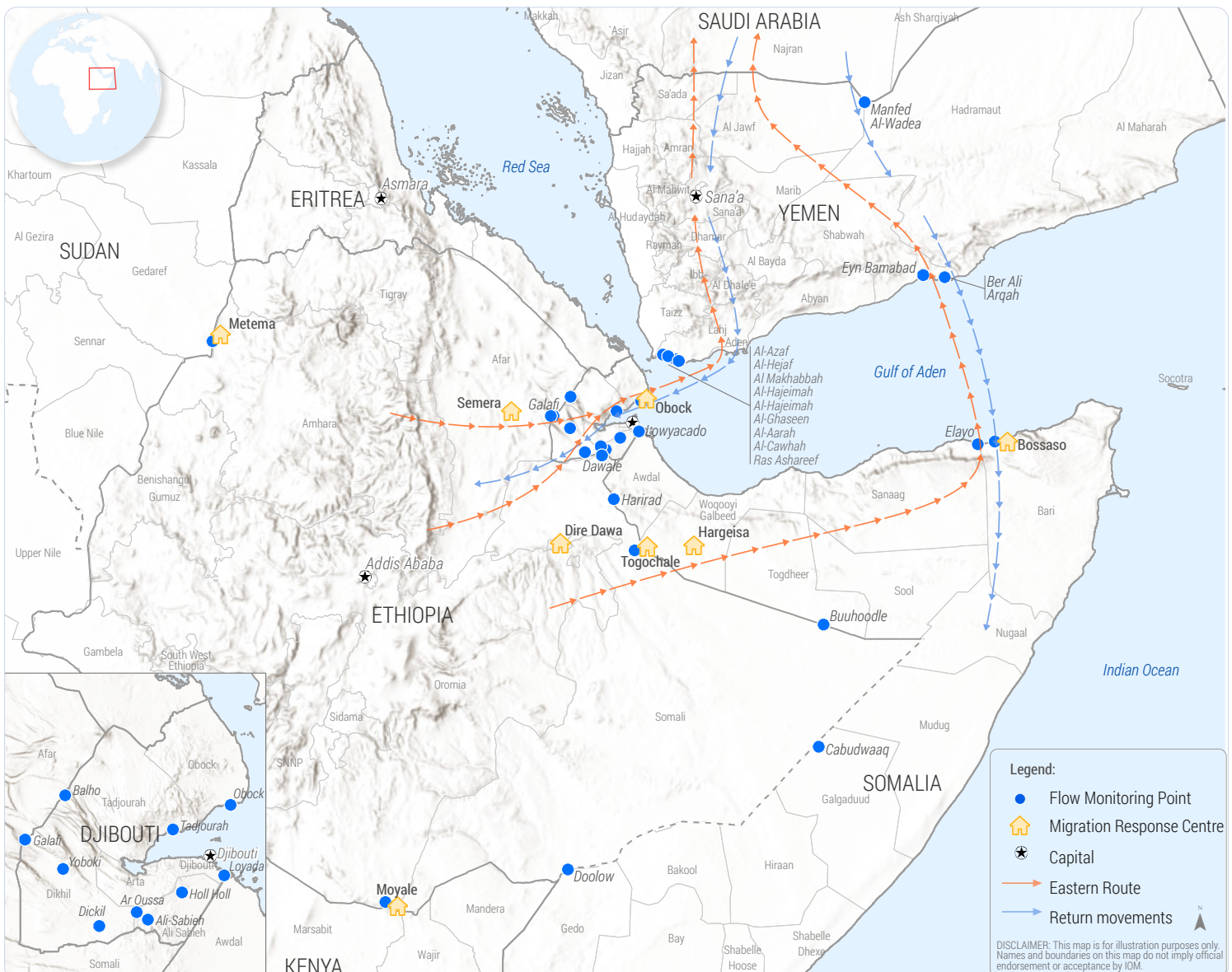


About the report

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

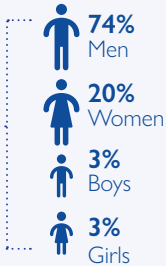
The number of migrants entering Djibouti has continued to decrease since June, when entries into the country peaked at 15,665, marking a 17% decrease. Most migrants entering Djibouti were men (74%) from the Ethiopian regions of Amhara (43%), particularly from North Wello, Oromia (34%, mostly from Arsi) and Tigray (11%). Most of the migrants intended to reach the Arabian Peninsula (81%). Although the main migration driver continues to be economic (61%), movements motivated by conflict, violence or persecution increased by four percentage points compared to August. It is also important to highlight that DTM field staff reported vulnerable groups travelling through Djibouti, among which there were 808 children, of whom 21% (150 boys and 21 girls) were travelling alone. Among the migrants entering Djibouti there were also a number of pregnant or lactating women, as well as children under 5 years. The MRC in Obock admitted 121 new vulnerable migrants in September, most of whom were adult men. The MRC facilitated the voluntary return of 143 migrants through four convoys back to Ethiopia. Returns remain suspended for North Wello and South Wello in Amhara due to the conflict in Northern Ethiopia. As assisted returns continue, the number of spontaneous returns from Yemen to Djibouti observed a significant decrease (-30%) since August (from 266 to 187). Most of the returnees were men (96%).

Entries into Djibouti

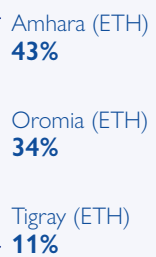
Cumulative 2022
104,854

13,065
Entries
September 2022

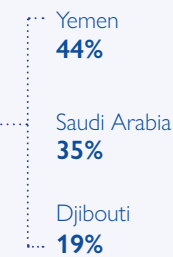
Sex & Age Group



Region of Origin



Intended Destination



Migrants surveyed in
September 2022

322

Migration Drivers*

Economic reasons
61%

Conflict/violence/persecution
39%

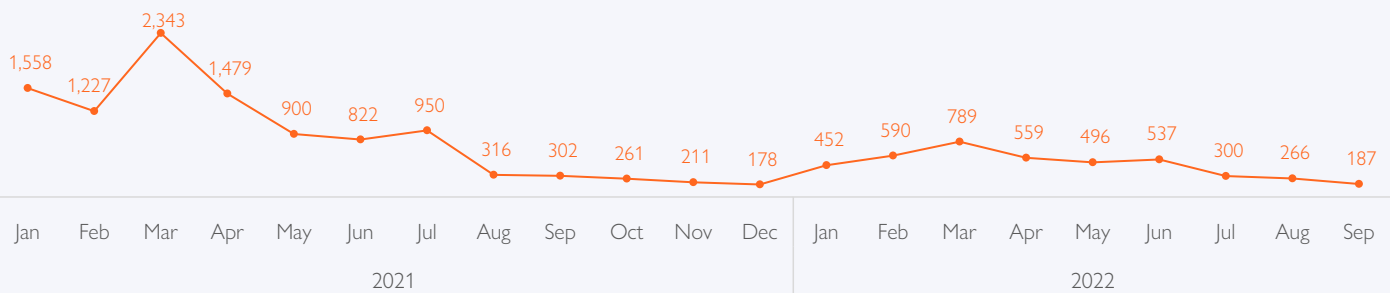


Spontaneous Returns from Yemen to Djibouti

Cumulative 2022
4,176

187
Returns
September 2022

Sex & Age Group



Migrants Seeking Assistance

Cumulative 2022
1,388

121
MRC registrations
September 2022

Sex & Age Group



Hardships

Lack of basic services
100%

1,069 Stranded migrants
September 2022

2 Dead/missing migrants**
September 2022

* Multiple answer question.

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

Migration Through Somalia

The migratory environment remained difficult to monitor due to the suspension of flow monitoring activities as IOM Somalia engages with the Federal Government of Somalia to restore activities. Key informants report increased transportation costs in Awdal province at the border with Djibouti and inaccessible areas and poor road conditions due to rains in Bari and Sanaag provinces. Most Ethiopians journeying through Awdal province were migrants from Tigray seeking humanitarian assistance, while those heading to Bossaso in the Bari region were from Oromia and in search of economic opportunities. Movements remained restricted along the Afdher-Bakool border of Somalia and Ethiopia following the incursion of non-state actors in Ethiopia. Ethiopian migrants continued to seek assistance in greater numbers at MRCs in Bossaso and Hargeisa during the month, most of whom arrived on foot. IOM staff observed a new trend in the arrival of ethnic Debub migrants from the SNNP^b region of Ethiopia at MRC Bossaso. Debub migrants, who generally take the Southern Route through Moyale, were now journeying along the Eastern Route through Togochale. The migrants were predominantly young women, intending to travel to the United Arab Emirates or Lebanon by plane. Additionally, key informants noted an increase in the number of departures from Somalia to Yemen during the month of September, attributed to loosened controls at checkpoints, lighter winds, drought conditions, and insecurity. In September, IOM staff observed migrants driven by the drought in the Lower Juba, Middle Juba, Bakool and Gedo regions exiting Somalia in search of humanitarian support at camps in Ethiopia, while drought-driven migrants from the Bay region sought assistance in Kenya.

Entries into Somalia

IOM flow monitoring activities suspended in September

Cumulative 2022
6,504^a

0
Entries
September 2022

Sex & Age Group

0% Men
0% Women
0% Boys
0% Girls

Region of Origin

0% Somali (ETH)
0% Garissa (KEN)
0% Oromia (ETH)

Intended Destination

0% Somalia
0% Saudi Arabia
0% Djibouti

Migrants surveyed in September 2022

0

Migration Drivers*

0% Economic reasons
0% Access to services
0% Conflict/violence/persecution



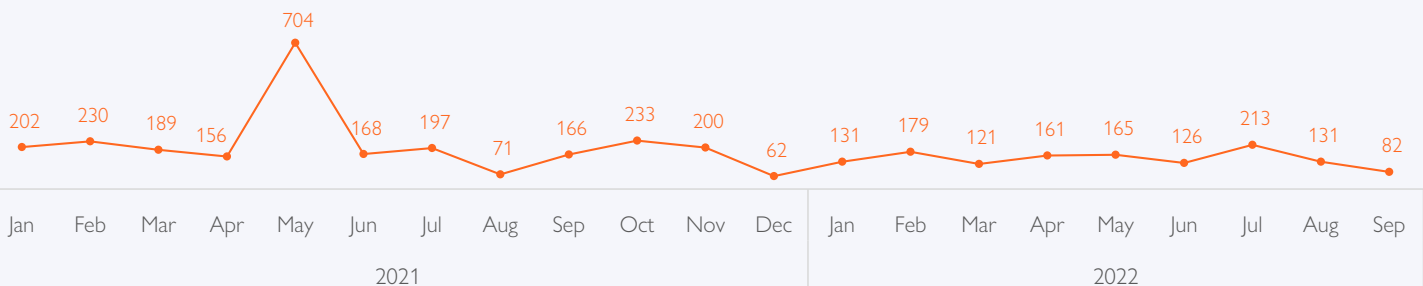
Spontaneous Returns from Yemen to Somalia

Cumulative 2022
1,309

82
Returns
September 2022

Sex & Age Group

50% Men
50% Women
0% Boys
0% Girls



Migrants Seeking Assistance

Cumulative 2022
2,734

307
MRC registrations
September 2022

MRC Location

71% Bossaso
29% Hargeisa

Sex & Age Group

51% Men
17% Women
23% Boys
9% Girls

Hardship

100% Lack of basic services

Information not available for September

172

Stranded migrants July 2022

1

Dead/missing migrants** September 2022

^a As of February 2022.

^b Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region.

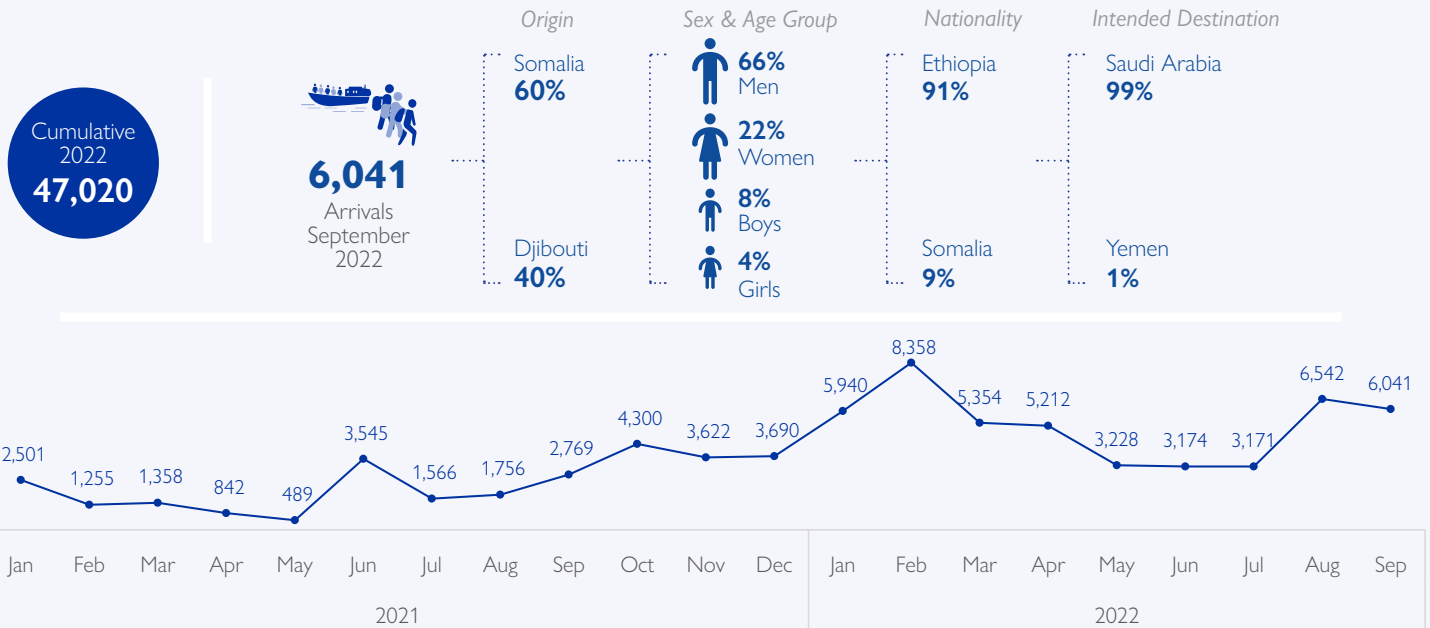
* Multiple answer question.

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

Migration Through Yemen

In September, there was a slight decrease (-8%) in the number of migrants arriving in Yemen from Djibouti and Somalia, which could be linked to poor weather conditions, sea tides and increased coast guard patrolling in Djibouti as proportionally, arrivals from Somalia slightly increased. However, in 2022 overall, arrivals in Yemen almost tripled when compared to the same period in 2021 (16,081) and in absolute terms, in 2022, the number of women and girls crossing into Yemen increased respectively by 145% and 112% compared to the whole of 2021. Smuggling networks continued to maintain a strong presence on the main migration routes across Yemen and IOM staff in Ras El Ara reported that migrants have been detained, physically abused and extorted upon arrival. There were also reports of cases of sexual abuse, including against children, across the country. Women and girls have become difficult to reach by humanitarian actors as smugglers have been abducting and relocating them from Marib to Shabwah to avoid raids by military forces. Furthermore, there were unverified reports of two migrants who died upon arrival in Yemen by sea, resulting in an informal burial on site. IOM continues to provide voluntary humanitarian return (VHR) assistance from Aden to Ethiopia. In September, 215 migrants were assisted as IOM continues its efforts to facilitate VHR from Sana'a. In Yemen, IOM estimates that 43,000 migrants remain stranded.

Arrivals in Yemen from the Horn of Africa



43,000 Stranded migrants September 2022

79 Dead/missing migrants** September 2022

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

Migration Through Ethiopia

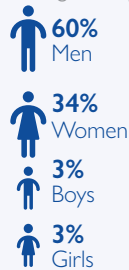
The flow of migrants exiting Ethiopia slightly increased in September compared to August (+7%). As in previous months, most migrants were young men from Amhara and Oromia intending to migrate to Saudi Arabia driven by economic reasons (81%). Other drivers included environmental factors (9%) and war and conflict (6%). However, migration drivers greatly varied according to the region of origin of the migrants. Among migrants from Tigray, conflict and war were reported by 50% of the respondents and by 13% of respondents from Amhara. Environmental reasons were particularly reported by those from the Oromia and SNNP^b regions. Intended destination likewise varied, with Saudi Arabia being the desired destination for over half of the respondents, but with migrants from SNNP mostly intending to travel to South Africa, and one third of Tigrayans intending to travel to Kenya. The number of people exiting through Metema, at the border with Sudan, increased significantly (+47%) since August, with almost a quarter of respondents (22%) stating conflict as the main driver for migration (in August it was 1%). Meanwhile, in Moyale along the Ethiopia-Kenya border, nearly a quarter of outgoing migrants reported being driven by climatic and environmental factors compared to 13% in August. Forced returns from Saudi Arabia were suspended in September due to overcrowding at existing shelters. Services such as water, sanitation, and hygiene, health assistance, child necessities, and psychosocial support were also strained, limiting reception capacity. Nearly 3,000 returnees continue to be stranded in shelters in Addis Ababa due to inability to return home. About 31,000 more migrants are expected to be returned from Saudi Arabia to Ethiopia this year, although it is unclear when operations will resume. The number of migrants seeking assistance at MRCs in Ethiopia decreased by 60% compared to August. IOM Ethiopia observed a slight shift in flows from the Eastern to the Northern Corridor, possibly due to intensified security, coupled with high river waters, in Ethiopia and Sudan along the Metema-Galbat route. There is a great need for protection assistance for returnees who face hardships upon arrival, including challenges returning to their home communities and exploitation by truck drivers who transport migrants.

Exits out of Ethiopia

Cumulative 2022
181,797

23,531
Migrant exits from Ethiopia
September 2022

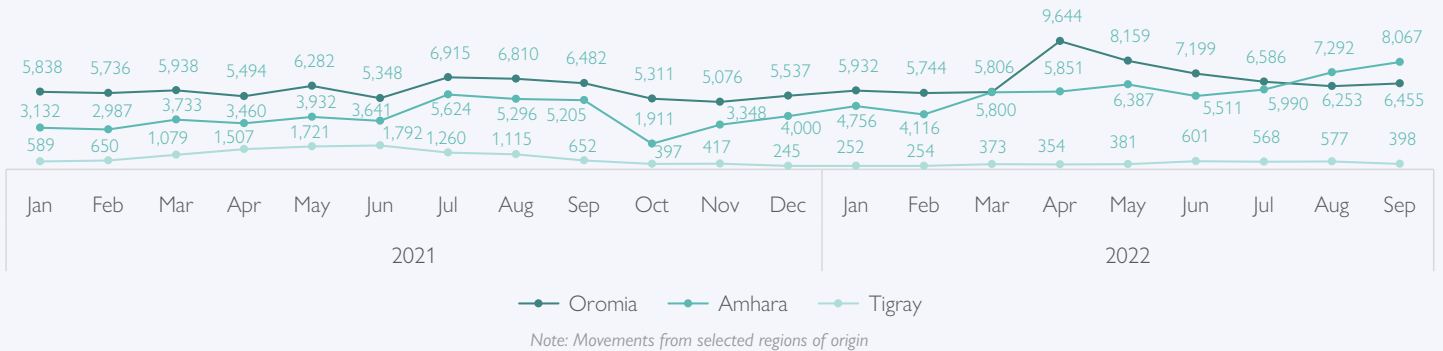
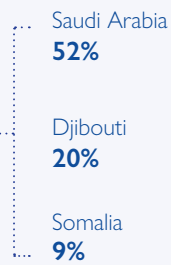
Sex & Age Group



Region of Origin



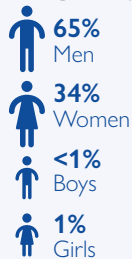
Intended Destination



Migrants surveyed in September 2022

875
Surveyed migrants exiting Ethiopia
September 2022

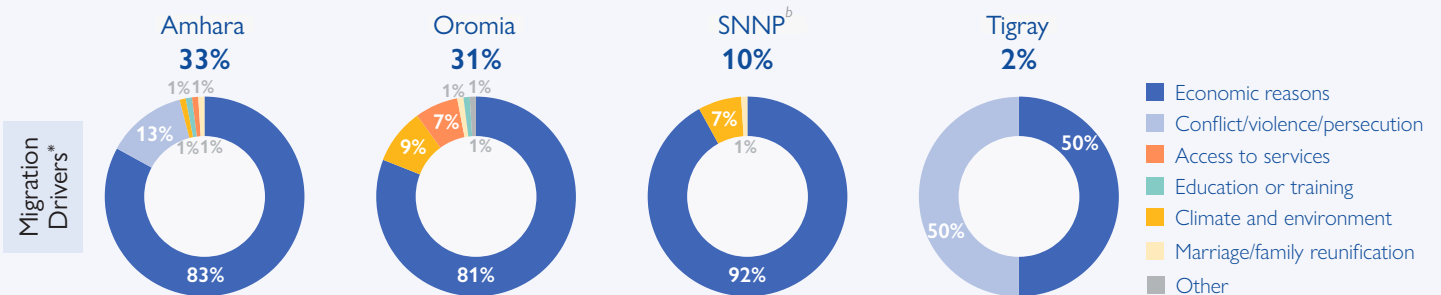
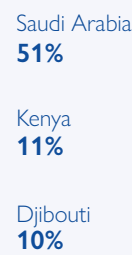
Sex & Age Group



Migration Drivers*

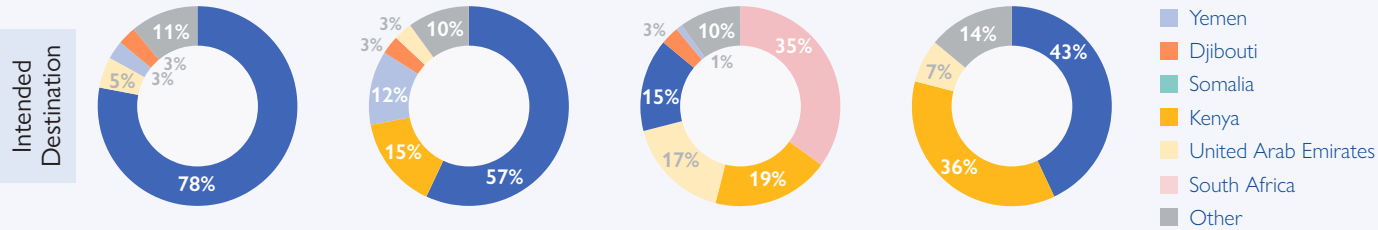


Intended Destination

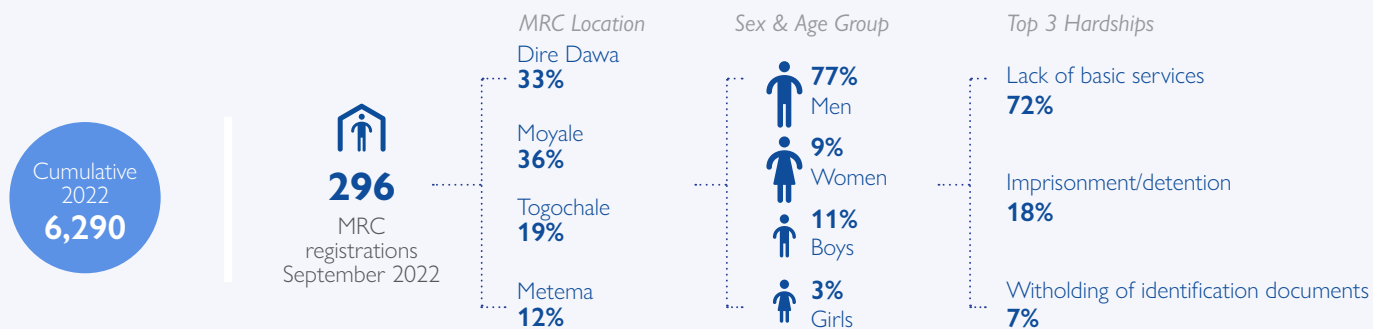


^b Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region.

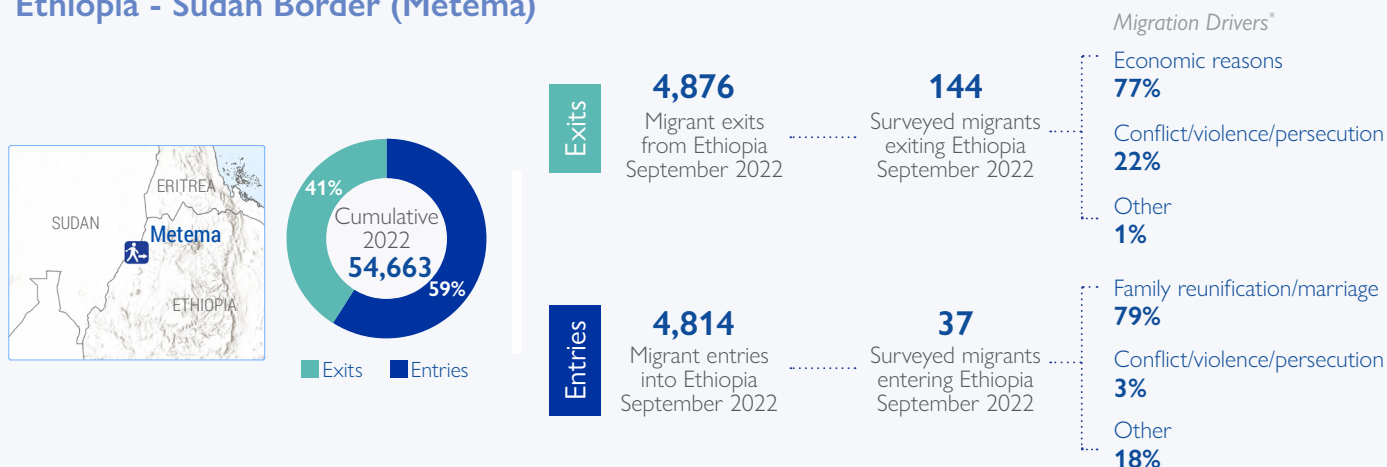
* Multiple answer question.



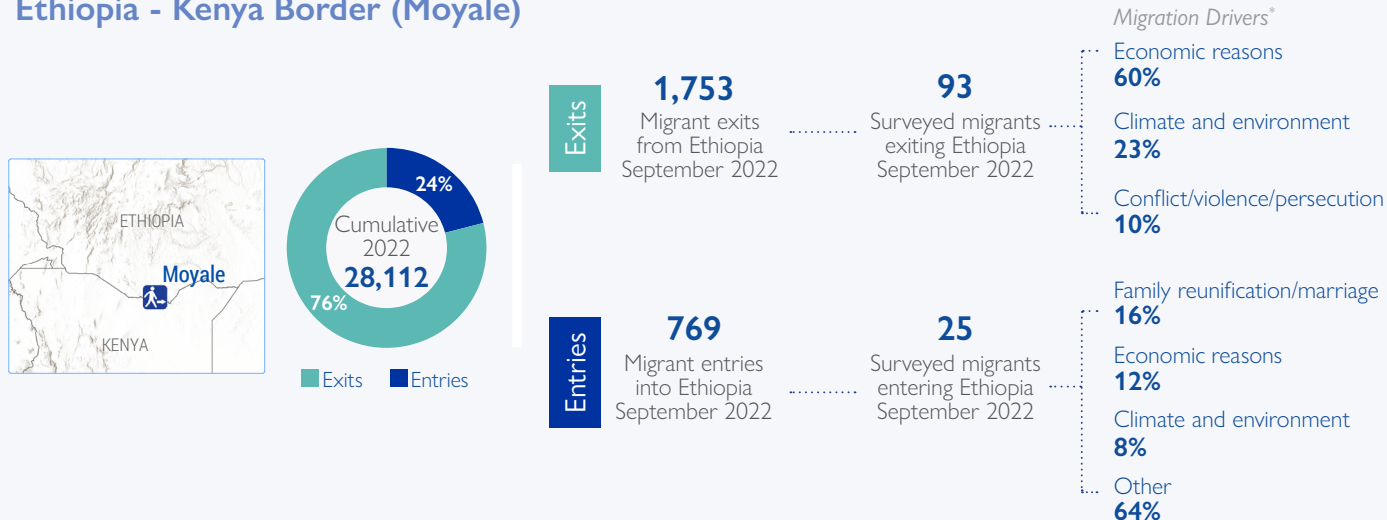
Migrants Seeking Assistance



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
21,418

1,438
Migrant children
entries
September
2022

Into Djibouti
56%
Into Somalia
**No data
available**
Into Yemen
44%

60%
Boys
40%
Girls

15%
Unaccompanied

150
Migrant
children seeking
assistance
September 2022

In Somalia
67%
In Ethiopia
27%
In Djibouti
5%

73%
Boys
27%
Girls

287
Migrants
surveyed
who are caring
for children
(24% of all
respondents)
September 2022

Travelling with children
14%

Having children in the country of intended destination
0%

Who left children behind in the country of origin
85%

Caretakers of
migrant children
not travelling
with the migrant
parent

My spouse/partner
47%

Grandparents or extended family
39%

My older children (18 and over)
12%

Other
2%

Returns from Saudi Arabia



4,660

Returns
September 2022

Ethiopia
0*

Yemen
4,532

Somalia
128

Cumulative
2022
122,518

Returns to

Ethiopia
71,503

Yemen
49,815

Somalia
1,200

Region of intended return
in Ethiopia 2022

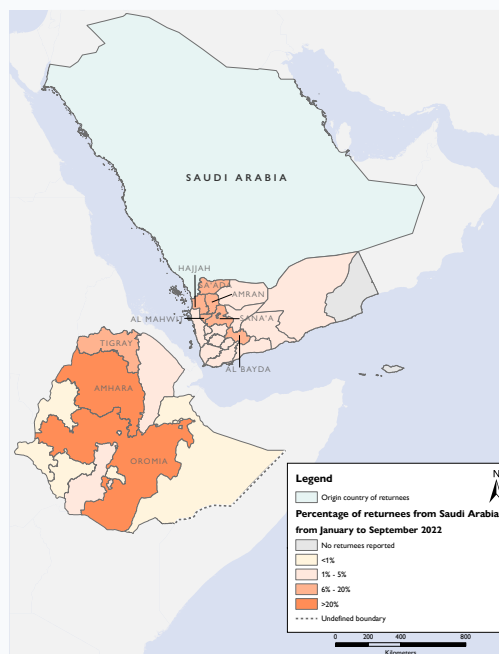
Amhara
44%

Oromia
31%

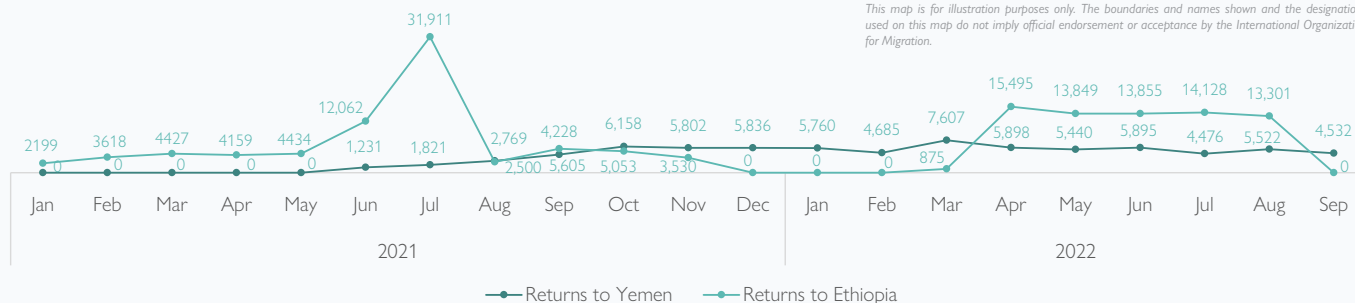
Tigray
17%

SNNP^b
5%

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.

* Forced returns from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Ethiopia were indefinitely suspended as of 31 August 2022 due to overcrowding and limited reception capacity at shelters in Addis Ababa.

Contact