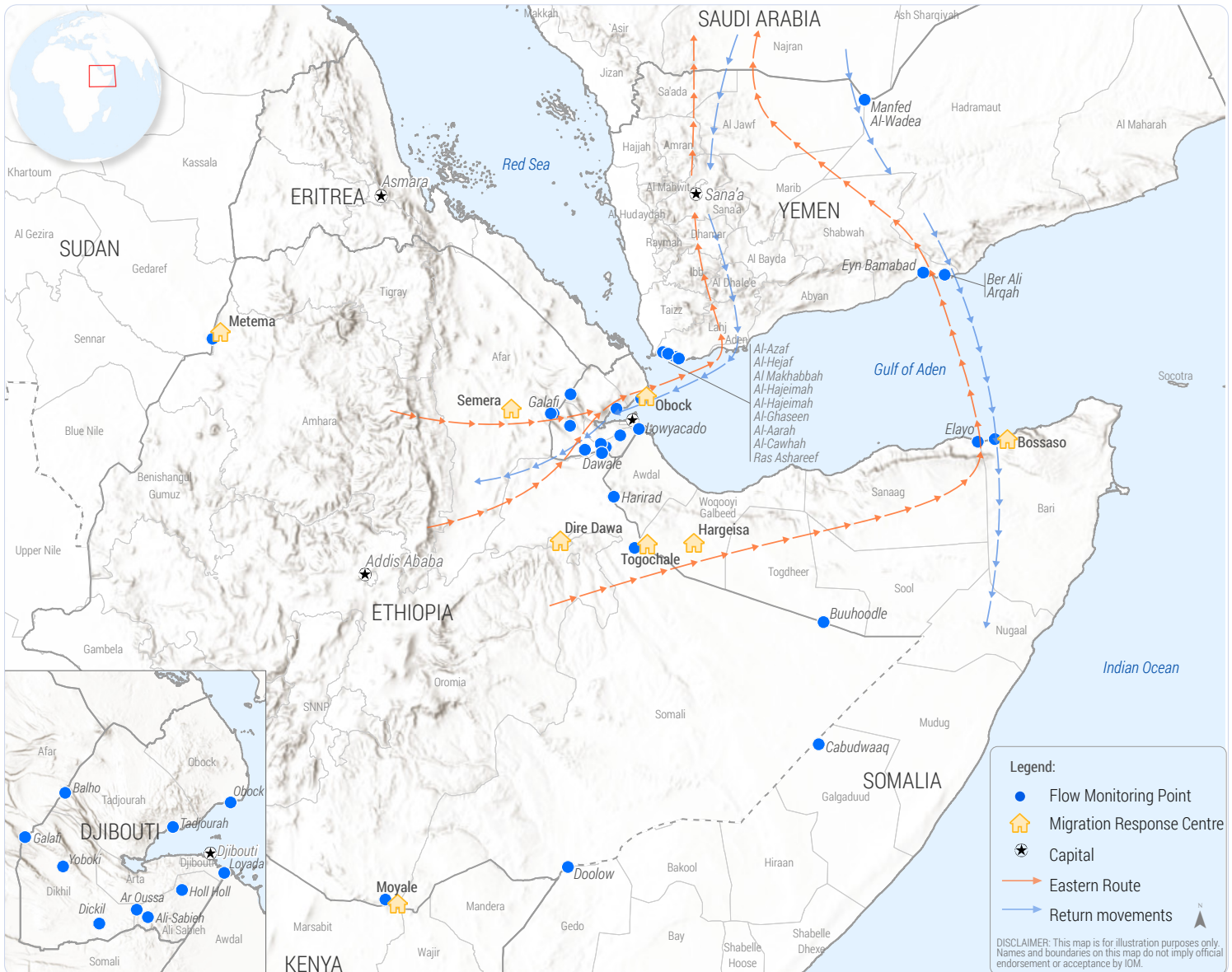


About the report

The Horn of Africa and Yemen is one of the busiest and riskiest migration corridors in the world travelled by hundreds of thousands of migrants, the majority of whom travel in an irregular manner, often relying on smugglers to facilitate movement along the Eastern Route. This regional report provides monthly updates on the complex migratory dynamics through [Djibouti](#), [Somalia](#), [Yemen](#) and [Ethiopia](#) based on diverse data sources and consultations with key informants in the four countries. Moreover, it provides information on the main protection concerns for migrants along the journey, information on [the spillover effects of the conflict in Northern Ethiopia](#) observed at the border between Ethiopia, Kenya and Sudan, [a specific focus on children](#) and information on the [returns from Saudi Arabia](#) to Ethiopia, Somalia and Yemen.

Data sources:

- [Displacement Tracking Matrix](#) data collected at Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs), which includes Flow Monitoring Registry (group level) and Flow Monitoring Survey (individual level) data
- [Registration data](#) for migrants seeking assistance at [Migration Response Centres](#) (MRCs) in Obock (Djibouti), Bossaso, Hargeisa (Somalia), Dire Dawa, Metema, Moyale, Semera and Togochale (Ethiopia), including information on [Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration](#)
- [Voluntary Humanitarian Return](#) from Yemen
- [Returns from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia](#)
- [Missing Migrants Project](#) data on migrant deaths and disappearances



Migration Through Djibouti

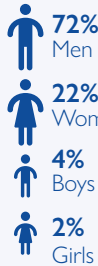
The flow of migrants entering Djibouti further decreased in August, though only by 2%, compared to the 10% decrease from June to July following the peak in entries midyear. Migration into Djibouti continued to be predominantly male, with women and girls making up almost a quarter of all entries, and while most migrants are young adults, there continued to be high numbers of children making this journey. In August, 836 children entered Djibouti and 26% were unaccompanied (mostly boys). Migrants from the Amhara region, mostly North Wello, continued to be the most numerous, followed by migrants originating from Oromia, particularly from Arsi. The share of migrants from the Tigray region saw a slight (1%) decrease. While migration has remained economically driven, there was a significant rise in conflict-induced movements (from 22% in July to 35% in August). Spontaneous returns from Yemen to Obock further decreased (-11%) and most returnees continue to be men (94%). Meanwhile, arrivals in Yemen from Djibouti more than doubled (109% increase) compared to July due to a relaxation of coast guard patrols. The MRC in Obock admitted 13 new migrants as two convoys to Ethiopia were organized in August to provide voluntary return assistance to 114 migrants. Currently, returns to the Tigray region continue to be restricted to ensure the safety of returnees.

Entries into Djibouti

Cumulative 2022
91,789

13,774
Entries
August 2022

Sex & Age Group



Region of Origin



Intended Destination



Migrants surveyed in August 2022

208

Migration Drivers*



Spontaneous Returns from Yemen to Djibouti

Cumulative 2022
3,989

266
Returns
August 2022

Sex & Age Group

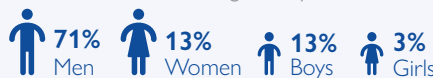


Migrants Seeking Assistance

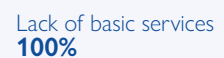
Cumulative 2022
1,267

143
MRC
registrations
August 2022

Sex & Age Group



Hardships



950 Stranded migrants
August 2022

0 Dead/missing migrants**
August 2022

* Multiple answer question.

** Reporting is based on reports of deaths and missing migrants that could be verified.

Migration Through Somalia

Migration dynamics in August remained difficult to monitor due to the continued suspension of flow monitoring activities as IOM Somalia engages with the Federal Government of Somalia. According to informal reports from IOM staff and partners, migrants from Tigray were observed entering Somalia from Lowyacado at the border with Djibouti. Most were said to be fleeing conflict and instability. Migrants attempting to enter Bossaso were reportedly stopped by armed men forming roadblocks between Carmo and Ceeldheer for the purpose of extortion. Most migrants who moved into the Suweeyto, Baalale and Raxiis camps in Bossaso – known to be waiting areas at which smugglers gather migrants to transport to Yemen – were from Oromia in Ethiopia. Due to improved conditions at sea, migrant arrivals from Somalia to Yemen more than doubled in August (+104%). However, spontaneous returns from Yemen to Somalia decreased by 39% compared to the previous month. Movement restrictions between Ethiopia and Somalia continued to be observed after Al Shabaab militants entered Ethiopian territory through the Afdheer–Bakool border. As a result, a decrease in incoming migrants to the Buuhoodle district was observed. The drought reportedly pushed migrants from the Lower Juba, Middle Juba, Bakool and Gedo regions of Somalia to Ethiopia in search of humanitarian assistance at IDP camps. Outgoing movements were also reported through Dhobley as migrants from the Bay region of Somalia sought assistance at Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya. The number of migrants registering for assistance at MRCs in Bossaso and Hargeisa, largely in search of basic services, increased by 76% compared to July.

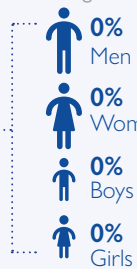
Entries into Somalia

IOM flow monitoring activities suspended in August

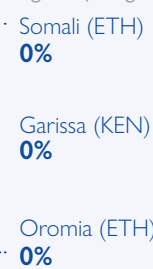
Cumulative 2022
6,504^a

Entries August 2022
0

Sex & Age Group



Region of Origin



Intended Destination



Migrants surveyed in August 2022

0

Migration Drivers*

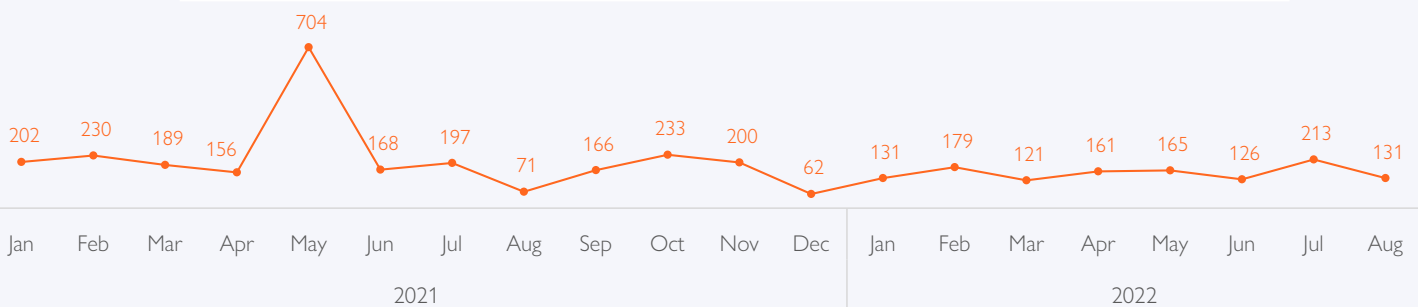


Spontaneous Returns from Yemen to Somalia

Cumulative 2022
1,227

Returns August 2022
131

Sex & Age Group

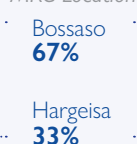


Migrants Seeking Assistance

Cumulative 2022
2,427

MRC registrations August 2022
261

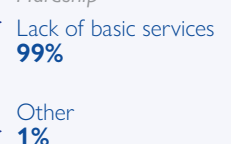
MRC Location



Sex & Age Group



Hardship



Information not available for August

172 Stranded migrants July 2022

Stranded migrants July 2022

1 Dead/missing migrants** July 2022

Dead/missing migrants** July 2022

^a As of February 2022.

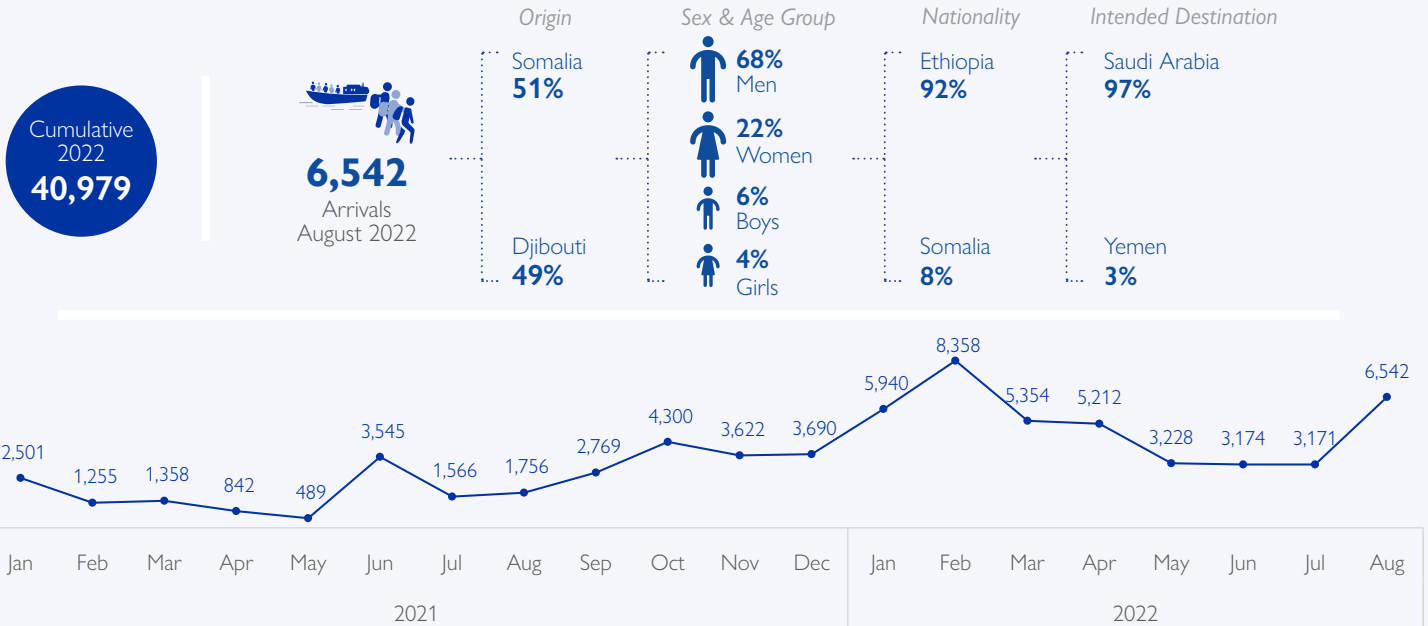
* Multiple answer question.

** Reporting is based on reports of deaths and missing migrants that could be verified.

Migration Through Yemen

During the month of August, there was a significant increase (+109%) in the number of migrants arriving through Yemen's Lahj coast, across from Djibouti (from 1,549 in July to 3,238 in August), due to decreased security measures by the Djibouti Coast Guard, favorable weather conditions and low tides. Migrant arrivals from Somalia through the Shabwah coast more than doubled (from 1,602 in July to 3,304 in August), also due to good weather conditions and low tides. DTM field staff in Lahj and Shabwah reported that during the month of August, smugglers tended to use bigger boats with large numbers of migrants travelling at set intervals (one to two days per week and two to three boats per day) to avoid the Coast Guard. Migrant movements within the country continued in the month of August. The Marib Governorate continues to a host large troop presence, which makes migrant movements very risky. The Shabwah Governorate, where new migrant arrivals were reported, has seen an escalation of conflict and increased presence of security forces. While migrants continued to risk being affected by unexploded ordinances and other remnants of war, smugglers reportedly moved migrant women and girls from the higher risk Marib Governorate to Shabwah where they are sexually exploited by the local community and security forces for financial gain. VHR services during the month of August remained suspended.

Arrivals in Yemen from the Horn of Africa



43,800 Stranded migrants August 2022

None reported

Dead/missing migrants** August 2022

** Reporting is based on IOM Yemen information and is being verified according to Missing Migrants Project criteria.

Migration Through Ethiopia

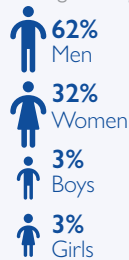
There was a 9% increase in migrants' exits from Ethiopia from July to August. Drivers remained largely unchanged from the previous month with economic reasons being by far the most frequently reported (83%), followed by climate (9%) and conflict (5%). As in previous months, among migrants from the Tigray region, conflict was reported as a driver of migration by 41% of the respondents. During the first week of August, overall migration flows through Galafi into Djibouti decreased due to bad road conditions and rains, while during the second week, movements progressively increased. Hunger, thirst, injury, sickness, lack of financial means, inability to afford smugglers' services and detention at the hands of the smugglers were some of the difficulties reported by migrants returning from Yemen and Djibouti. New registrations at the MRCs remained similar to the previous month (2% increase). In Moyale, at the border with Kenya, immigration controls were tightened around the election time (9 August 2022), which led to a temporary decrease of migratory flows. Past the election day, movements resumed back to normal. In addition, there was a slight decrease (6%) in migrant returns from Saudi Arabia and movements were put on hold on 29 August. The Government of Ethiopia continues to face challenges in providing assistance to the large volume of returnees, particularly due to the ongoing conflict in the north which is preventing the return of many migrants. Of the more than 12,000 Tigrayan migrants returned from Saudi Arabia in 2022, over 3,000 returnees remain accommodated at government-managed facilities in Addis Ababa, unable to return home or reunify with family or relatives or to support themselves in other ways.

Exits out of Ethiopia

Cumulative 2022
158,266

22,089
Migrant exits from Ethiopia August 2022

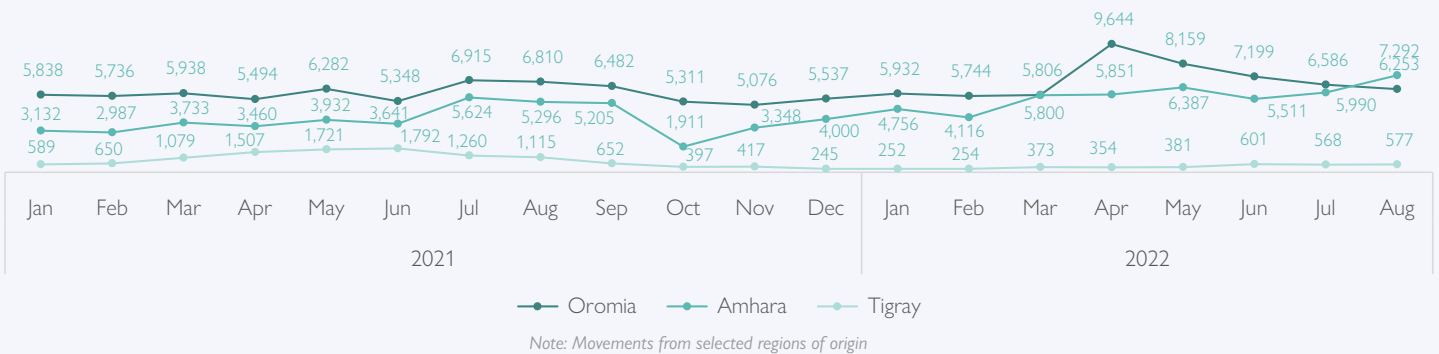
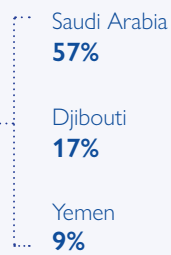
Sex & Age Group



Region of Origin



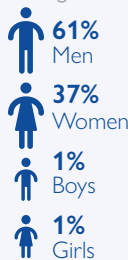
Intended Destination



Migrants surveyed in August 2022

903
Surveyed migrants exiting Ethiopia August 2022

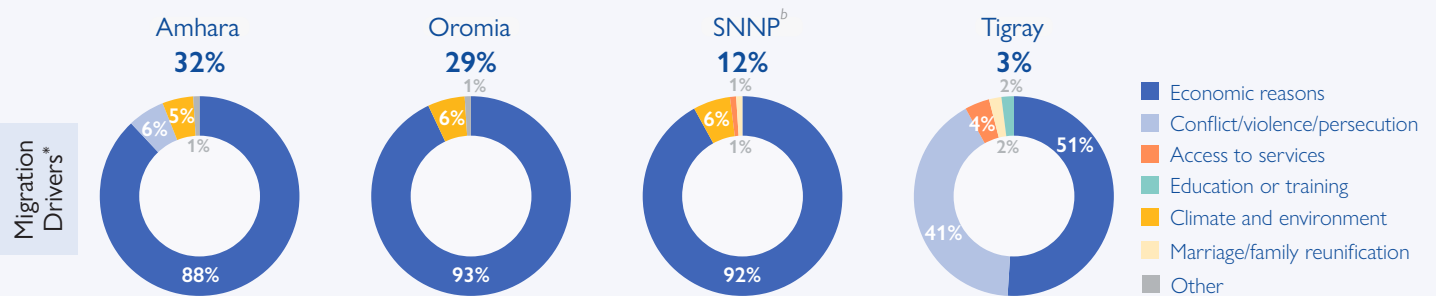
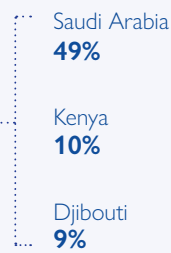
Sex & Age Group



Migration Drivers*

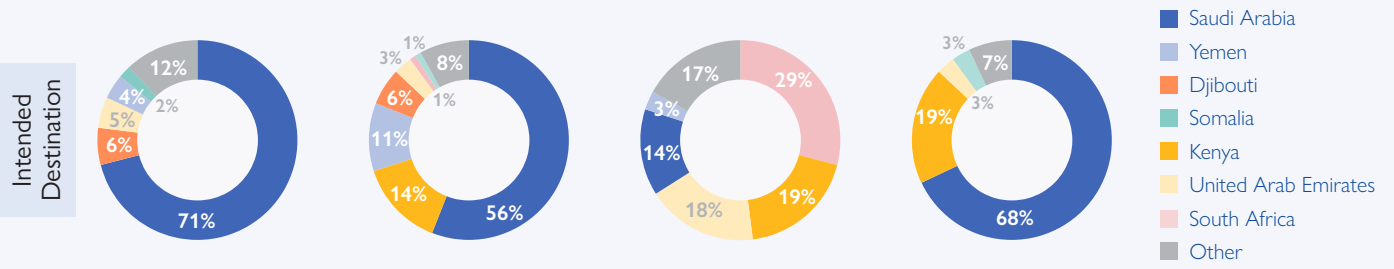


Intended Destination

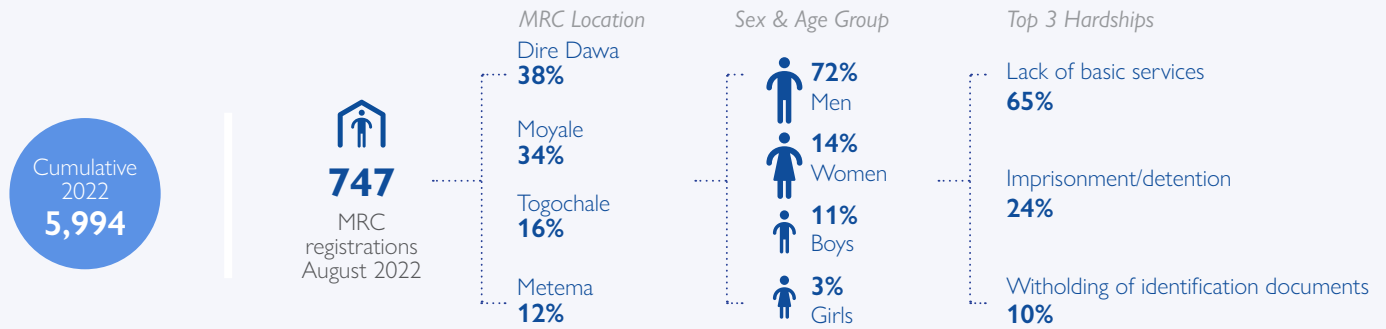


^b Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region.

* Multiple answer question.

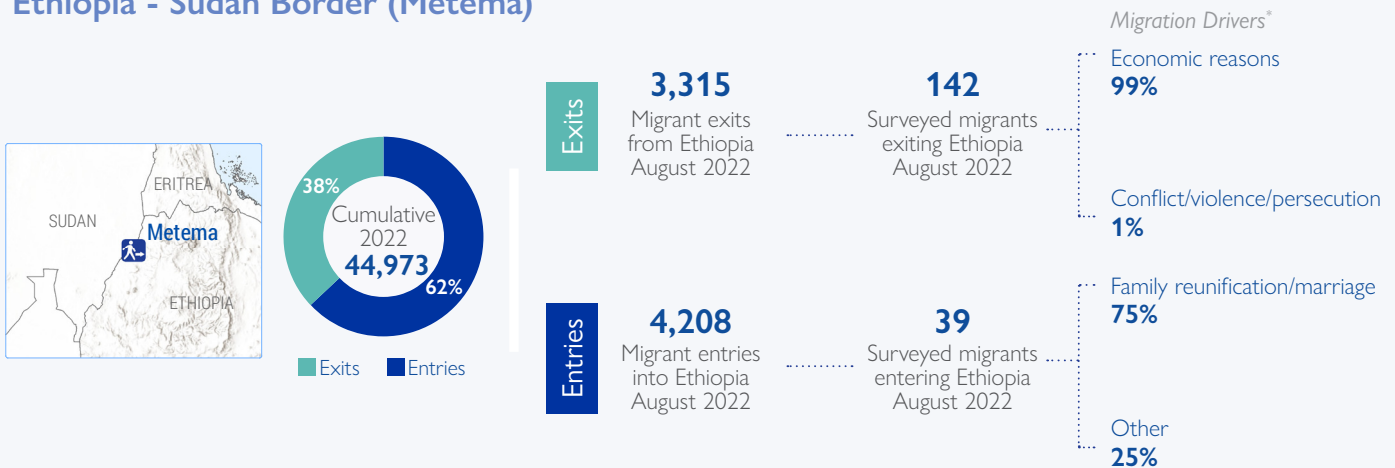


Migrants Seeking Assistance

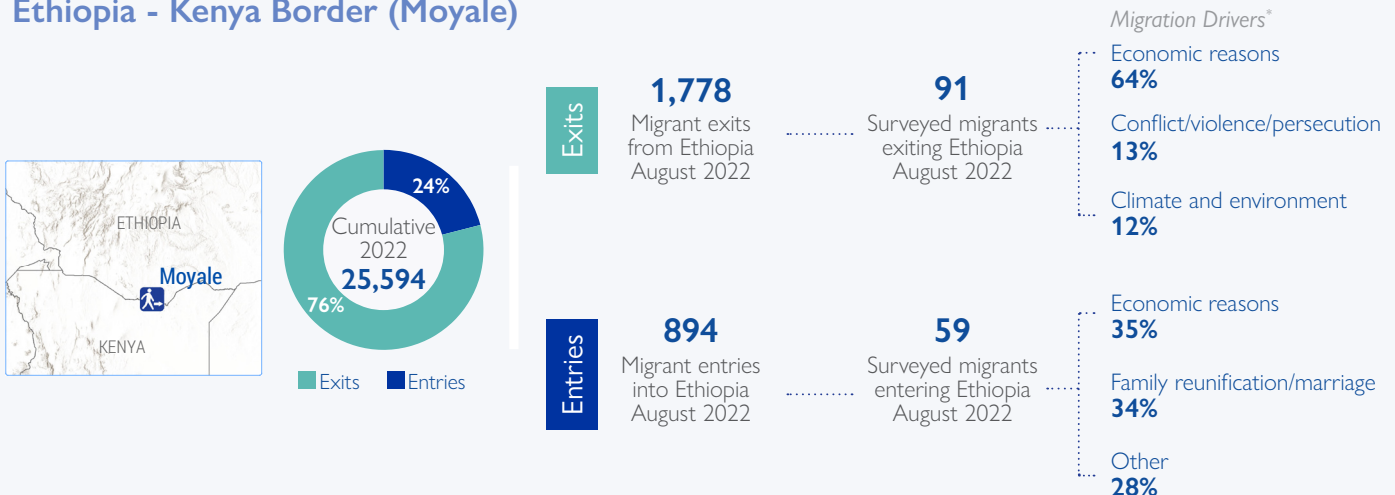


Impact of the Northern Ethiopia Conflict Along the Northern and Southern Corridors

Ethiopia - Sudan Border (Metema)



Ethiopia - Kenya Border (Moyale)



* Multiple answer question.

Migrant Children Along the Eastern Corridor

Cumulative 2022
19,980

1,403
Migrant children entries
August 2022

Into Djibouti
60%
Into Somalia
No data available
Into Yemen
40%

58% Boys
42% Girls

20%
Unaccompanied

230
Migrant children seeking assistance
August 2022

In Ethiopia
46%
In Somalia
44%
In Djibouti
10%

71% Boys
29% Girls

287

Migrants surveyed who are caring for children (24% of all respondents) August 2022

Travelling with children
16%

Having children in the country of intended destination
1%

Who left children behind in the country of origin
83%

Caretakers of migrant children not travelling with the migrant parent

My spouse/partner
64%

Grandparents or extended family
39%

My older children (18 and over)
6%

Other
1%

Returns from Saudi Arabia



18,967

Returns August 2022

Ethiopia
13,301

Yemen
5,522

Somalia
144

Cumulative 2022
117,858

Returns to

Ethiopia
71,503

Yemen
45,283

Somalia
1,072

Region of intended return in Ethiopia

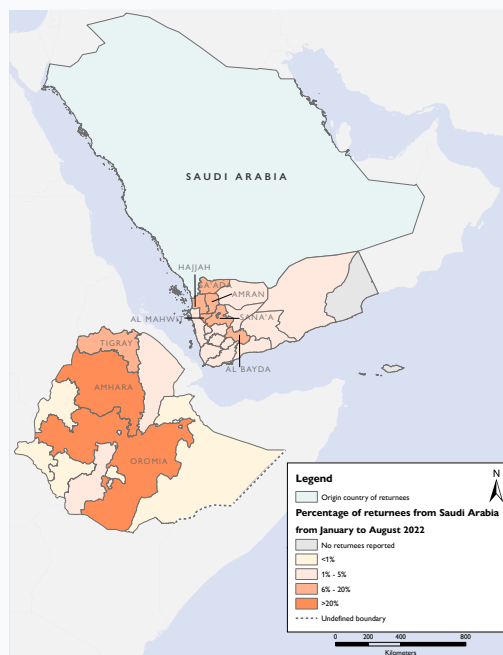
Amhara
38%

Oromia
36%

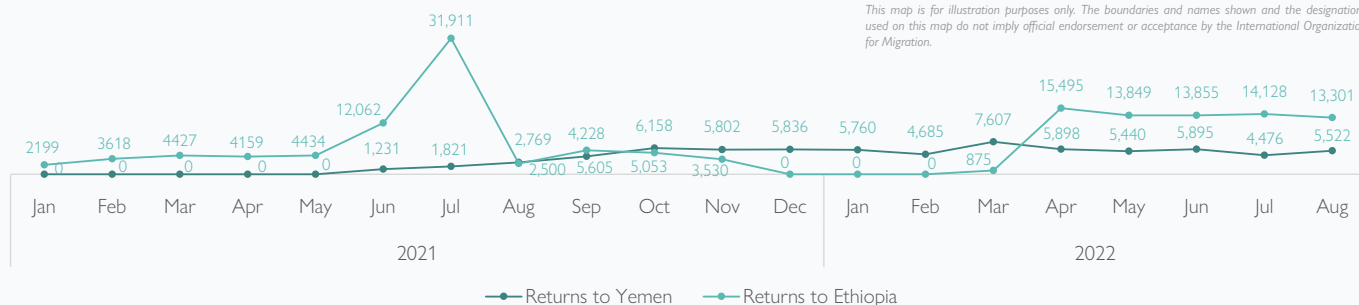
Tigray
19%

SNNP^b
4%

Afar
2%



This map is for illustration purposes only. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Organization for Migration.



Note: From January to May 2021, DTM in Yemen could not track returning migrants from Saudi Arabia due to the inaccessibility to the FMP at the Saudi Arabia–Yemen border. From December 2021 to February 2022, returns to Ethiopia were temporarily suspended due to the Northern Ethiopia conflict. Data on Somalia are not illustrated as IOM has only partial information on returns. For more information on forced returns to Ethiopia, visit: [Returns from Saudi Arabia | IOM Regional Office for East and Horn of Africa](#).

^b Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region.

Contact