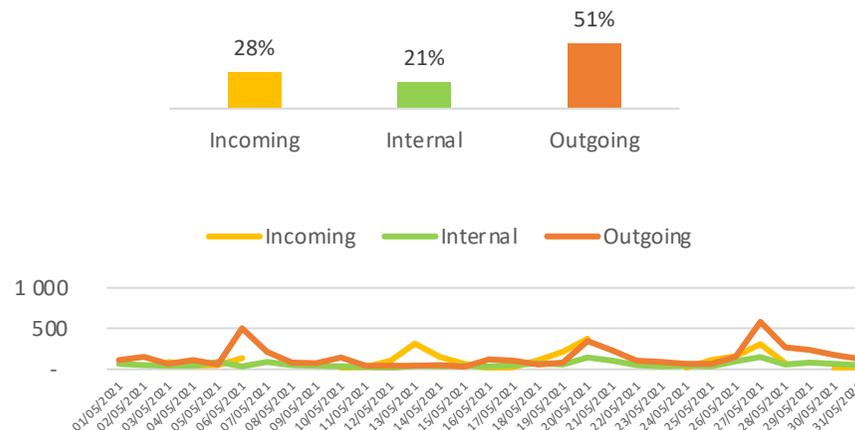
#### ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

Origin of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	68%	Libya	51%
Libya	22%	Niger	49%
Chad	3%		

#### NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



#### DIRECTION OF FLOWS



REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS

### MAGARIA

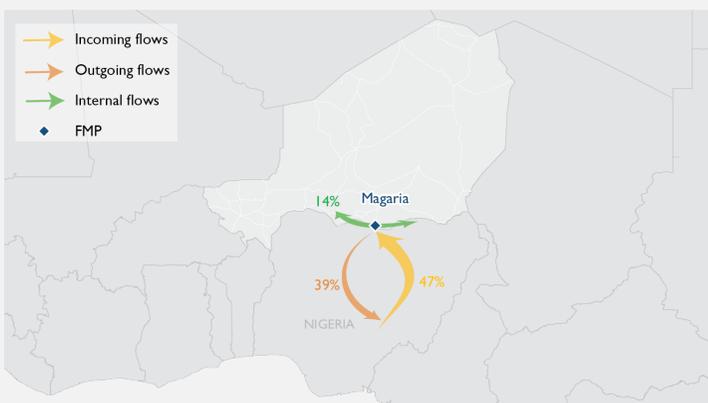
**OVERVIEW OF THE FMP:** The **Magaria** Flow Monitoring Point was established to observe cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria, as well as internal flows. Magaria is a town on the border with Nigeria, where a large number of people travel from Nigeria, the country being one of the main countries of origin for migrants traveling to the Mediterranean. Magaria is mainly used by Nigerien and Nigerian traders who have historically maintained economic exchanges. Most of the 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 168 people were observed at the FMP each day. Daily flows were 10 per cent higher than in April, when the daily average was 153 individuals. This increase in daily flows is explained by the fact that the number of migrants has decreased since the beginning of the political transition in Chad, because among practically all those who pass through the Agadez region, few go to gold sites, as they claim, but instead go there to join the Chadian rebellion movement based somewhere in the desert of the tri-border region.

**Type of flows:** Among the individuals observed, almost half returned to Niger (47%), while 39 per cent left Niger and 14 per cent made an internal movement in Niger.

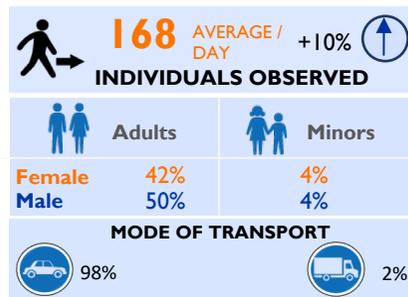
**Origin and destination:** During the month of May, the main countries of origin of travellers were Nigeria (54%) and Niger (46%), while those of destination were Niger (61%) and Nigeria (39%). People traveled mainly by private vehicle (98%), but also by truck (3%).

**Traveller Profiles:** Of the identified travellers, 50 per cent were adult men, while 42 per cent were adult women and 8 per cent were children. Among travellers, 278 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 2 per cent of children under five, less than one per cent of individuals living with a physical or mental disability, less than 2 per cent of pregnant women and less than one per cent of unaccompanied children. Almost most of the travellers observed were of Nigerien (77%) and Nigerian (21%) nationality and other (2%) nationalities were observed.

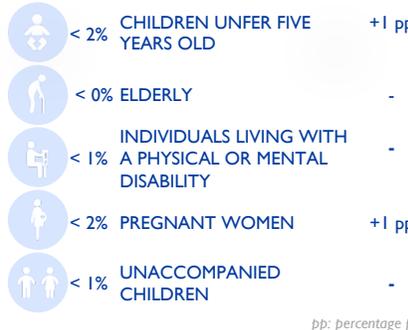


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### TRAVELLER PROFILES



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

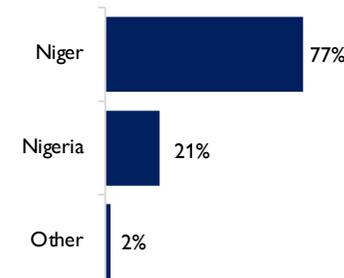


VULNERABILITIES

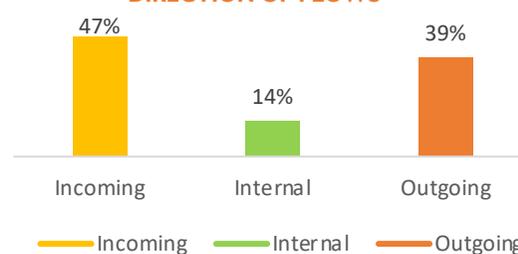
### ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

Origin of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Nigeria	54%	Niger	61%
Niger	46%	Nigeria	39%

### NATIONALITIES OBSERVED

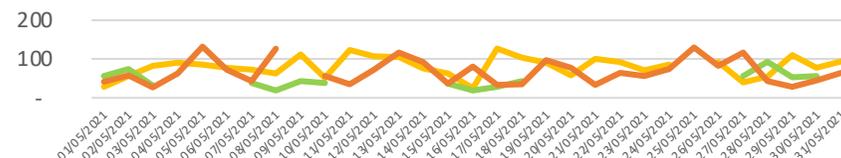


### DIRECTION OF FLOWS



REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS



### DAN BARTO

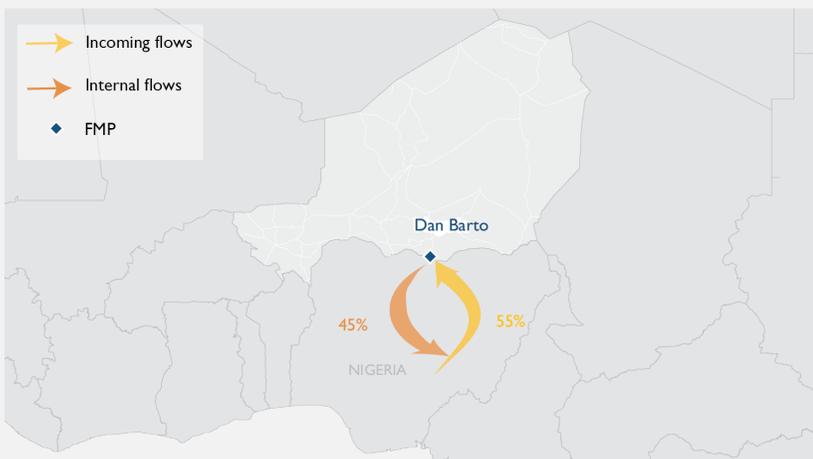
**OVERVIEW OF THE FMP:** Dan Barto's Flow Monitoring Point records cross-border flows between Niger and Nigeria. Dan Barto is a town near the border with Nigeria, where large numbers of people transit from Nigeria, which is one of the main countries of origin for migrants traveling to the Mediterranean. Dan Barto is mainly used by Nigerien and Nigerian traders who have a close economic relationship. Nigerien go to Nigeria to buy necessities while Nigerian 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 351 people were observed at the FMP each day. This corresponds to an increase of 19 per cent from the February period, when the daily average was 295 individuals. This increase in flows is explained by the fact that the area is experiencing circular migration due to the upcoming rainy season in order to prepare the ground. We also note the return of some Nigerien migrants from abroad in the same vein.

**Type of flows:** During the month of May, all the individuals observed were making a cross-border movement. Of these, 55 per cent returned to Niger and 45 per cent left Niger.

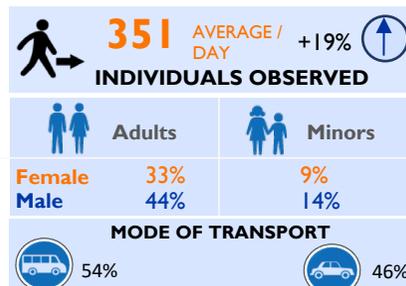
**Origin and destination:** During the month of May, the two countries of origin of travellers were Niger (54%), and Nigeria (46%), while those of destination were Nigeria (54%) and Niger (46%). The people observed traveled mainly by bus (54%) and private vehicle (46%).

**Traveller Profiles:** Of the travellers observed, 44 per cent were adult men, while 33 per cent were adult women and 23 per cent were children. Among the travellers, 2,106 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 11 per cent of children under five and less than 8 per cent of pregnant women. The travellers were of various nationalities, including Nigerien (56%), Nigerian (39%), Cameroonian (3%) nationals and 2 per cent of other nationalities.

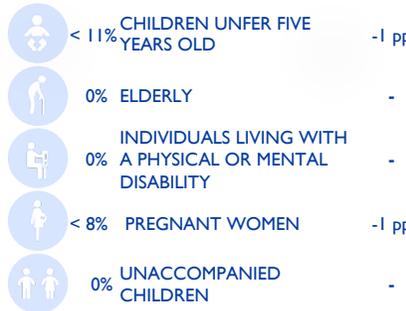


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### TRAVELLER PROFILES



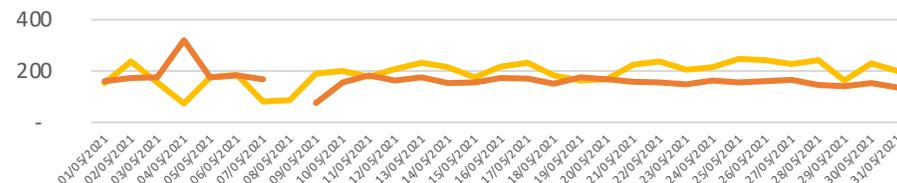
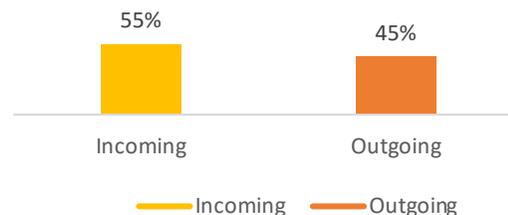
DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS

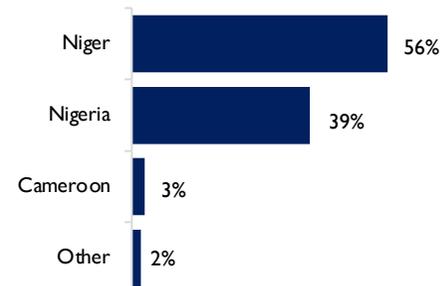
### DIRECTION OF FLOWS



### ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

Origin of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	54%	Nigeria	54%
Nigeria	46%	Niger	46%

### NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



### 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 necessities for Niamey and Maradi pass through this locality.

**Migration trends:** During the period covered, an average of 288 people were observed at the FMP each day. This corresponds to a decrease of 7 per cent from the April period, when the daily average was 308 individuals. This decrease is explained by the events of the feast of Ramadan where some of the migrants stayed for family celebrations before resuming their travels.

**Type of flows:** All travellers observed at Dan Issa were on a cross-border movement, going (46%) or coming (54%) from Nigeria.

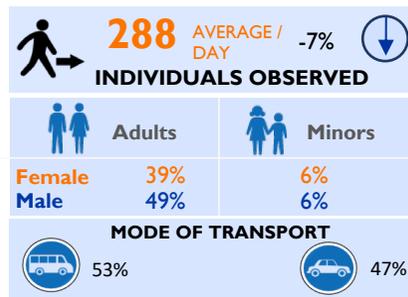
**Origin and destination:** During the month of May, the main countries of origin of travellers were Niger (54%) and Nigeria (46%), while the two destination countries were Nigeria (54%), and Niger (46%). The people observed traveled mainly in bus (53%) and private vehicle (47%).

**Traveller Profiles:** Of the identified travellers, 49 per cent were adult men, while 39 per cent were adult women and 12 per cent were children. Among travellers, 2,258 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 11 per cent of children under five, less than 4 per cent of the elderly, less than one per cent of individuals with a physical or mental disabilities and less than 10 per cent of pregnant women. All the travelers were of Nigerian (76%) or Nigerien (24%) nationalities.



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### TRAVELLER PROFILES



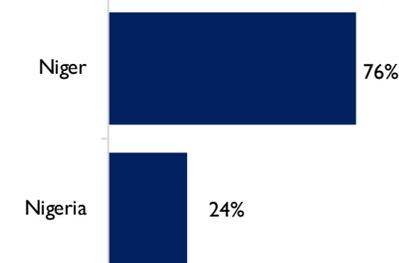
DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



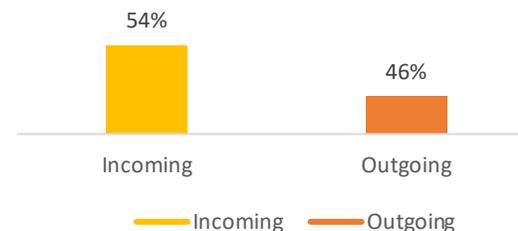
### ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

Origin of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	54%	Nigeria	54%
Nigeria	46%	Niger	46%

### NATIONALITIES OBSERVED

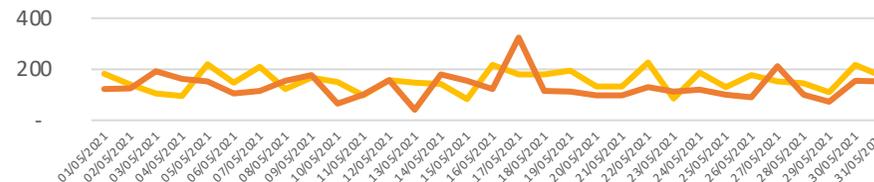


### DIRECTION OF FLOWS



REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS



### TAHOUA

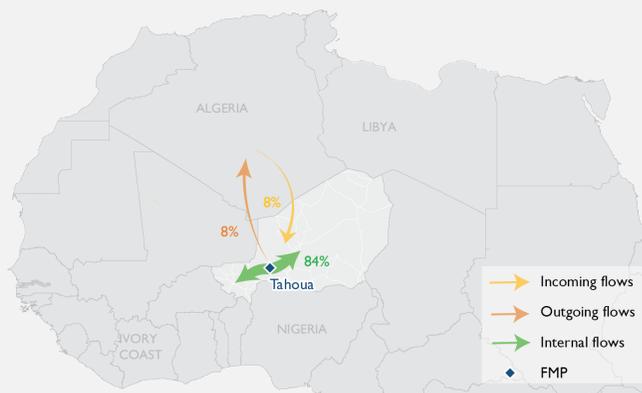
**OVERVIEW OF THE FMP :** The Tahoua Flow Monitoring Point captures cross-border and internal movements. Tahoua is a town in central Niger through which migrants transit from Nigeria and other West African countries such as Cameroon, Benin, Ivory Coast, The Gambia and Mali. Most of them take the road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

**Migration trends:** During the period covered, an average of 185 people were observed at the FMP each day. This corresponds to a decrease of 6 per cent from the month of April, when the daily average was 196 individuals. This decrease is explained by an attack by non-state armed forces which took place around 5:20 p.m. on Saturday, 1 May 2021 which resulted in loss of life and material property, and the health pandemic linked to COVID-19, which left significant consequences and continues to affect the transport sector which still suffers from the closure of borders.

**Type of flows:** Among the individuals observed, the large majority (82%) made an internal movement, while 18 per cent made a cross-border movement with 13 per cent who left Niger and 5 per cent who returned to Niger. The predominant part of internal flows reflects Tahoua's position in central Niger, a true junction of the main roads crossing the country.

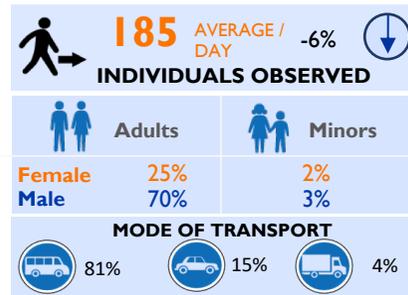
**Origin and destination:** During the month of May, in terms of origin, almost all travellers were traveling from Niger (93%), Algeria (5%), and Nigeria (2%). In terms of destination, the vast majority (92%) went to Niger, Libya (6%), and Algeria (2%). The people observed traveled mainly by bus (81%), private vehicle (15%) and truck (4%).

**Traveller Profiles:** Of the travellers observed, 70 per cent were adult men, while 25 per cent were adult women and 5 per cent were children. Among the travellers, 212 people with vulnerabilities were identified, including less than 2 per cent of children under five, less than one per cent of the elderly and less than one per cent of pregnant women. Most of the travellers were Nigerien (93%) and Nigerian (3%) nationals, but other nationalities (4%) were also observed.



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### TRAVELLER PROFILES



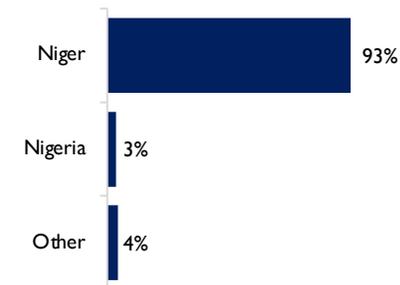
DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



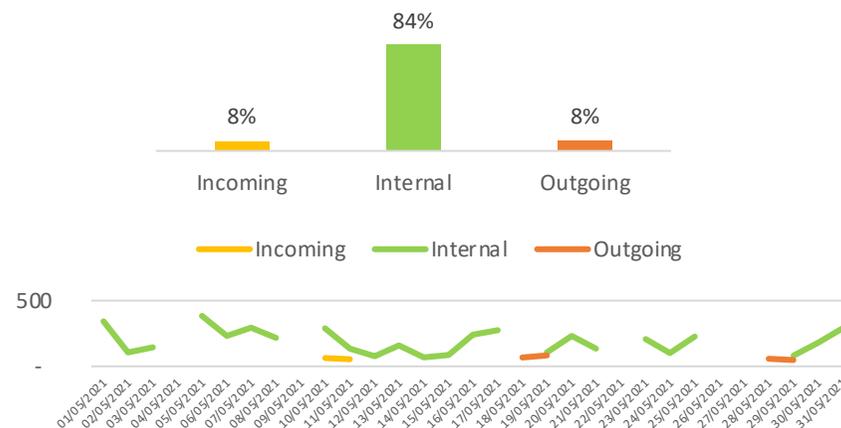
### ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF FLOWS

Origin of flows		Destination of flows	
Country	% of flows	Country	% of flows
Niger	93%	Niger	92%
Algeria	5%	Libya	6%
Nigeria	2%	Algeria	2%

### NATIONALITIES OBSERVED



### DIRECTION OF FLOWS



REGISTERED FLOWS

DAILY MOVEMENTS

**INTRODUCTION:** Flow Monitoring, implemented by IOM through the Displacement Tracking 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) are 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. 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 travellers 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 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 travellers who arrive at the FMP with

the intention of heading to a country other than Niger.

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

**Internal Flow:** This term refers to travellers 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.*