65 YEARS
International Organization for Migration

Survey Analysis Report: Female Migrants in Libya

This report contains findings collected from **2,988** Flow Monitoring surveys conducted between **12 July** and **16 September 2016** in Libya.

Of the migrants surveyed, **5% were female** (**145 individuals**). The following analysis will be specific to the female migrants surveyed in this period.
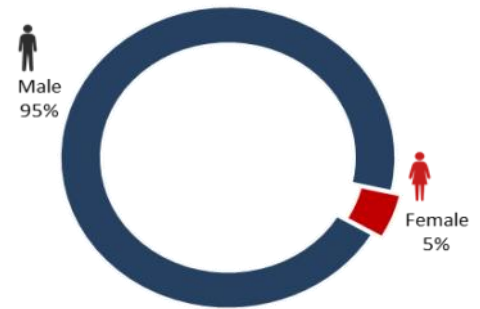
The majority of female migrants considered in this report were surveyed in Sabha (33%), and the remainder were interviewed in Tripoli (18%), Bani Waled (13%), Al Jaghbub (13%), Zuwara (10%), Ghat (8%), and the remaining 5% in Zliten, Garaboli, and Sabratah.

Gender Breakdown

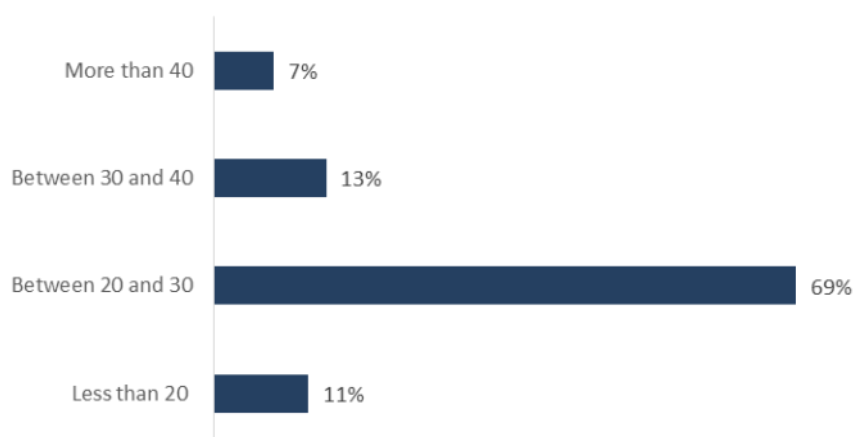Male 95%

Female 5%

Demographics

69% of migrant women interviewed are in their twenties[1]. 13% are aged between 30 and 40 years old, and only 7% are older than 40 years of age.

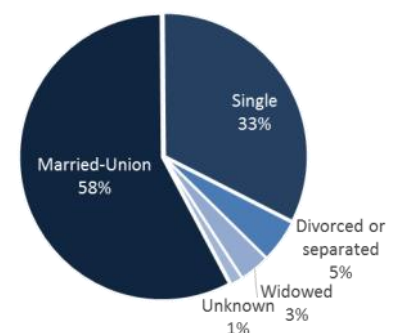58% of interviewees reported being married, and 33% were single.

Age Distribution

More than 40   7%
Between 30 and 40   13%
Between 20 and 30   69%
Less than 20   11%

Marital Status

Married-Union 58%
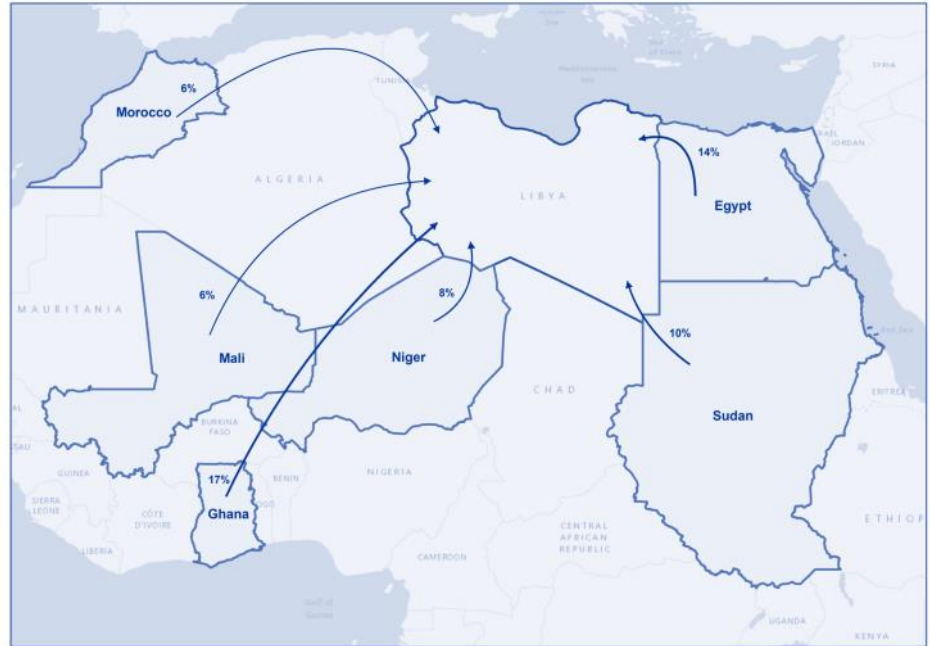Single 33%
Divorced or separated 5%
Widowed 3%
Unknown 1%

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[1]Migrants younger than 14 years of age are not surveyed in the Flow Monitoring exercise

Nationalities

The majority of respondents reported Ghana as their country of origin (17%), followed by Egypt (14%), Sudan (10%), Niger (8%), and 6% from Mali and Morocco respectively. The remaining 39% are from 17 other countries[2].

*Breakdown of nationalities of female migrants surveyed*

Education

Nearly half of the migrants interviewed reported not having obtained any formal education.

18% attended secondary school, 17% obtained primary education, 4% attended Koranic schools, 10% have vocational and 4% postgraduate schooling.

The chart below contains the breakdown of level of education by country of origin for the four most represented nationalities. The distribution of the level of education differs significantly depending on the country of origin.

For the top nationalities present in the sample, the highest percentage of females with no formal education is found in Ghana.

Those from Sudan had the highest proportion of postgraduate education, and the lowest proportion of those with no education (only 7%). For Egypt, the results were more heterogeneous.
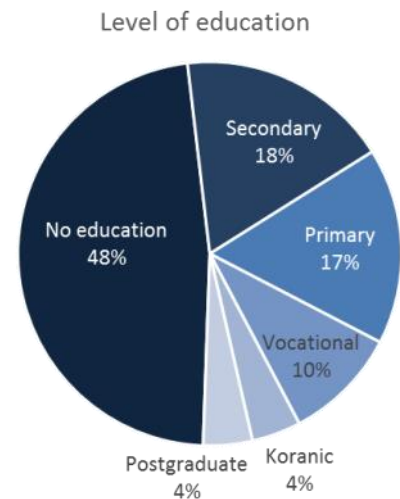
Level of education


Level of education breakdown by nationality

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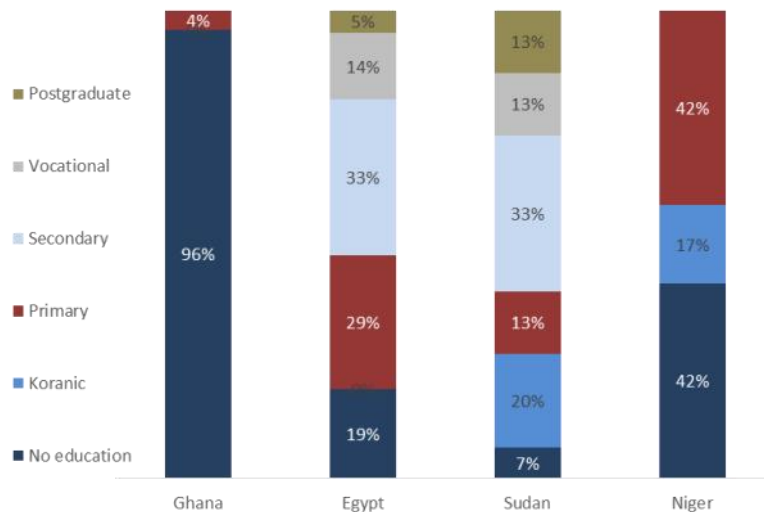
[2] Other countries include: Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Senegal, Tunisia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Chad, Algeria, Togo, Gambia, Eritrea, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, Benin, and Sierra Leone

Employment

83% of female migrants interviewed were unemployed in their countries of origin.

For the remaining 17% who were employed, 63% did household work, the rest are dispersed in many domains such as retail, sales and manufacturing (8% of women assessed), and 8% worked in agriculture and pastoralism.

Another 8% were working in the hospitality industry and tourism, 4% in finance, banking and accounting. The remaining 8% did not provide an answer.
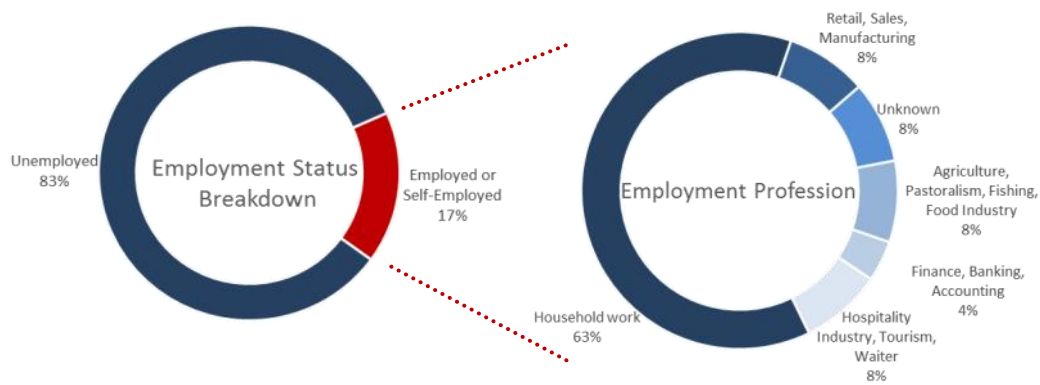
Despite the big difference observed in the education levels between Ghana, Sudan and Egypt, the proportions of those who were employed from total were quite close.

On the other hand, Nigerien women have the highest proportion of employment compared to the other countries with 42% of the women interviewed having been employed before leaving their country.
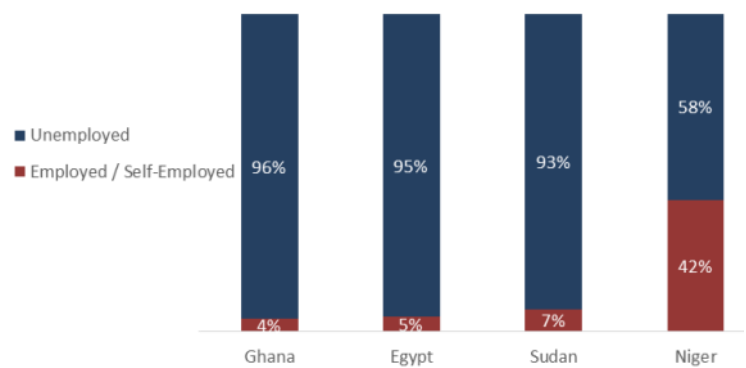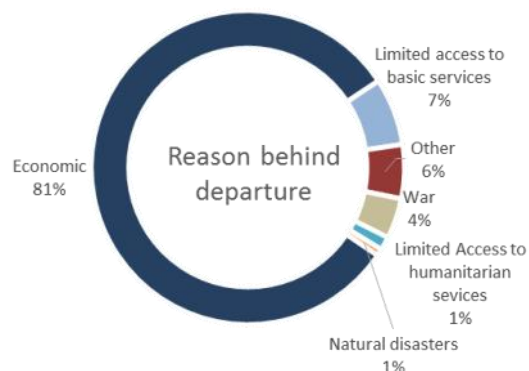

Journey

Only 10% of those interviewed traveled alone to Libya. 90% traveled with a group, 86% of them with family or relatives the remaining 14% traveled with a group of people who were not relatives.
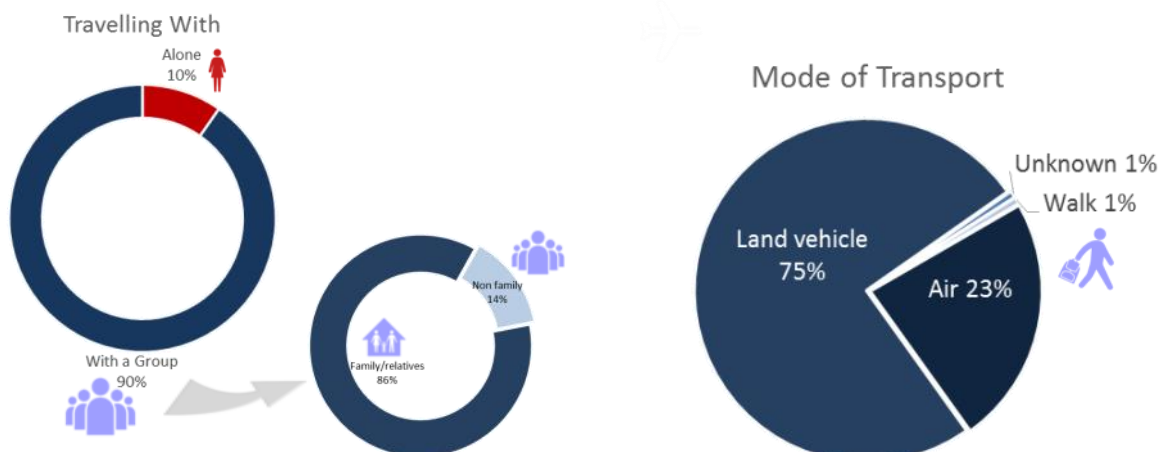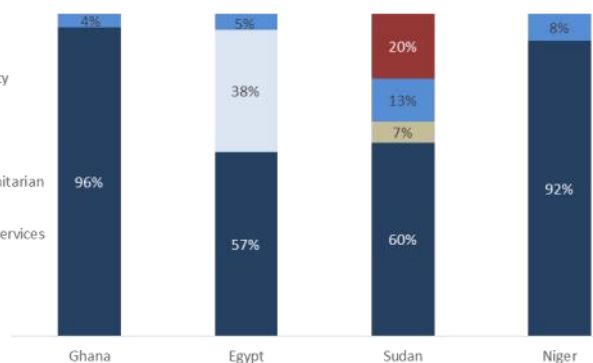
Drivers of Migration

81% of female migrants surveyed reported having came to Libya for economic reasons, 7% left their countries because they had limited access to basic services, and 4% fled their countries due to war and conflict or political reasons and came to Libya looking for security. Only 1% left their countries because of limited access to humanitarian services or because of natural disasters.

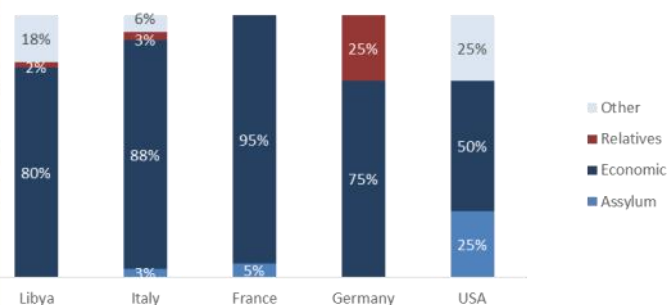The remaining 6% reported other reasons.

Reason behind departure

Economic 81%
Limited access to basic services 7%
Other 6%
War 4%
Limited Access to humanitarian sevices 1%
Natural disasters 1%

Reason for leaving the country of origin by country

- War/ Conflicts/ Insecurity
- Other
- Limited access to humanitarian services
- Limited access to basic services
- Economic

Ghana: 96%, 4%
Egypt: 57%, 38%, 5%
Sudan: 60%, 7%, 13%, 20%
Niger: 92%, 8%

Planned Destinations

Germany 3%
France 15%
Italy 23%
United States 3%

Planned destination by country of origin

- Other4
- France
- Germany
- Italy
- Libya

Ghana: 83%, 13%, 4%
Egypt: 82%, 18%
Sudan: 18%, 18%, 18%, 18%, 27%
Niger: 75%, 8%, 17%

Reason behind choosing the country of destination by country

- Other
- Relatives
- Economic
- Assylum

Libya: 80%, 2%, 18%
Italy: 3%, 88%, 3%, 6%
France: 5%, 95%
Germany: 75%, 25%
USA: 25%, 50%, 25%
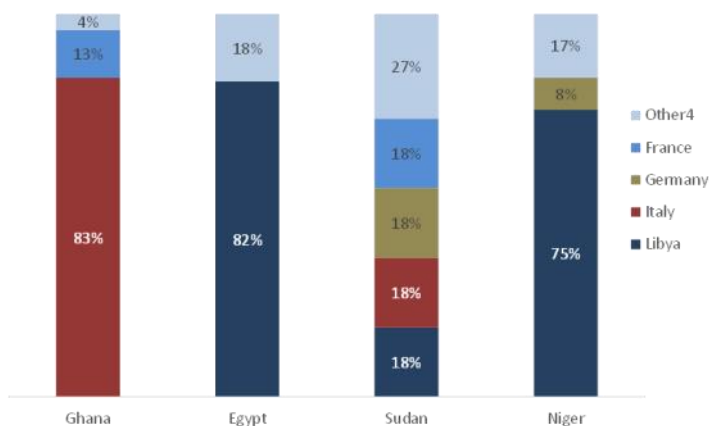
38% of the interviewees reported Libya as their country of intended destination. 23% reported Italy, 15% France, 3% each to Germany and USA. The remaining 18% choose other countries[3].

Echoing the same data reported for drivers of migration, the majority of respondents also choose their destination countries based on economic factors. 95% of migrants intending to go to France for example is due to economic reasons. On the other hand, 25% of migrants planning to go to Germany have relatives there. 25% of those who decide to go to the United state cited asylum as their main incentive.
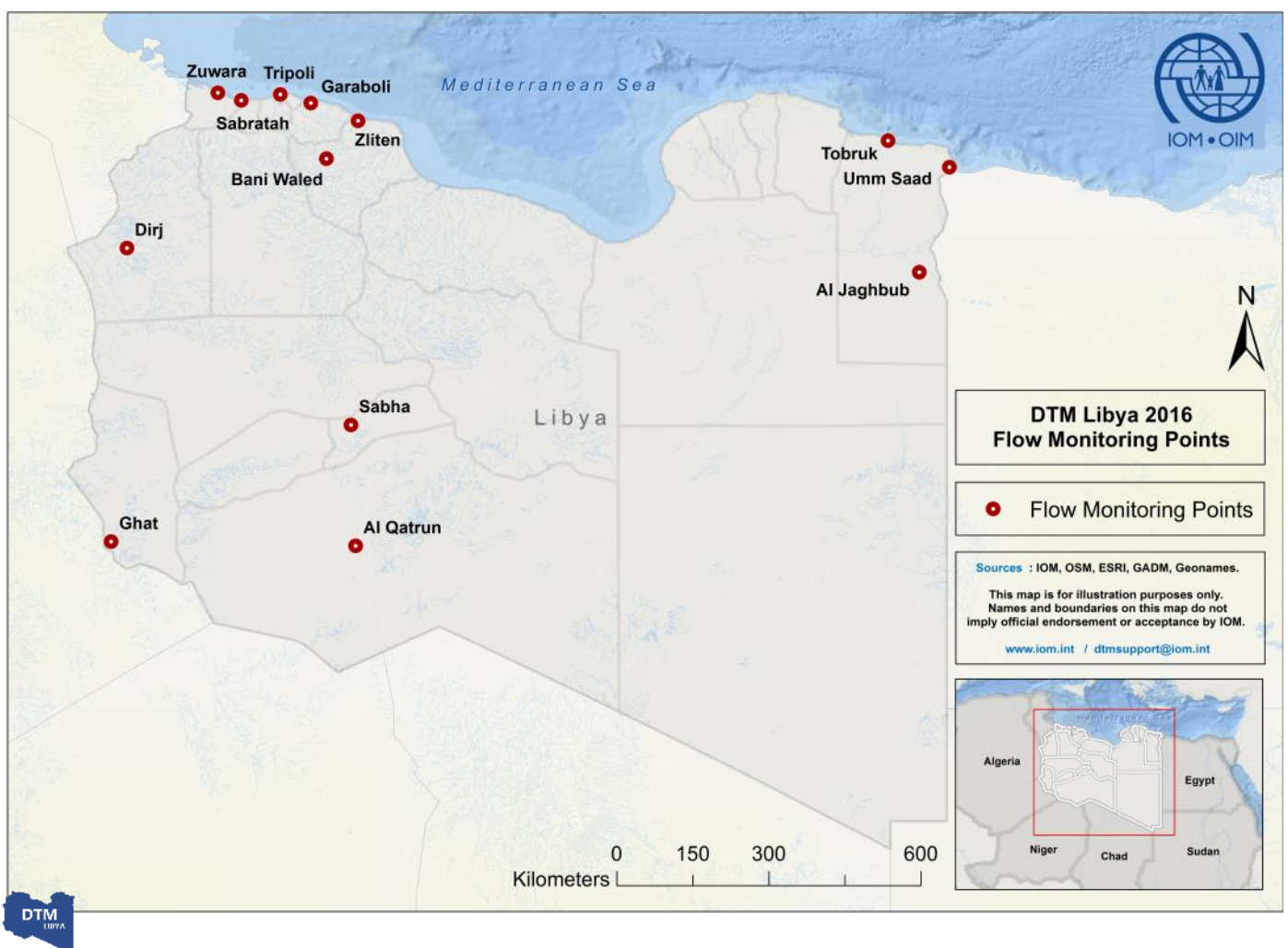
[3] Other countries: Turkey, United Kingdom, Malta , Monaco, Jamaica, Spain, Sweden and Monaco.
[4] Other countries: Jamaica, Malta, Sweden, United Kingdom, USA.

Methodology

IOM successfully trained a select group of 26 enumerators on DTM's Flow Monitoring methodology and approach. Each Flow Monitoring area is monitored by two DTM enumerators collecting information at the main transit points identified by DTM's Mobility Tracking initiative. Data collected in each area is triangulated with key informants, verified by IOM in Libya (Tripoli) and cross-referenced with IOM's Mobility Tracking data by DTM's experts in Tunis.

DTM aims to track migrants irrespective of the causes, voluntary or involuntary, and the means, regular or irregular. DTM's methodology to track migrants is two-fold, firstly to regularly identify and map locations and estimates of numbers of migrants currently transiting through a selected location and secondly to regularly identify and profile sample caseloads of migrants transiting through each location.

DTM Libya 2016 Flow Monitoring Points

● Flow Monitoring Points

Sources : IOM, OSM, ESRI, GADM, Geonames.

This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

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The Flow Monitoring methodology includes a baseline assessment and a profiling survey. Both tools strive to provide a comprehensive understanding of migrant routes, locations and numbers, as well as information on types of residence, demographics, vulnerabilities, push and pull factors for migration, country of origin, challenges confronted and length of migration.