

FLOW MONITORING | YEMEN

July 2017

ENHANCING THE UNDERSTANDING OF MIGRATION AND POPULATION MOBILITY IN YEMEN

IOM's DTM (Displacement Tracking Matrix) was launched in Yemen in April, 2015 in an effort to better inform the humanitarian community about the location and needs of the displaced populations in Yemen. By the end of 2016, as part of DTM activities, IOM began implementing Flow Monitoring (FM) assessments in order to monitor the human mobility of other country nationals in Yemen. The objective of this report is to present the findings of the FM assessments with the aim to better inform the humanitarian community and those responding in the region..

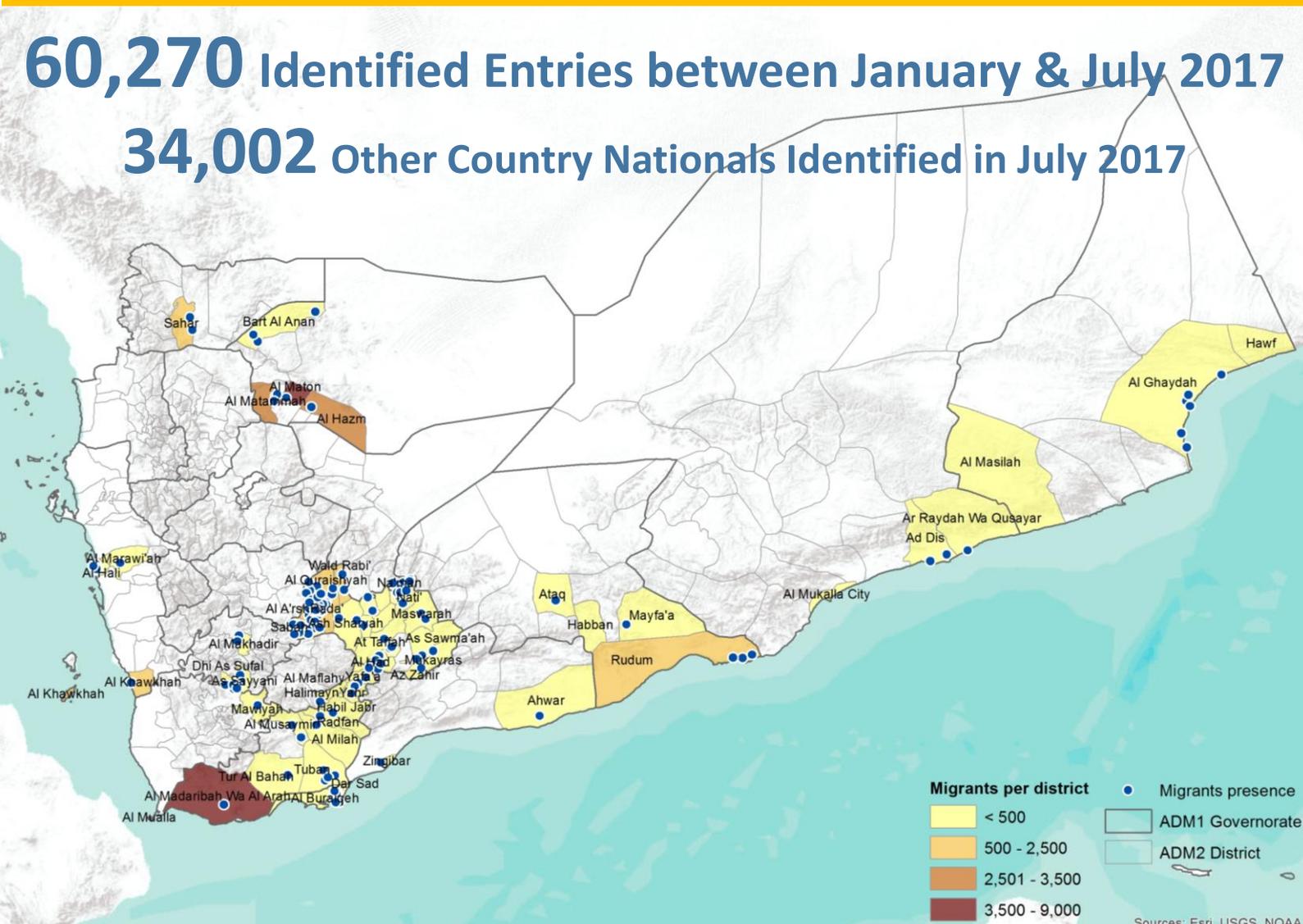
FM is an exercise through which DTM monitors trends of mobility into, out of, and within identified areas. Enumerators are deployed to pre-identified entry, exit and transit locations (Flow Monitoring Points, FMPs) where a diverse network of key informants provide information which is collected through assessments. The report does not indicate a total population of other country nationals in Yemen. The figures provide a monthly *snapshot* of high mobility and movement through identified areas to inform programming

It is important to note that DTM FM data does not distinguish between different mobile populations based on their immigration status. As such, populations tracked by DTM FM in Yemen may include refugees. The populations tracked through DTM FM are comprised of several nationalities. The immigration status of nationals from some countries, such as Somalia, differ depending on their location within Yemen. Some individuals identified through FM may be considered refugees depending on their location within the country.

The findings within this report are based on data collection which took place between 1—31 July 2017 (round 7).

DTM Mobility Tracking FMPs: Baseline Assessment and Migrant Population Distribution Map July 2017

60,270 Identified Entries between January & July 2017
34,002 Other Country Nationals Identified in July 2017



The FMP data in this report was collected in July 2017. In this report the term migrant is used to cover mixed migration flows of other country nationals including: migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees.

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KEY FINDINGS

Totals and Trends

- A total of 34,002 migrants were identified in the areas assessed in July. This is an increase of 1,450 individuals from June. This figure does not represent the total population of other country nationals but provides an snapshot of mobile populations in pre-identified areas of high mobility to better understanding movement trends and to inform operations.
- Since January 2017 the overall trend observed from March to May was decreasing. From May to July, however, the number of migrants observed in areas of high mobility has been increasing consistently.
- The governorate hosting the largest number of mobile individuals in July was Al Jawf. Al Bayda, Al Jawf and Lahj have hosted the largest mobile populations since the pilot rounds of data collection in January and February.
- The majority of migrants were found to be travelling by foot. This has been the case since the first rounds of assessments in January and February.

Demographics and Needs

- The majority of the identified population were Ethiopian and Somali nationals. This is consistent with what was reported in the previous round of data collection (May to June 2017) and since the first pilot assessment in January. In July Ethiopian nationals were the second most commonly identified nationality passing through pre-identified areas of high mobility.
- The majority of the identified migrant population was male. This has been the case since the pilot rounds of data collection in January and February.
- 8% of the mobile population in July were unaccompanied minors.
- The identified population reported that food was the most pressing need. Shelter and housing was the second most pressing need. This was also the case in May and June.

FMPs

- The number and constitution of locations assessed continues to remain relatively constant since the last round of assessments. In both June and July 211 locations were assessed. Al Bayda has hosted the largest number of FMPs since the pilot rounds of data collection.
- In July 211 sites were assessed. Of these 10 were entry locations, 200 were transit locations and one was an exit location.

Location of migrant populations July 2017

From June to July Al Jawf replaced Lahj as the governorate hosting the largest identified migrant population with a total of 10,063 identified migrants. This was due to an increase of 299 individuals identified in Al Jawf and a decrease of 376 individuals identified in Lahj from June to July. From the initial assessments conducted in January through to the July assessments presented in this report, Al Jawf, Lahj and Al Bayda have consistently been shown to host the largest migrant populations among the assessed governorates.

Most people were identified in rural locations in July. This is consistent with the location of mobile populations from March through to June.

Figure 1: Distribution of migrants by governorate

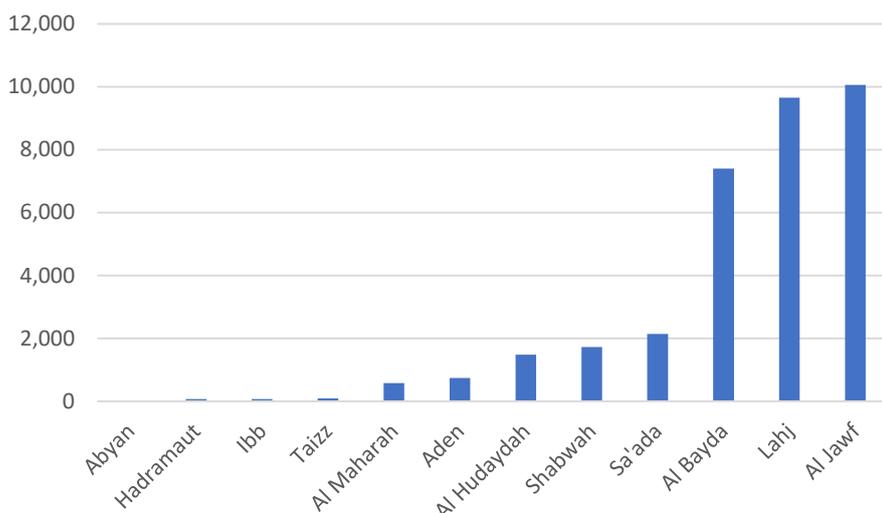
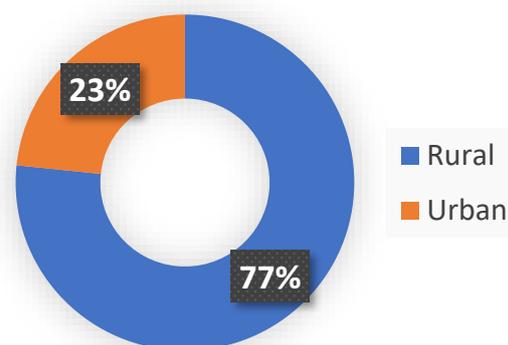
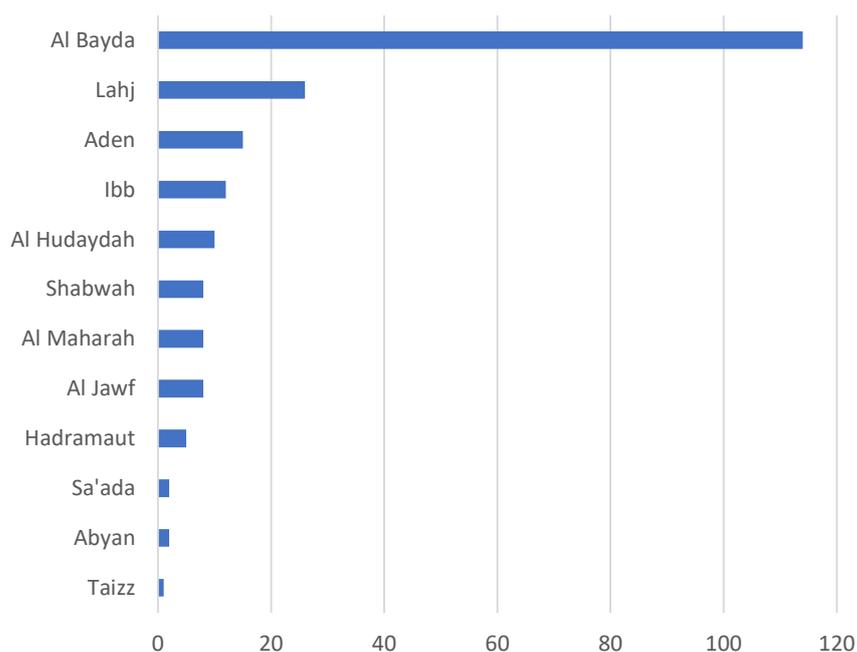


Figure 2: Rural and urban distribution of migrants in July



Distribution and type of flow monitoring points

Figure 3: Distribution of FMPs by governorate in July



During the data collection in June 211 flow monitoring points were surveyed. This is consistent with the number of FMPs that were surveyed in June. The total number of FMPs assessed from March to July represent a significant increase from the round 1 and 2 assessments in January and February where the largest number of locations monitored was 180 in February (round 2).

The majority of FMPs in July were located in Al Bayda Governorate, this has been the case since the first round of assessments in January. The FMPs were comprised of entry, exit and transit locations.

In July, 10 entry locations, one exit location and 200 transit locations were assessed. The locations were comprised of border posts (4), transportation points (13), disembarkation points (12), unofficial border crossings (5), border posts (7), unofficial sites (167) and official sites (7).

Mobile population flow monitoring from July 2017

There was a significant increase in the number of migrants identified between January (round 1) and March (round 3). This increase may be attributed to the expansion of the assessed area since the start of the migrant flow monitoring program. The number of FMPs assessed stabilized in March (round 3) and April (round 4) and remained similar through May (round 5), June (round 6) and July (round 7). From June to July the total number of migrants increased by 4.5%.

The overall trend observed from March to May was decreasing. From May to July, however, the number of migrants observed in Yemen has been increasing consistently.

Figure 5 displays the total number of migrants present in each assessed governorate as a percentage of the total population identified in Yemen for each round. As of July, there has been a notable increase in the percentage of the total migrant population identified in Sa'ada, Taizz and Shabwah. This may suggest shifting patterns in the internal movements within the country.

Figure 4: Number of migrants recorded from January (R1)- July (R7)

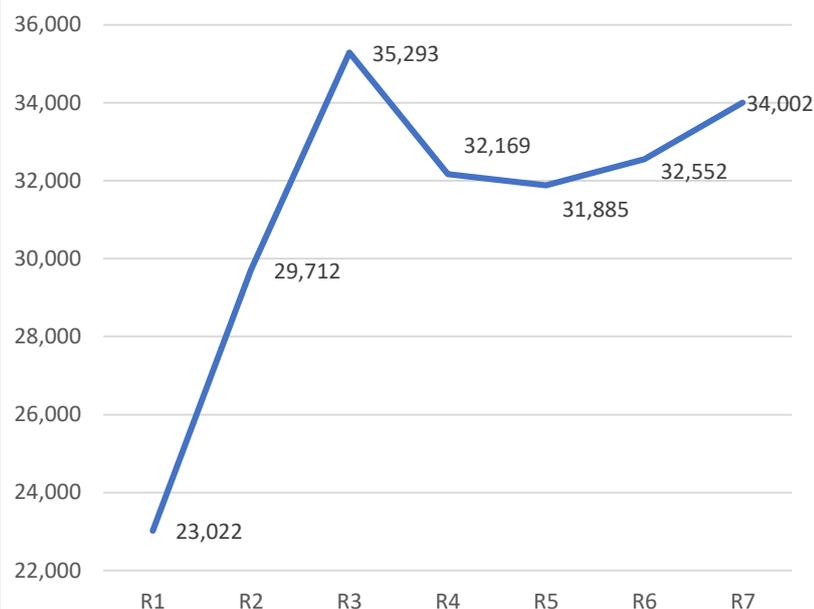
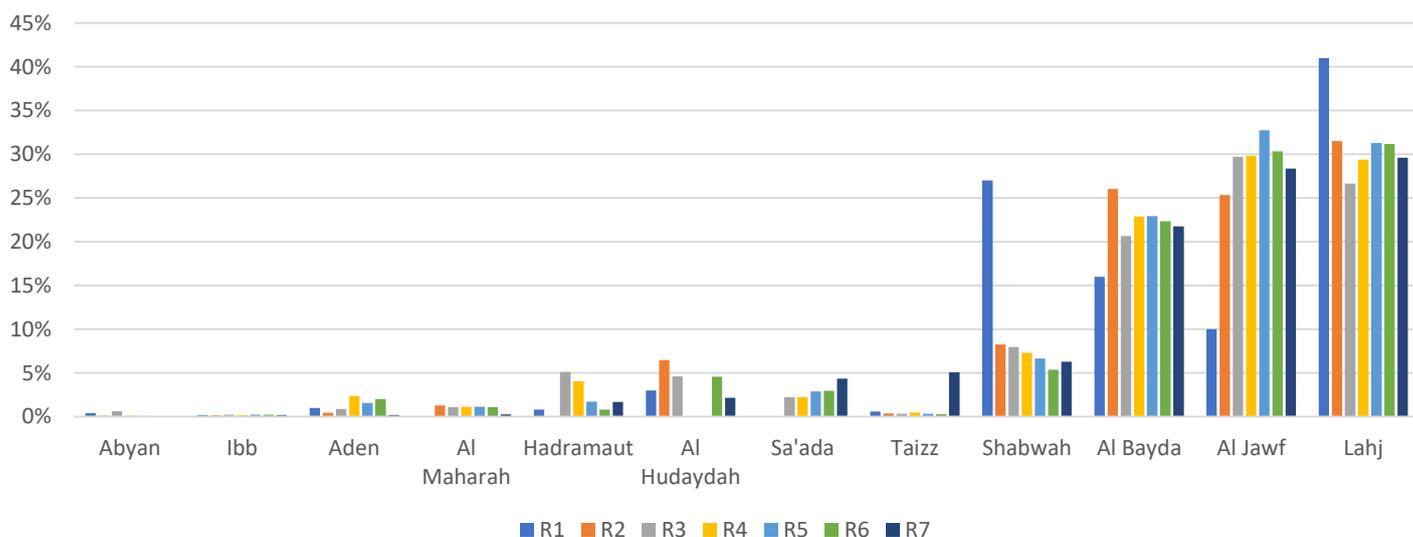


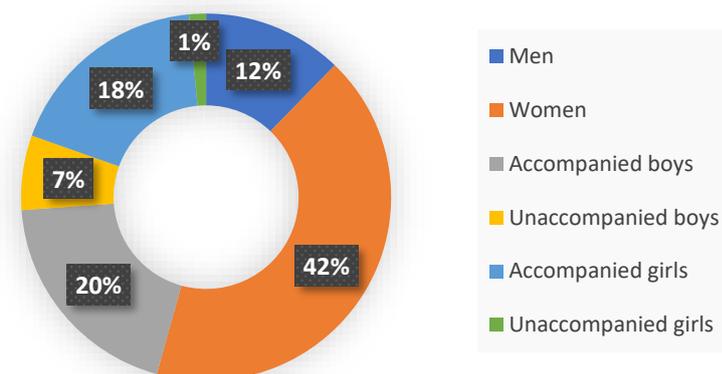
Figure 5: Percentage of total identified mobile population in each assessed governorate from January (R1) - July (R7)



Demographic breakdown of identified mobile populations July 2017

In July approximately 61% of the total recorded population was male. This is consistent with data collected in March (round 3) and April (round 4). 21% of the estimated population were children 18 years old or younger. This is an increase from June where 19.4% of the estimated population were children. Of the children identified, 1,303 were unaccompanied.

Figure 6: Demographic breakdown in July

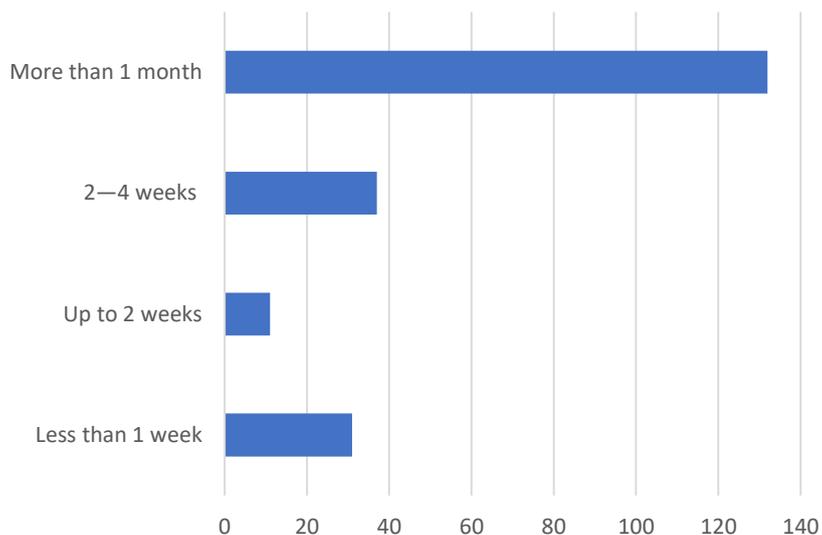


Average length of stay

In July most migrants spent more than one month at the FMP where they were identified. This was also the case in May (round 5) and June (round 6). Migrants at over 63% of assessed FMPs (132) had spent longer than one month at the FMP at which they were identified.

Of the FMPs at which the average length of stay was longer than one month the majority (130 FMPs in both months) were classified as transit locations. The other two FMPs were entry locations. There were very few FMPs at which the average length of stay for was between 0 and 2 weeks. This was also the case in June.

Figure 7: Average length of stay by number of FMPs

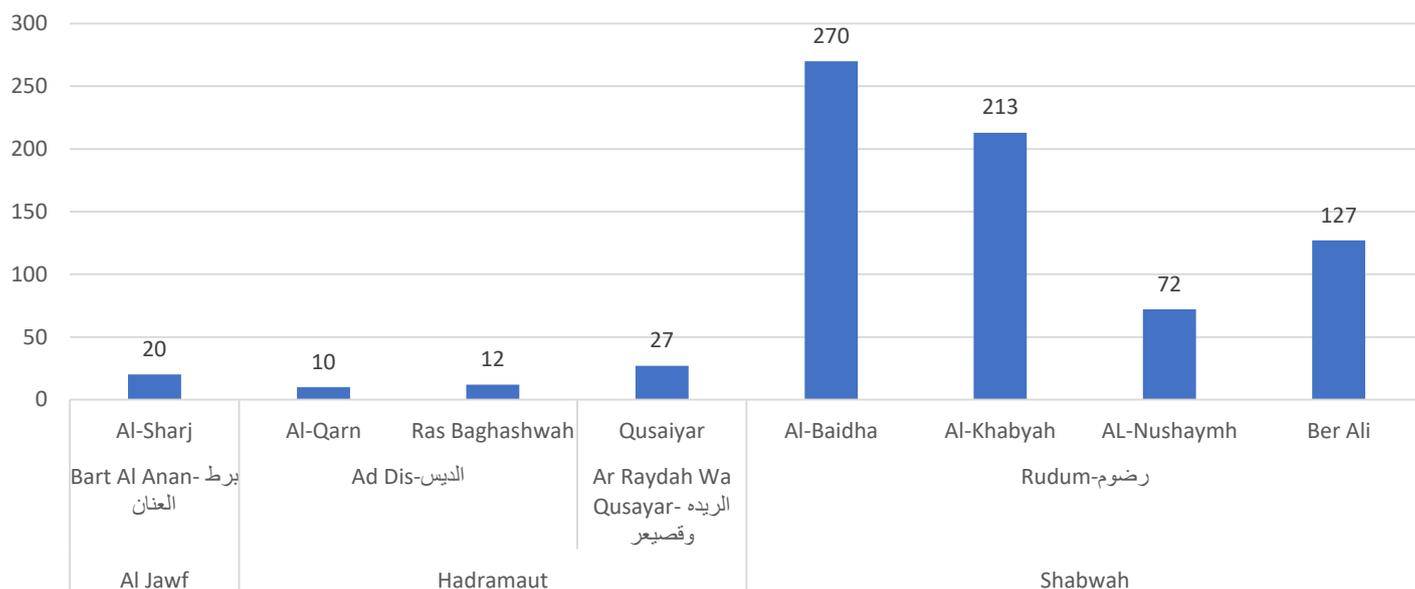


Analysis of estimated entry flows

Individuals who were identified at entry locations and had been present at the location for less than one month were presumed to be new arrivals. It should be noted that this estimate is likely to be far lower than the actual number of people who entered the country during the period of assessment. This may be attributed to the number of entry locations assessed and the hidden nature of irregular migration.

In July (round 7) an estimated 751 new arrivals were identified across eight (out of 10) of the assessed entry locations. This is an increase from the estimated entries in June (697 individuals). In July new arrivals were identified across a wider range of governorates than in previous months. Four of the eight entry locations where potential new arrivals were identified were in Shabwah Governorate, the other locations were in Hadramaut and Al Jawf Governorates.

Figure 8: Entry points at which individuals were present for less than one month

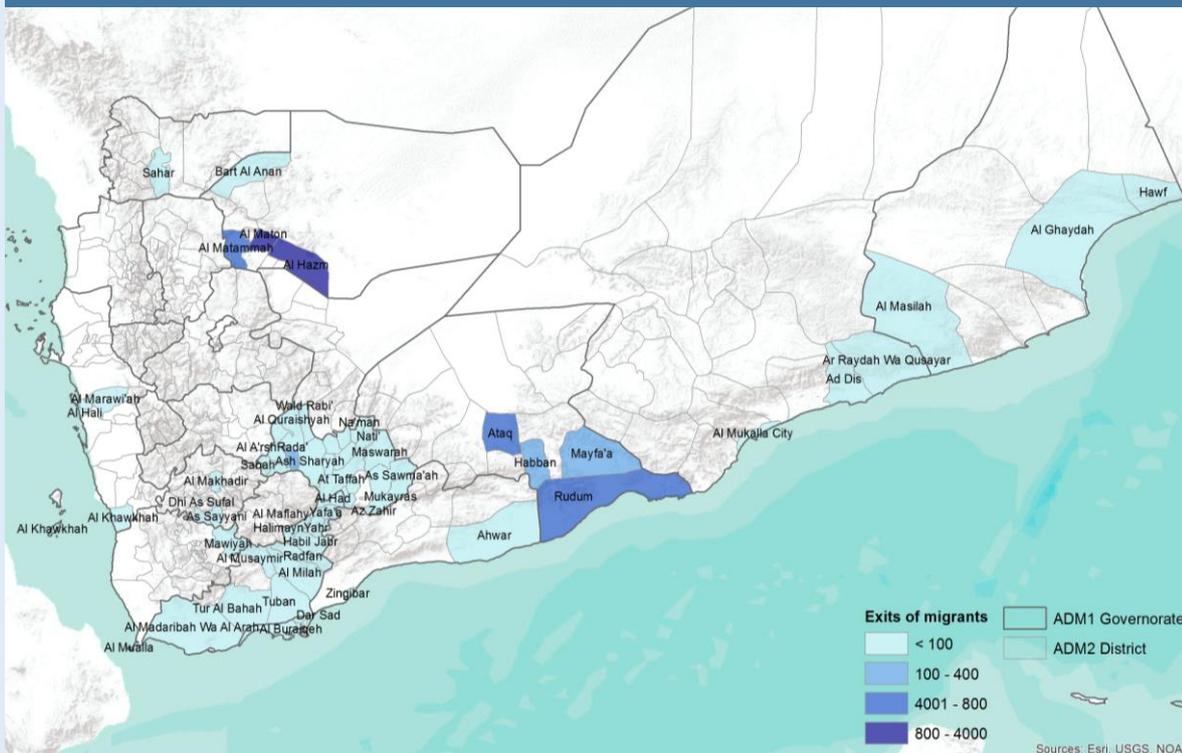


Migrant mobility within Yemen July 2017

During the round 7 (July) data collection, key informants were asked to provide information on the number of migrants who had arrived at FMPs but were no longer present at the time of the assessment.

This data is displayed in the map on the right and provides an indication of the population mobility within Yemen. It should be noted that the data collected does not indicate intended destinations, as such it is not possible to state whether migrants moved on to locations outside the district, governorate or country.

Map of Migrant Mobility by District: July 2017

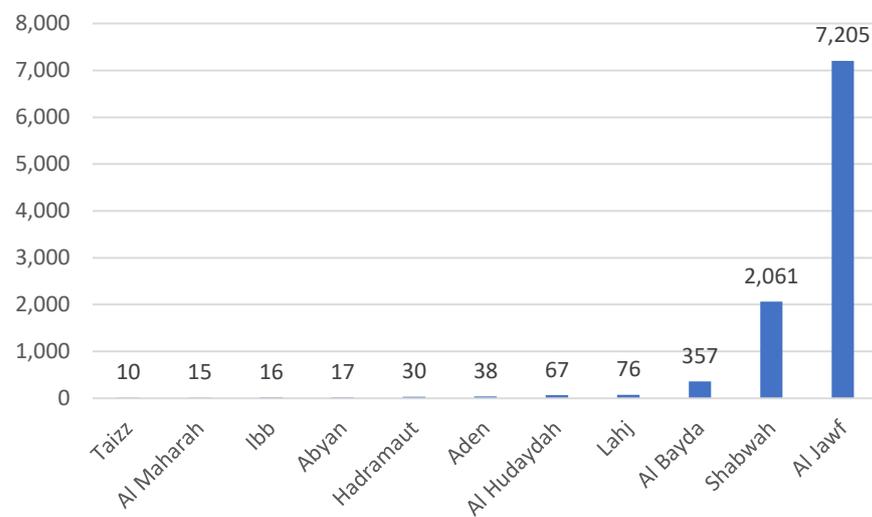


For the purpose of this analysis 'exits' are defined as people who have moved on from an FMP before the data collection period.

In July (round 7) DTM recorded a total of 9,892 exits at FMPs prior to the data collection. This represents a decrease from June (round 6) where 10,664 exits were estimated.

The majority of FMP exits were distributed across Al Jawf, Shabwah and Al Bayda. This was also the case in May and June. Al Jawf was the governorate which indicated the largest number of FMP exits. This is consistent with what was observed in May and June. The number of exits recorded in Al Jawf decreased by 450 from June to July

Figure 9: Governorates with districts indicating exits



Countries of origin

In July Ethiopia was the most commonly reported country of origin. This represents a slight change from May and June where approximately 50% of the migrant population was reportedly from Somalia. From January (round 1) to March (round 3) the most commonly recorded country of origin was Ethiopia.

The term migrant here is used to cover mixed migration flows including: migrants, asylum seekers and refugees. UNHCR's latest estimates indicate that there are approximately 269,783 refugees in Yemen. Together, Ethiopian and Somali nationals represent the majority of migrants recorded in Yemen thus far in 2017. Figures 11 and 12 below show the identified migrant populations in each assessed governorate according to nationality.

Figure 10: Countries of origin

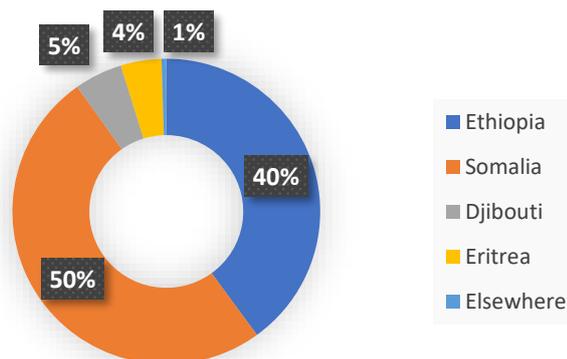
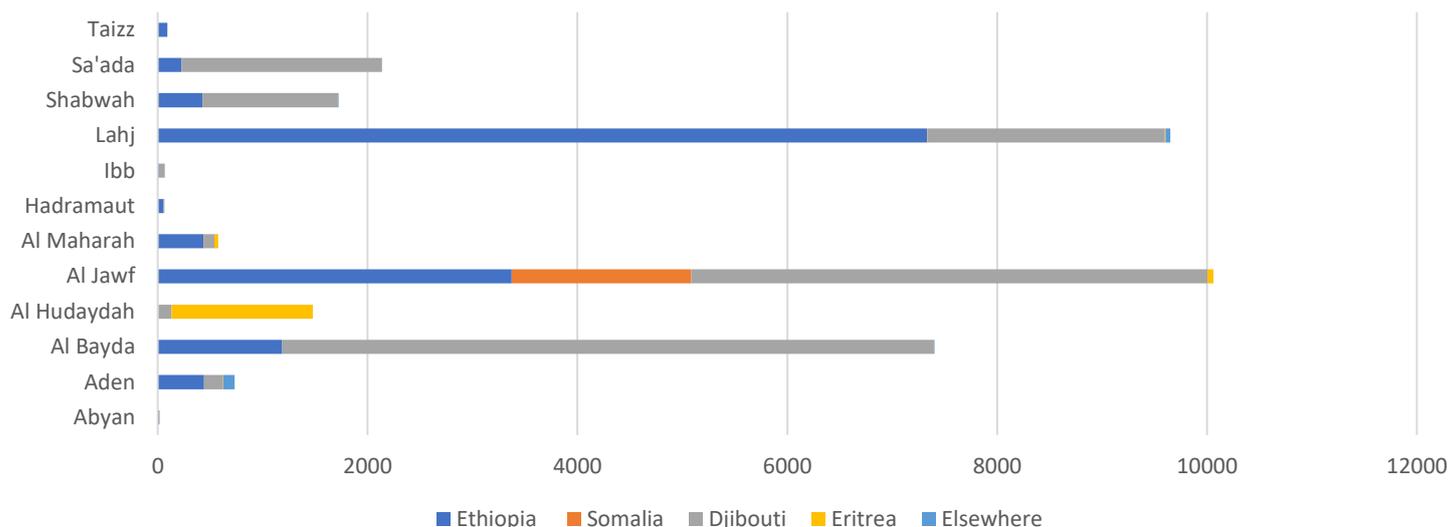


Figure 11: Country of origin by governorate in July

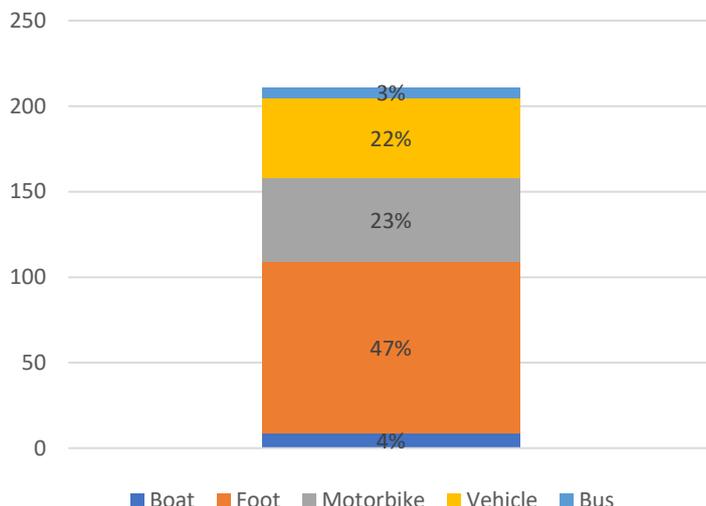


Transportation

Key informants were asked to provide information on the means of transport migrants were using to travel to and from FMPs.

In July at 47% of the assessed locations key informants reported that the most common mode of transport amongst the observed migrant population was by foot. This is consistent with what was observed in May and June where 46% in May and 48% of the assessed locations June reported this. Traveling by motorbike was the second most common mode of transport, closely followed by vehicle. This was also the case in May and June

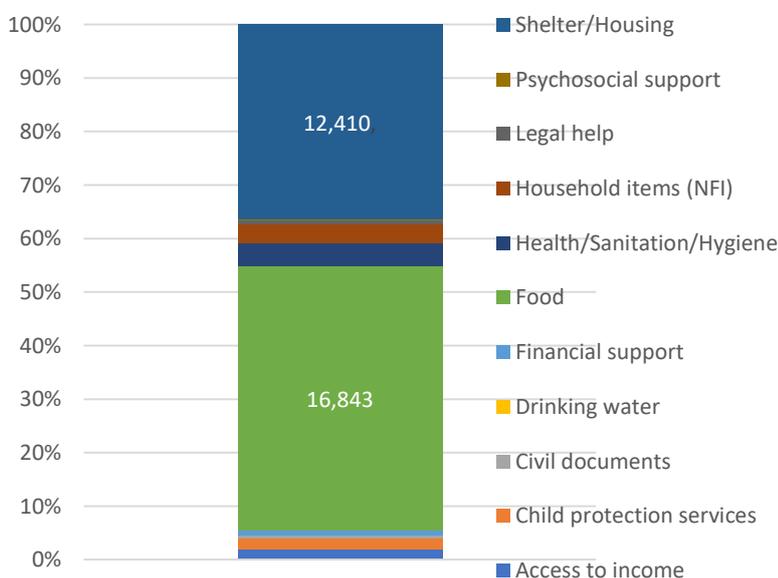
Figure 12: Mode of transport by percentage and number of sites



Primary needs

Key informants were asked to provide information about the primary needs of migrant populations across Yemen. While it is likely that there were multiple urgent needs, the survey used allowed for only one primary need to be recorded. It should also be noted that needs at individual locations will most likely vary based on the demographics and nationalities which make up the migrant population. In addition to the varying needs of different gender and age groups, migrants from different countries are subject to different legal statuses within Yemen and it is believed that this will also affect needs at the individual FMP level.

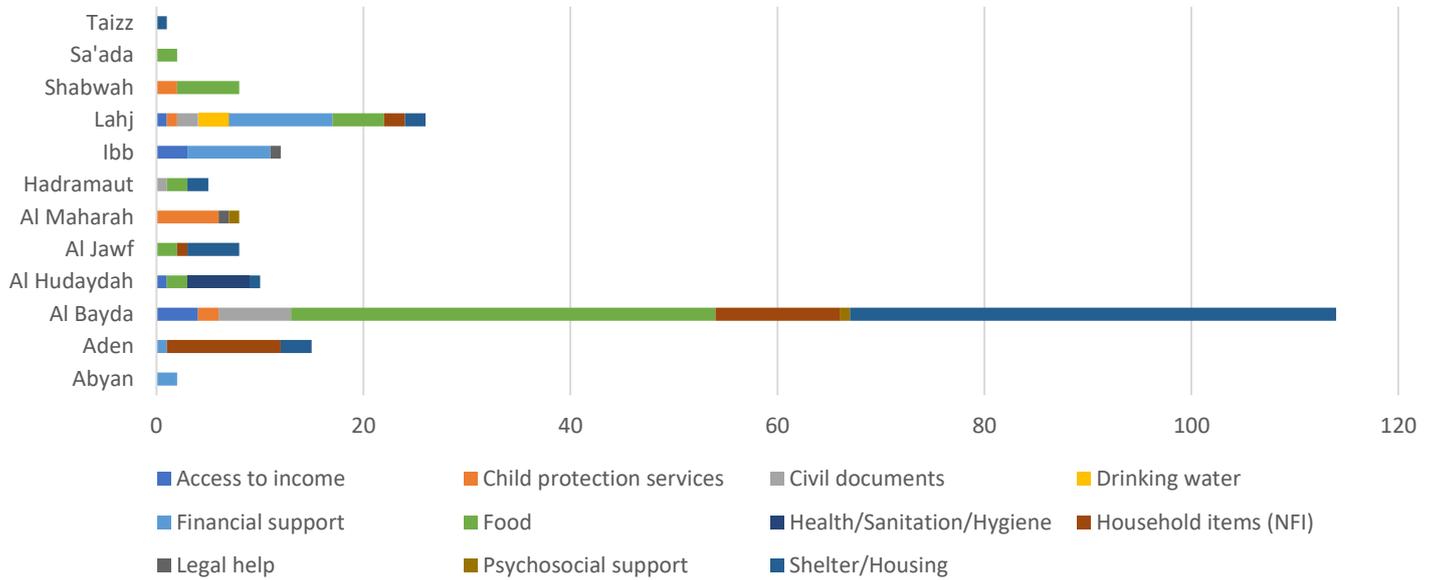
Figure 13: Primary needs by percentage and number of migrants in need



Food was the most urgent need in July with 50% of the estimated population reportedly in need. Shelter and housing was the second most commonly reported need. This is consistent with what was observed in the assessments from March through to June.

Al Bayda Governorate hosted the largest number of sites in need of food and shelter.

Figure 14: Primary needs by governorate and number of sites in need



Methodology

What is flow monitoring?

Flow Monitoring (FM) is a component of IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) which was developed to track the movement flows of groups and individuals through key points of origin, transit locations and destinations. The purpose of Flow Monitoring is to provide regularly updated information on the scale of population flows and profiles of mobile populations on the move (other country nationals and returning Yemenis) through specific locations. The information and analysis provided through the flow monitoring methodology also helps to define shortcomings and priorities in the provision of assistance along the displacement/migratory routes.

The migrant tracking FM exercise in Yemen is intended to provide key insights into the analysis of overall migration trends in Yemen by monitoring incoming and outgoing flows. In addition to this, FM in Yemen tracks changes in the mobility of other country nationals and identify different patterns and types of migration, including estimations for the number of present irregular migrants. The data collected by IOM provides an overview of the situation of conflict-affected migrant populations and their mobility in Yemen from the lowest possible geographical level, exploring areas of congregations, routes, demographics, and vulnerabilities.

DTM experts in the field **identify strategic locations for the establishment of monitoring locations/points** from where data collection will take place. IOM's DTM Yemen team began identifying these locations during the November 2016 round of data collection. DTM migrant FMP teams will collect and analyze data from the selected governorates through monthly rounds of assessments to map and develop baseline information on points of aggregation.

During the **FMP update phase** comprehensive information is collected to understand the general and humanitarian situation at flow monitoring points. The information collected includes location information (administrative levels), populations, and basic humanitarian needs.

Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR) consists in collecting information about the frequency and volume of mobile individuals (other country nationals and returning Yemenis) crossing through a flow monitoring point. Various techniques of Flow Monitoring Registry can be used, depending on the nature and volume of the flows identified.

Yemen DTM teams are conducting **Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS)** with key informants at FMPs. These surveys collect information on the number, demographic breakdown and nationality of migrants at a given location.

Data quality checks are rigorously conducted by the team during the data collection, processing and analysis process. The methodology, as it develops, will employ multi-layered data collection with various levels of granularity to allow for further consistency checks.

Data protection Data Management is governed by IOM Data Protection Principles. For publicly released data (non-personal and non-sensitive), data will be under the Creative Commons Attribution for Intergovernmental Organizations.