International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The UN Migration Agency

10,039 INTERVIEWS WERE CONDUCTED IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY TO NOVEMBER 2016 BY IOM IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, GREECE, HUNGARY, SERBIA, SLOVENIA AND BULGARIA

CONTENTS

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Visit IOM's interactive map to view data on flows: **migration.iom.int/europe**

ABOUT DTM'S FLOW MONITORING SURVEYS

This report contains the findings of IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) from surveys conducted from January to November 2016. This research started in October 2015, and is being conducted within the framework of IOM's research on populations on the move through the Mediterranean and Western Balkan Routes to Europe. This is a summary analysis of surveys that has been carried out by IOM field staff in Greece, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Slovenia, Serbia, Hungary, and Bulgaria.

The survey gathers information about migrants' profiles, including age, sex, areas of origin, levels of education, key transit points on their route, cost of journey, motives, and intentions.

For a comprehensive overview of these mixed migration flows, this analysis should be read in conjunction with DTM's bi-weekly flows compilation, which provides an overview of migration flow trends and developments in countries of first arrival and other countries along the migratory route in Europe. The data on registered arrivals is collated by IOM through consultations with ministries of interior, coast guards, police forces, and other relevant national authorities.

FLOW MONITORING DATA ANALYSIS OVERVIEW

Between January and November 2016 IOM field staff in Greece, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia, Hungary, Bulgaria conducted interviews with 10,039 migrants and refugees. The aforementioned survey was structured to capture more qualitative data pertaining to the current situation of migrants and refugees stranded in the Western Balkan and Eastern route.

This week's report focuses on providing an analysis on the responses provided by migrants and refugees travelling along the Eastern Mediterranean Route. The first part of this report focuses in top 5 nationalities surveyed, while the second section presents a summary of the results on the human trafficking and exploitative practices' indication module
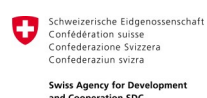
SECTION 1. EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

This section presents results of the DTM Flow Monitoring Survey conducted from January until November 2016 in Greece, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Hungary, Serbia, Slovenia and Bulgaria. The sample comprises 10,039 valid responses.

Almost half of the respondents (49%) are from Central South Asian countries, followed by 39% from West Asia and 9% from West Africa.

To provide a summary profile of migrants and refugees interviewed while travelling along the Eastern Mediterranean route, the analysis focuses on the differences between adult respondents (male and female) and children (14-17 years) and on the top 5 nationalities of respondents surveyed: Afghanis (31%), Syrians (27%), Pakistanis (12%), Iraqis (11%) and Iranians (6%). The graphs below show the breakdown by country of origin of the respondents.
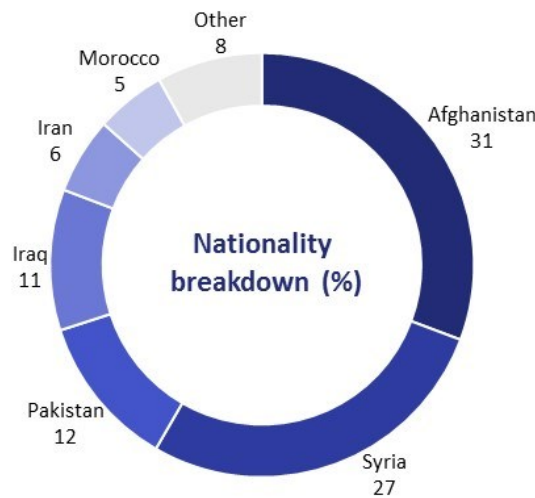
DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Men comprise majority of the individuals surveyed (81%). Children between 14 and 17 years of age (boys and girls) were 5% of all migrants interviewed. The highest number of women interviewed was among Syrian respondents (32%), followed by Iranian respondents (27%). The average respondent is 28 years old. Average age of Afghans (26) and Pakistanis (26) was slightly lower than the average age of Iranians (30), Syrians (31) and Iraqis (32). Interviewed children are predominantly male (94%).

Percentage of male/female respondents by age
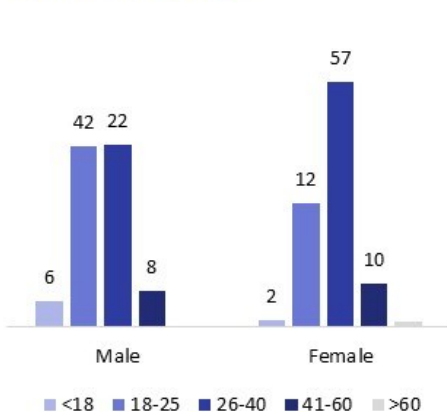
Percentage of respondents of top 5 nationalities by age
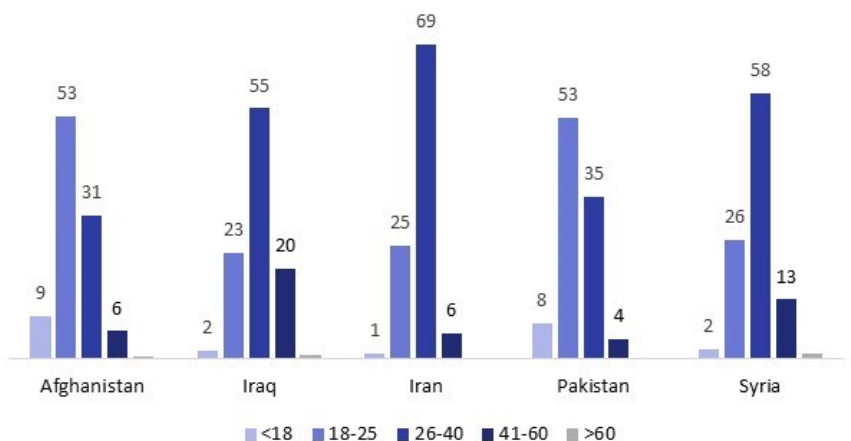
MARITAL STATUS

Almost half of all interviewees are single (52%), while 44% were married. Females were more often married than men (73% vs 38%). Iraqis and Syrians were more likely to be married, as compared to Afghans, Iranians and Pakistanis: 65% of interviewed Syrians and 64% of Iraqis reported being married, as compared to 37% of Afghans, Iranians (52%), and Pakistanis (26%).73% of interviewed Pakistani and 61% of Afghan nationals reported being single

Percentage of male/female respondents by marital status
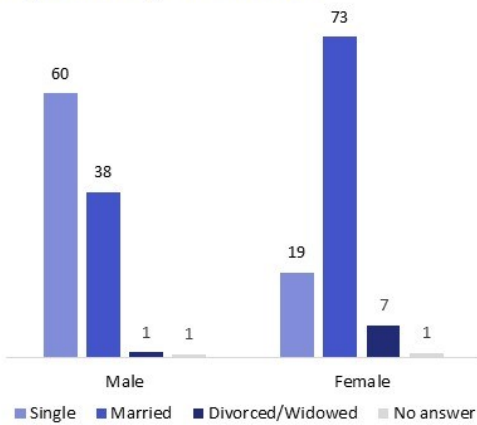
Percentage of respondents of top 5 nationalities by marital status
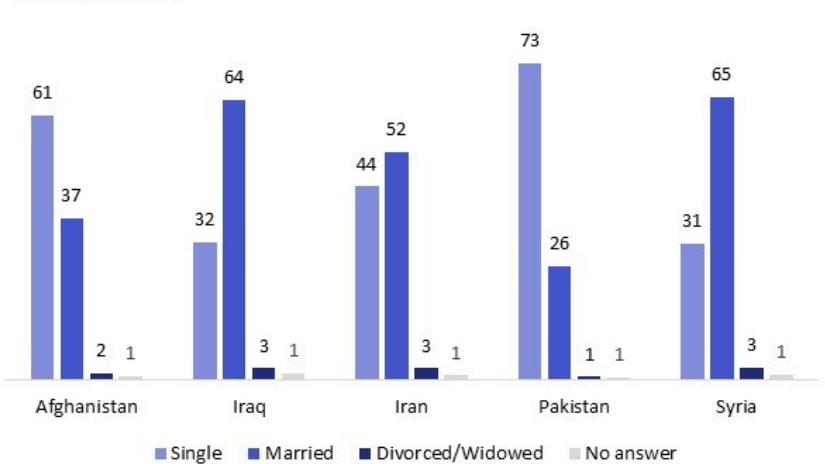
EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT BEFORE DEPARTURE

Half of the respondents (53%) reported having obtained secondary education, while 23% reported having obtained primary education and 15% tertiary education. The rest of respondents (9%) stated to have no formal education. As for the top 5 nationalities, Iranian respondents were more likely to report having obtained tertiary education, as compared to individuals of other top nationalities. 43% of Iranians reported having obtained tertiary education versus 21% of Syrians, 11% of Iraqis, 10% of Pakistanis, and 10% of Afghans. Iraqis respondents reported having obtained secondary education more often then respondents of other top nationalities. 71% of Iraqis reported having obtained secondary education, as compared to 62% of Syrians, 55% of Pakistanis, 43% of Iranians and 39% of Afghans.

Percentage of male/female/children by levels of education
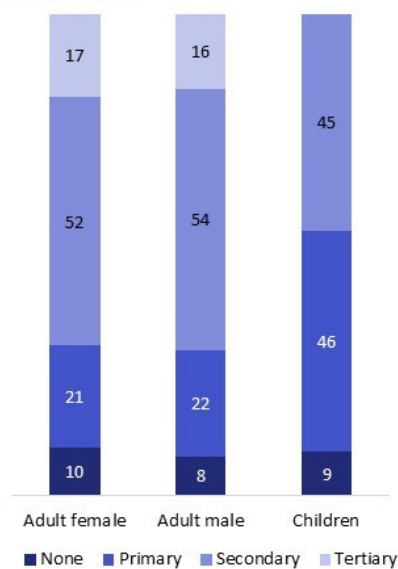
Percentage of respondents of top 5 nationalities by levels of education
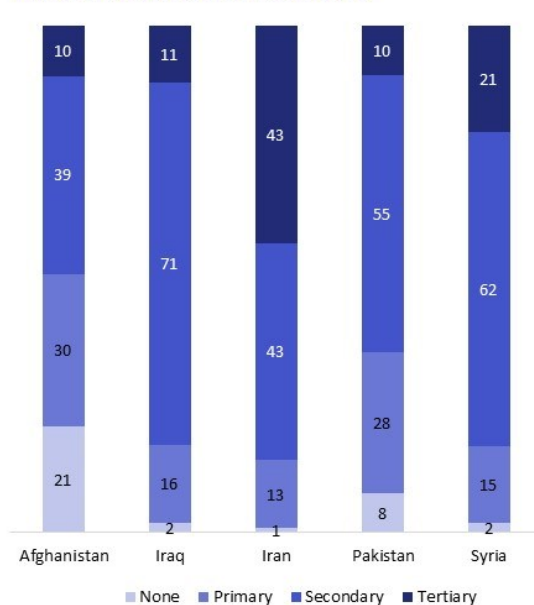
THE JOURNEY

Adult males are more often traveling alone than adult women (23% vs 5%) and less likely to travel with a family member (40% vs 89%). 37% of all children reported to be traveling with a family member. Syrian and Iraqi respondents were more likely to travel with family members. 79% of 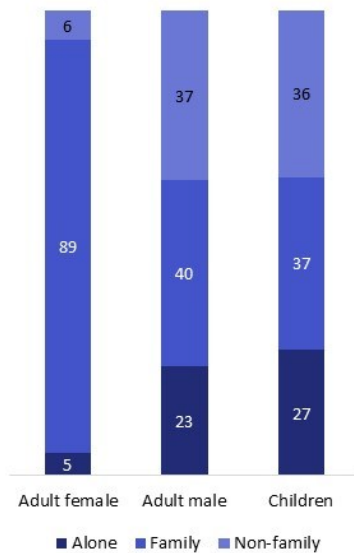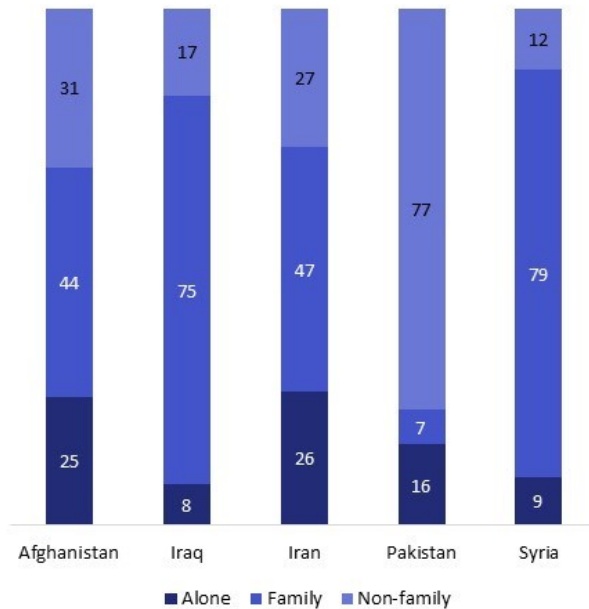Syrians and 75% of Iraqis were travelling with family members as compared to 47% of Iranians, 45% of Afghans, and 7% of Pakistanis.

Percentage of male/female/children who travel alone or with a group

	Adult female	Adult male	Children
Non-family	6	37	36
Family	89	40	37
Alone	5	23	27

■ Alone ■ Family ■ Non-family

Percentage of respondents of top 5 nationalities by levels of education

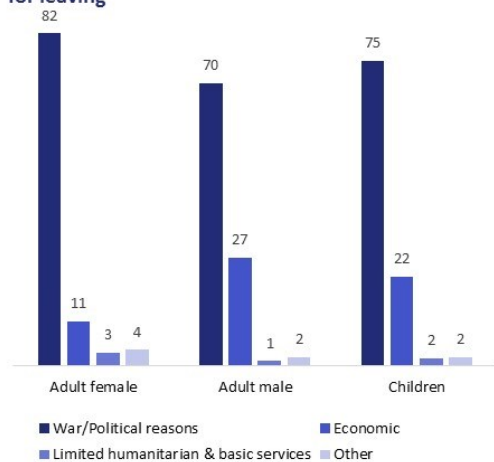|	Afghanistan	Iraq	Iran	Pakistan	Syria
Non-family	31	17	27	77	12
Family	44	75	47	7	79
Alone	25	8	26	16	9

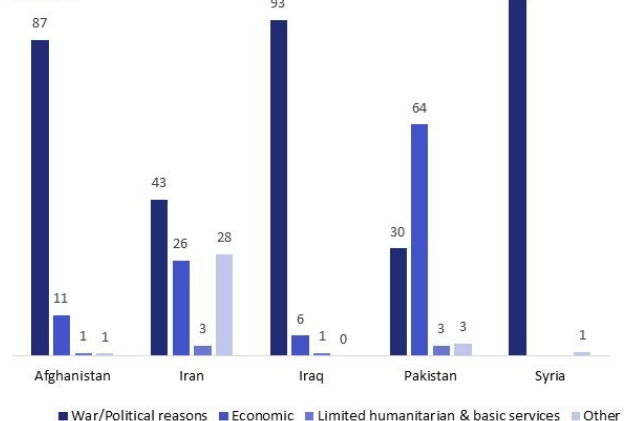■ Alone ■ Family ■ Non-family

REASONS FOR LEAVING

The majority of respondents reported having left their countries of origin or habitual residence because of war, conflict or political reasons. Adult women were more likely then adult men to report war or political reasons for leaving their countries of origin or habitual residence.

Almost all Syrian respondents (99%) reported war or political reasons for leaving. Iraqis and Afghans were more likely then Iranians and Pakistanis to report war or political reasons for leaving their countries of origin or habitual residence. 93% of Iraqis and 87% Afghans reported war or political reasons for leaving as compared to 43% of Iranians and 30% of Pakistanis. Pakistanis and Iranians were more likely then respondents of other top nationalities to report economic reasons for leaving (64% and 26% respectively).

Percentage of male/female/children by reasons for leaving

	Adult female	Adult male	Children
War/Political reasons	82	70	75
Economic	11	27	22
Limited humanitarian & basic services	3	1	2
Other	4	2	2

■ War/Political reasons ■ Economic
■ Limited humanitarian & basic services ■ Other

Percentage of respondents of top 5 nationalities by reasons for leaving

	Afghanistan	Iran	Iraq	Pakistan	Syria
War/Political reasons	87	43	93	30	99
Economic	11	26	6	64	
Limited humanitarian & basic services	1	3	1	3	
Other	1	28	0	3	1

■ War/Political reasons ■ Economic ■ Limited humanitarian & basic services ■ Other

SECONDARY MIGRATION

8% of all respondents travelling along the Eastern Mediterranean Route engaged in secondary migration, starting the journey towards Europe after having spent 1 year or more in a country different from that of origin.

15% of Afghans, 5% of Syrians, 4% of Iraqis, 3% of Iranians, and 2% of Pakistanis engaged in secondary migration. Turkey, Iran and Lebanon were mostly mentioned as countries of departure.

This happened as the first country of immigration was no longer safe enough and/or the local labour market conditions deteriorated so much that migrants decided to move on to other countries.
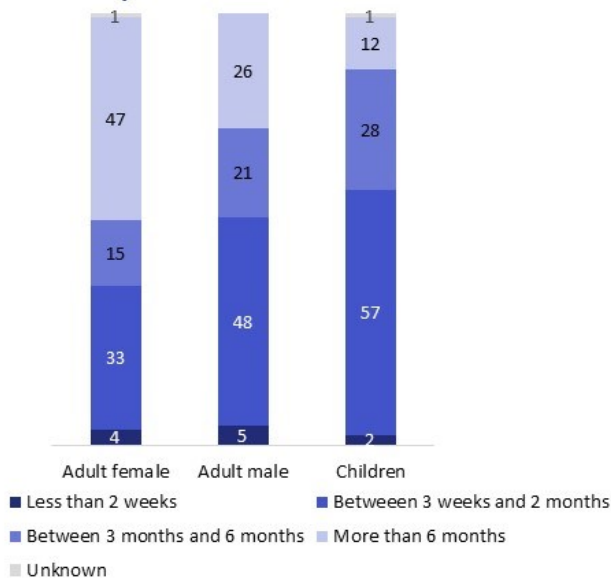
Secondary migration (%)

Syria	5
Pakistan	2
Iran	3
Iraq	4
Afghanistan	15
Children	4
Adult male	8
Adult female	8
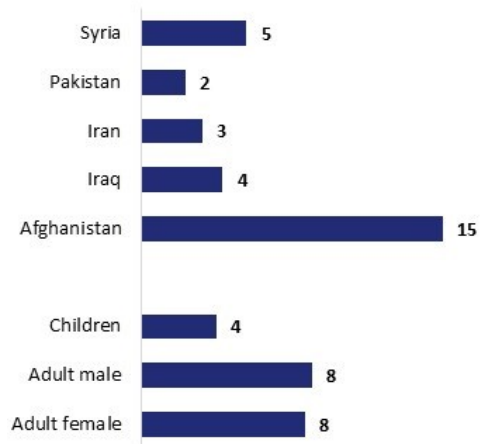
TIME OF DEPARTURE

Almost half (46%) of all respondents left their countries of origin or habitual residence between 2 weeks and 3 months before the survey was conducted, 20% left between 3 and 6 months, 29% - left more then 6 months prior to the survey, and an additional 4% left less than 2 weeks prior to the survey.

Percentage of males/females/children by time of departure

Category	Less than 2 weeks	Betweeen 3 weeks and 2 months	Between 3 months and 6 months	More than 6 months	Unknown
Adult female	4	33	15	47	1
Adult male	5	48	21	26	
Children	2	57	28	12	1

Percentage of respondents of top 5 nationalities by time of departure

Nationality	Less than 2 weeks	Betweeen 3 weeks and 2 months	Between 3 months and 6 months	More than 6 months	Unknown
Afghanistan	1	52	26	20	1
Iran	3	38	31	26	2
Iraq	9	49	9	33	
Pakistan	1	58	25	16	
Syria	8	37	10	44	1
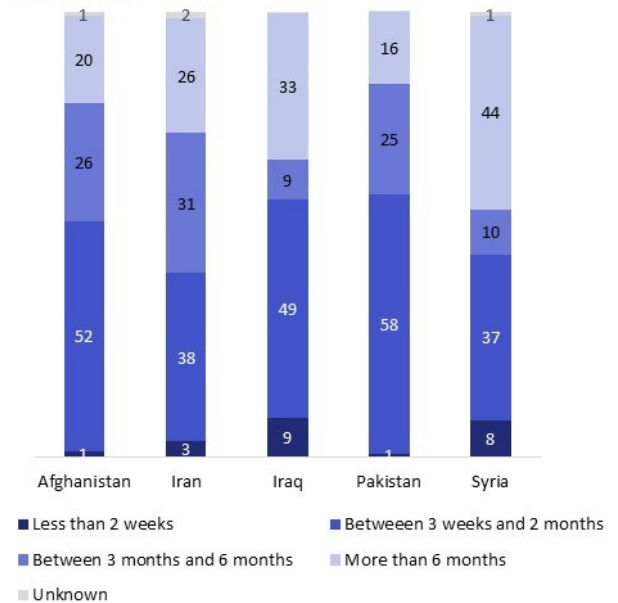
COST OF THE JOURNEY

The estimated cost of the journey varies across nationalities, sex and age. The majority reported the estimated cost of their journey between 1,000 and 5,000 USD (73%). 72% of adult women and 81% of adult women reported the estimated cost of their journey between 1,000 USD and 5,000 USD. Pakistanis and Afghans were more likely to report higher estimated cost of the journey, as compared to respondents of other nationalities. 34% of Pakistani and 31% of Afghan respondents reported the estimated cost of the journey more than 5,000 USD, versus 22% of Iranians, 14% of Iraqis, and 7% of Syrians.

Percentage of males/females/children by cost of journey

Percentage of respondents of top 5 nationalities by cost of journey
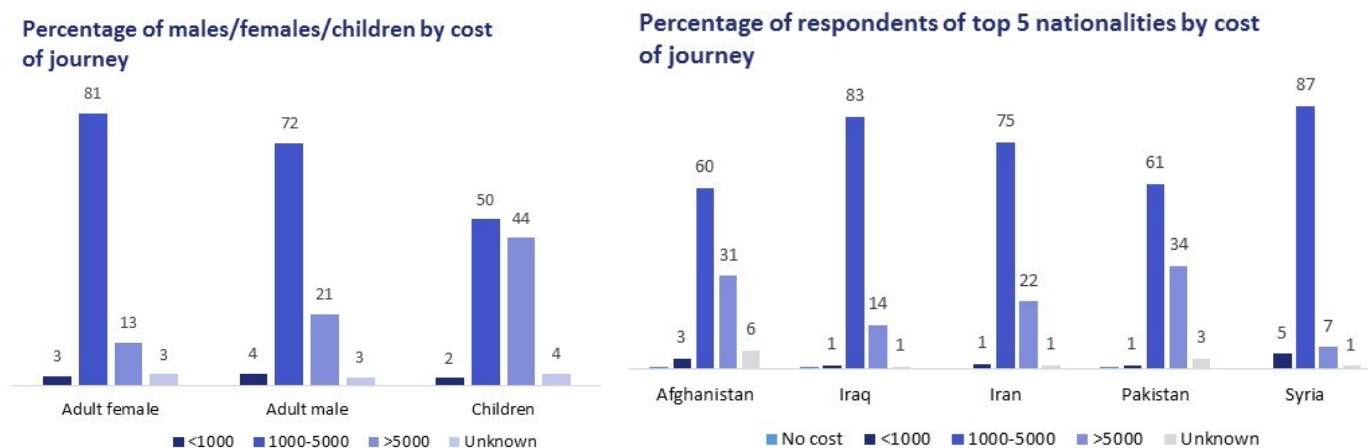
INTENDED DESTINATION

Approximately half of migrants and refugees interviewed along the Eastern Mediterranean Route reported Germany as their intended country of destination (46% of adult men, 46% of adult women, 47% of children). Others reported destinations were France, Italy, Austria, the United Kingdom, Norway, and Europe as whole. Children more than adults (6 vs 2%) did not have any specific destination in mind at the time of departure.

Destinations vary among different national groups. Germany was mentioned by majority of Iraqis (78%), Syrians (58%) and half of Afghans. For Syrians, the second most preferred country of intended destination was Sweden (21%) and for Afghans—17%. 31% of Iranians reported Germany as the country of the intended destination, followed by France (17%). Over half of Pakistani respondents (53%) reported Italy as the intended country of destination, followed by Germany (26%) and France (6%).

Destination Country	Adult female	Adult male	Children	Total
Germany	46	46	47	46
France	4	11	15	10
Italy	2	11	12	9
Sweden	18	7	3	8
Netherlands	3	2	2	2
Other	27	23	21	25

SECTION II: THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND OTHER EXPLOITATIVE PRACTICES PREVALENCE INDICATION MODULE

The Human Trafficking and Other Exploitative Practices Prevalence Indication Module includes six questions used as proxy indicators for potential human trafficking or exploitative practices that the migrants and refugees might have experienced during their journey towards Europe.

The findings provide strong evidence of predatory behavior in the environments through which migrants have to transit on their way towards Europe. A significant proportion of respondents reported direct experiences of abuses, exploitation or practices which may amount to human trafficking. The surveys are fully anonymous and the collected data is not designed to identify victims of trafficking. Rather, they provide strong evidence of the kind of enabling environment within which human trafficking thrives and a picture of the vulnerability of migrant populations in transit.

Main findings:

- 14% of individuals answered "yes" to one of the trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators, based on their own direct experience.

- Afghan respondents had highest rates of positive responses in the sample (26%) as compared to other top nationalities. 11% of Pakistanis, 7% of Syrians, 6% of Iranians, and 5% of Iraqis answered positively to one of the trafficking and other exploitative practices indicators.

Direct experiences:

- **Individuals who were held against their will:** 9% of respondents reported having been held in a location against will, by armed individuals or groups other than any relevant governmental authority. The rate of positive responses of men is double to that of women, in the case of this indicator. The interviewees specified that instances when they were kept against their will include captivity and restrictions to physical movement, but also kidnapping. The smugglers were indicated to play a role into this process. The majority of events are reported to take place in Bulgaria and Turkey.

- **Individuals who had worked without receiving the expected payment:** 5% of all interviewees reported having worked or provided services during their journey without receiving the expected payment. Migrants often referred to some sort of threat by an armed individual (employer/broker), or unpaid work that was connected with the possibility of being freed from a condition of detention by unofficial armed groups. The rate of positive responses was lower among women as compared to men. In the vast majority of cases reported unpaid work situations happened in Turkey and to a much lesser extent in Iran and Greece.

- **Individuals who were forced to work:** 3% of respondents stated they had been forced to work or perform activities against their will. Majority of these events were reported to have taken place in Turkey.

- **Individuals approached with a work offer:** 2% of the migrants reported having being approached during the journey by someone offering employment. This happened in the majority of cases in Turkey (67%), but also in Greece (28%).

- **Individuals offered a marriage arrangement:** around 1% of all respondents reported having been approached with offers of an arranged marriage (for the respondent or for a close family member).

PROFILE OF MIGRANTS WHO ANSWERED "YES" TO AT LEAST ONE OF THE TRAFFICKING AND OTHER EXPLOITATIVE PRACTICES QUESTIONS

Nationality: among the top nationalities, the highest rates of positive responses were among migrants from Afghanistan (26%), followed by Pakistanis (11%), Syrians (7%), and Iranians (6%).

Sex: on average, the share of positive responses is higher for men (15%) than for women (8%). A noticeable exception is that of offers of an arranged marriage, which is reported by 2.5% of interviewed women and by 0.6% of men.

Travelling mode: migrants travelling alone responded positively more often (28%) than those travelling with non-family members (12%); migrants travelling with at least one family member reported a positive response in 9% of the cases.

Length of the journey: lengthier journeys which last more than one year are associated with the highest share of positive responses (48%), while shorter journeys present lower percentages of positive responses.

Secondary migration: 27% of migrants who have spent more than a year in a country different from that of origin, before starting the journey towards Europe (secondary migration) have higher rates of positive responses than the rest of the sample (13%).

METHODOLOGY

The survey was conducted by IOM field staff in locations of entry, transit, and exit in Greece, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Italy and Hungary including locations and centers of various types (transit, accommodation, open/closed) and including hotspots (Greece).

In all locations, data collectors approached respondents in an ad hoc manner to explain the purpose of the survey and to obtain the explicit consent to be interviewed. With those who give their consent to be interviewed, IOM data collectors proceeded with the remainder of the questions.

The survey sample compares well to the population, considering the sample selection challenges in the context of migrants' arrival by sea and the planned the onwards journey towards other European countries. The sample is large enough to gather evidence about migrants with different demographic profiles, and it is broadly reflective of the population.

There are however a few limitations to the data collected. Children and women are under-sampled. Women are slightly underrepresented in the sample relative to men, as women are more likely to decline to participate in the survey. Only children older than 14 years old are eligible for the survey.

Everywhere it was possible considering the crowded nature of some of the surveyed points, migrants were interviewed in a separate/private area in order to ensure privacy. While anonymity of respondents has been always a pre-requisite for an interview to start, in some cases and under respondent's consent, the help of a family member or of a friend was key to facilitate translation. Especially at official entry points, data collection was undertaken only after the initial administrative procedures for identification and registration of arrivals was completed by the relevant authorities.

While in the sampling phase some purposive quotas by nationalities were planned to cover only the main nationalities in each of the two routes, fieldwork operations turned out to be more efficient in terms of migrants reached out without excluding any nationality a priori. The sample is then composed by all those migrants above 14 years of age met by data collectors at selected flow monitoring points and who were willing to participate and answer the questionnaire.

The original survey is designed to capture data which includes: the socioeconomic background of respondents; the routes that they have taken; their reasons for leaving their last country of habitual residence; intended destination countries. Six additional questions have been added to the standard questionnaire, to generate indicators of the prevalence of human trafficking and other exploitative practices for the sample. The Human Trafficking and Other Exploitative Practices Prevalence Indication Survey therefore includes 21 questions translated into Arabic, Dari, English, French, Farsi, Kurdish, Italian, Pashtu, Somali, Tigrinya and Urdu.