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FLOW MONITORING REPORT

THE GAMBIA

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2022

 **IOM**
UN MIGRATION

INTRODUCTION

In order to gain a better understanding of mobility flows and trends throughout West and Central Africa, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) implements the Displacement Tracking Matrix's Flow Monitoring (FM) tool at key transit points across the region.

Flow Monitoring activities are conducted in close cooperation with national and local authorities as well as with local partners. The Flow Monitoring tool consists of two main components: the Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR), which captures key data on the magnitude, origin, destination and mode of travel of mobility flows, and the Flow Monitoring Survey (FMS), for which individual surveys are conducted with travellers to gather detailed information about the profiles, migration experience and intentions of migrants. Through these activities, the Flow Monitoring tool collects data on migration flows and trends, traveller profiles, migration journeys and intentions of migrants in order to obtain a deeper view of mobility in West and Central Africa.

In The Gambia, DTM conducts Flow Monitoring activities at several important transit locations: in 1) **Barra** (FMPs are located at the ferry terminal and the main garage); 2) **Farafenni** (FMPs are located at Farafenni main garage, Farafenni Ballan-Ghar garage, Farafenni McCarthy and Sanjally garage, Farafenni turntable garage and the truck garage); 3) **Basse** (FMPs are situated at the main garage and the bus station in Basse Santa-Su) and 4) **Brikama** (FMPs are located at the main garage and the Bus station). This activities enable DTM to monitor the movements of passenger within The Gambia, out of and towards TheGambia as well as transiting The Gambia.

This report presents the key results from the Flow Monitoring Survey conducted with travellers between **1st October to 16th December 2022**. The report presents data collected on flows, routes, provenance, destination and demographic profiles of travellers observed at the FMPs.

Additional information on Flow Monitoring methodology is available on the last page.

KEY FIGURES



4 FMPs in The Gambia



3,546 travellers observed daily



5,383 individual surveys conducted



48% Male



52% Female



40% of travellers migrated to join family members



28% of travellers migrated for economic reasons



27% of travellers were self-employed at the time of travel



53% of travellers completed secondary school

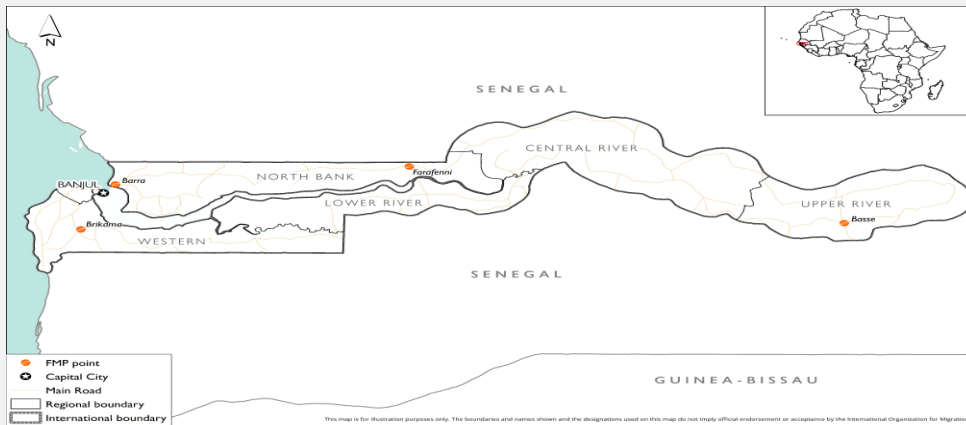
TRAVELLER PROFILES AND MOBILITY TRENDS

Migration trends: During the period October to December, an average of 3,546 travellers were observed daily across all the flow monitoring points. This marks a 12 per cent increase from the previous period. Basse registered the highest daily average number of travellers, followed by Brikama, Barra while the lowest was observed in Farafenni. The resumption of school in October after the summer holidays and some religious celebrations can be attributed to this increase.

Type of flow: Of the travelers observed during the period under reporting, (91%) were internal travellers, (7%) were outgoing travellers to mainly Senegal while incoming travellers accounted for (2%).

Profiles of travelers: Of the number of travellers surveyed, (89%) adults of which (44%) women. Children accounted for (11%) out of which (6%) were girls. The travellers were mostly of Gambian nationality (93%) followed by Senegalese nationality (5%) with Guinea and Nigeria (1%) each.

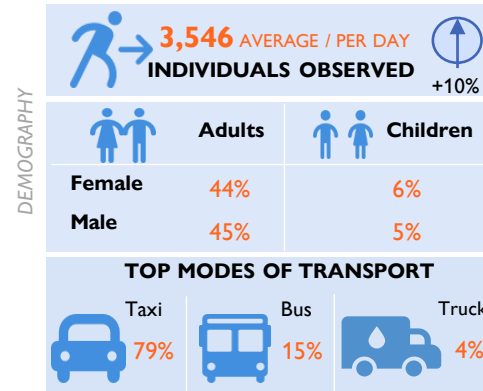
Origin and destination: During this period, travellers came mainly from The Gambia (98%) and Senegal (2%) with the main destination countries being The Gambia (94%) and Senegal (6%). Travellers departed mainly from Basse (29%), Brikama (28%), Barra (22%) and Farafenni (10%). The main destination cities were Serekunda (26%), Farafenni (10%), Barra (5%), Banjul (4%) and Brusubi (5%). The main means of transportation were taxi or car (79%), bus (15%) and truck (4%) and others including motorbike.



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DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

(Obtained through direct observation and through interviews with passengers and drivers)



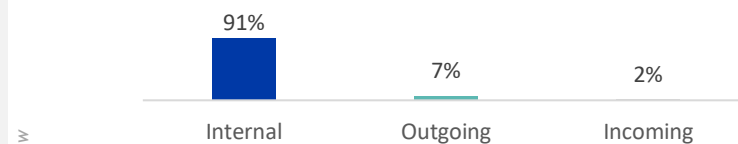
ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF FLOW

Origin of flow	
Country	% of flow
Gambia	98%
Senegal	2%

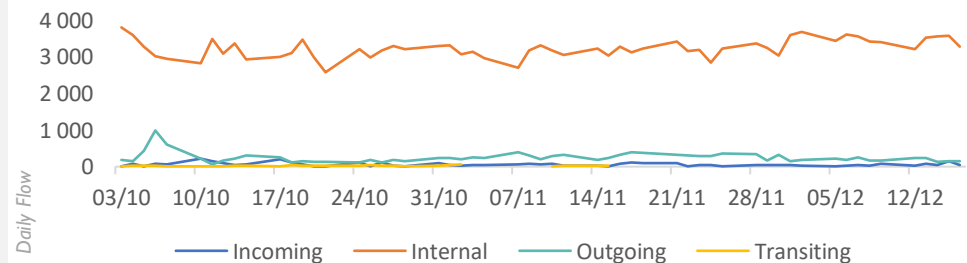
Destination of flow	
Country	% of flow
Gambia	94%
Senegal	6%



DIRECTION AND TYPE OF FLOW



EVOLUTION OF FLOWS RECORDED AT ALL FMPs



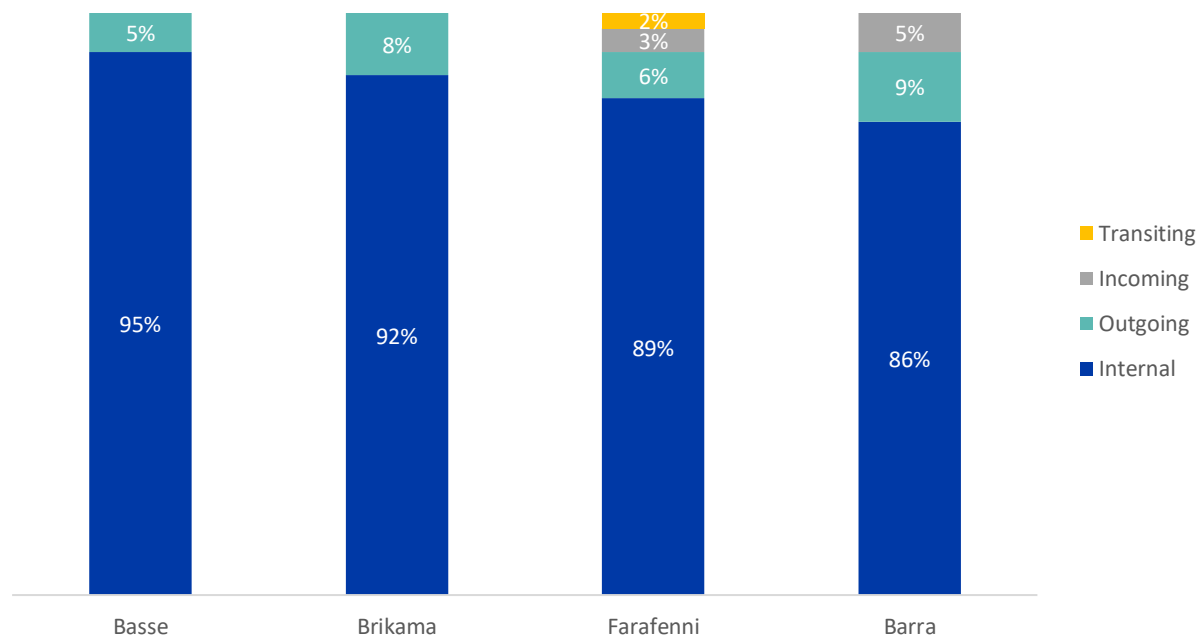
LOCATION AND MONTHLY EVOLUTION OF FLOWS

Location: The FMPs at the data collection were during the period October to December level Basse, located in the Upper River Region (URR) of the country recorded the largest number of flows 61304 individuals observed or (31%), Brikama in the Western Coast Region (WCR) of the country recorded 56227 travelers or (29%) flows and Barra in the North Bank Region (NBR) recorded 47045 (24%) and the lowest flow was recorded in Farafenni, also located in the North Bank Region (NBR) of the country with 30466 (16%).

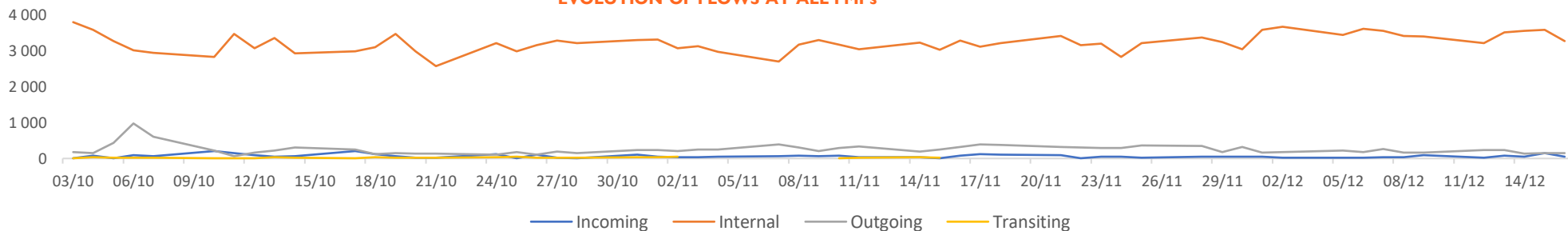
Internal flows accounted for the majority of the recorded movements across all FMPs with highest recorded at Basse. A good percentage of outgoing movements were observed across all the FMPs as well during this period. Barra and Farafenni are the only FMPs that observed incoming flows from mainly Senegal through the Amdalai and Keur Ayib border posts. This could be attributed to both FMPs being key transits points for travellers moving between the two countries. Transiting flows accounted for a very small proportion of recorded flows with Farafenni FMP the only location to record transiting travellers. Farafenni has long been a transit route that provides a link between northern and southern Senegal, Casamance via the Senegambia bridge.

Types of flows by FMP: Basse FMP observed the highest internal movement at 95 per cent, followed by Brikama at 92 per cent, Farafenni 89 per cent and Barra 86 per cent. Outgoing movement were the highest in Barra at 9 per cent, Brikama 8 percent, followed by Farafenni 6 per cent and Basse 5 per cent. For travellers entering The Gambia, only Barra and Farafenni FMPs recorded 5 per cent and 3 per cent of incoming flows, respectively. Transiting flows were only observed at Farafenni FMP, accounting for 2 per cent of the recorded flows

FLOW TYPES OBSERVED AT FMPs FROM OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2022



EVOLUTION OF FLOWS AT ALL FMPs



TRAVELLER PROFILES AND MOBILITY TRENDS

Presentation of FMP: The Barra Flow Monitoring Point (FMP) was set up in June 2021 covering two main points: the ferry terminal and the main garage. The FMP links to Nuimi and Badibou which are all within the North Bank Region of the Gambia and as well as Karang border post in Senegal. Internal, outgoing, and incoming flows were observed at this FMP.

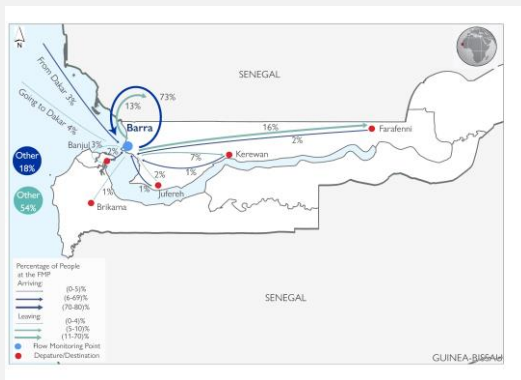
Mobility trends: Over the reporting period, July to September 2022, Barra FMP saw 855 average daily travellers marking a 4 per cent decrease compared to the previous report. The commemoration of Prophet Muhammad's birthday, resumption of school after the holidays were major factors in the increase in travellers during this period compared to the previous quarter.

Type of flow: There was 86 per cent internal flows, 9 per cent outgoing flows and 5 per cent incoming flows at Barra FMP during the reporting period.

Profiles of travelers: Of the number of travellers surveyed at Barra FMP, (89%) were adults including (45%) women and (11%) were children with (6%) girls.

Origin and destination: Of the travellers observed at Barra FMP during this reporting period, 95 per cent started their journey in The Gambia and 5 per cent in Senegal. The main cities of origin of travellers are Barra (73%), Kanifing (5%), Amdalai (3%), Dakar (3%), Farafenni (2%) and Banjul (2%). On the destination of travellers, The Gambia accounted for (90%) and Senegal (10%). The main destination cities were Farafenni (16%), Barra (13%), Kerewan (7%), Amdalai (7%), Dakar (4%) and Banjul (3%). The "Gamo" in celebration of Prophet Muhammad's birthday saw an increase in the number of outgoing flows to Senegal.

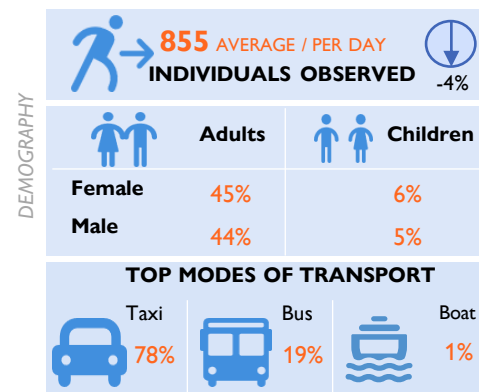
The mode of transportation mostly used was taxi (78%), bus (19%), boat (1%) and others (2%). Barra is the only FMP where travellers are able to arrive and depart by boat (ferry service).



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DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

(Obtained through direct observation and through interviews with passengers and drivers)



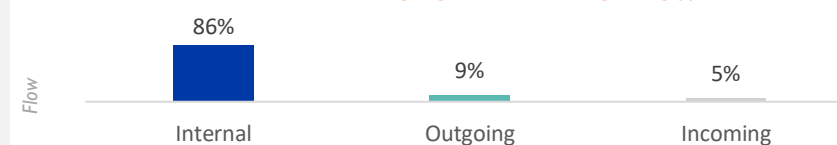
ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF FLOW

Origin of flow	
Country	% of flow
Gambia	95%
Senegal	5%

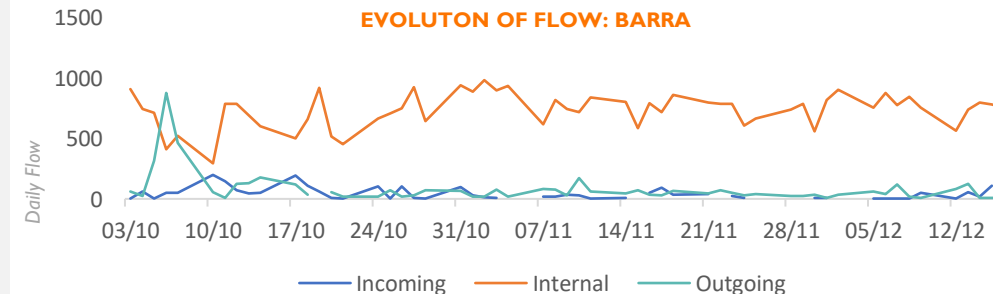
Destination of flow	
Country	% of flow
Gambia	90%
Senegal	10%



DIRECTION AND TYPE OF FLOW



EVOLUTION OF FLOW: BARRA



TRAVELLER PROFILES AND MOBILITY TRENDS

Presentation of FMP: The Basse FMP was set up in June 2021 covering the part of provincial Gambia in the Upper River Region. The FMP has two major transit points namely: the main garage and the bus station, both located in Basse Santa-Su. Both points are linked to the Western and Eastern parts of the region and to the greater Banjul area. The locations are also linked with neighbouring Senegal and further on to Guinea and Mali.

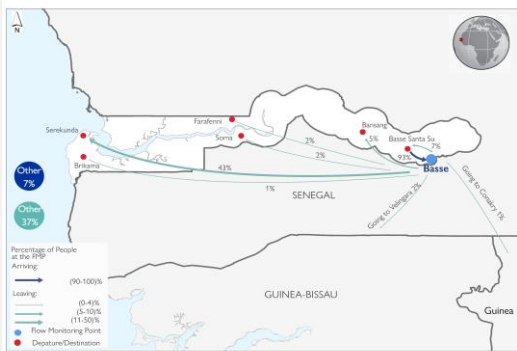
Mobility trends: Over the reporting period, Basse FMP saw 1115 average daily travellers, the largest recorded at all FMPs and an increase of 20 per cent compared to the previous period. Increased commercial and political activities occurred during this period around Basse region resulting in the increase in flows.

Type of flow: In Basse FMP, (97%) of travellers observed were moving internally while (3%) were outgoing travellers leaving The Gambia to Senegal (2%) and Guinea (1%).

Profiles of travelers: While (88%) of travellers surveyed at Basse FMP were adults with (42%) being women, (12%) were children of which (6%) are girls.

Origin and destination: From July to September, the country from which travellers travelled from in Basse FMP is The Gambia (100%). The main city of origin is Basse Santa-su (93%) with others including a few satellite such as Dampha Kunda, Fatoto, Garawol, Koina and Kulari accounting for the remaining shares. Travellers from Basse were primarily travelling within Gambia (97%), followed by Senegal (2%) and Guinea (1%). The main destination cities for travellers leaving Basse are Serrekunda (43%), Basse Santa-su (7%), Bansang (5%) and Gambisara (5%). Travellers with destinations outside The Gambia headed mainly to Velingara in Senegal (2%) and Conakry in Guinea (1%).

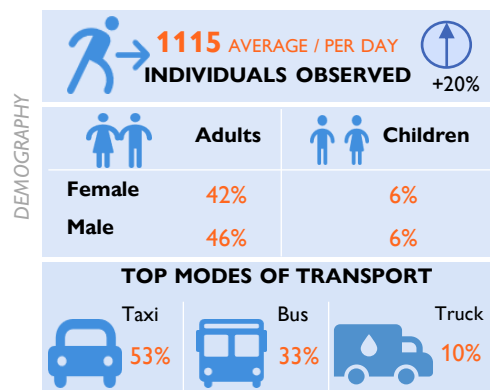
The most popular modes of transportation were taxi (53%), bus (33%), truck (10%) and three-wheel (3%).



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DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

(Obtained through direct observation and through interviews with passengers and drivers)

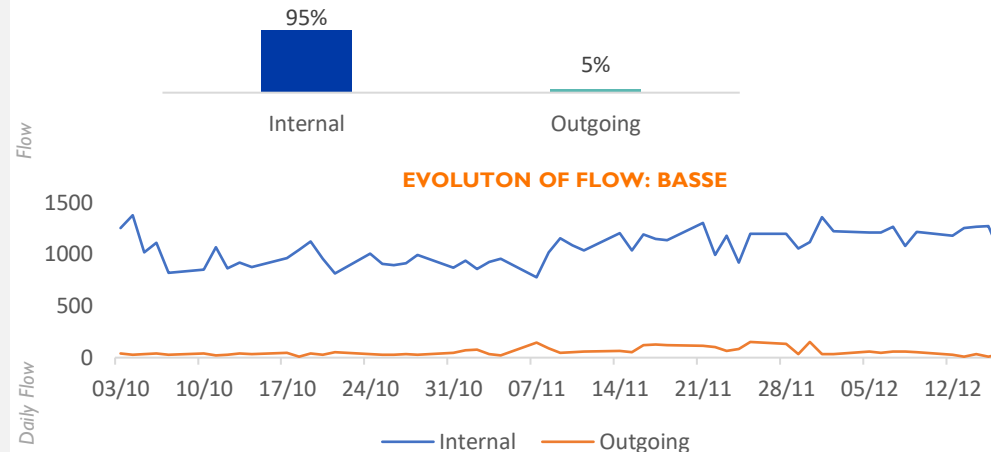


ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF FLOW

Origin of flow	
Country	% of flow
Gambia	100%

Destination of flow	
Country	% of flow
Gambia	97%
Senegal	2%
Guinea	1%

DIRECTION AND TYPE OF FLOW



TRAVELLER PROFILES AND MOBILITY TRENDS

Presentation of FMP: The Brikama FMP was set up in June 2021 and started data collection in June 2021, covering two locations: the main garage and the bus station, both of which are in Brikama Nema. It links to more than four major destination regions: the North Bank, West Coast, Lower River, and Greater Banjul Area. It also offers link to the Jiboro/Seleti border post to Casamance, Senegal.

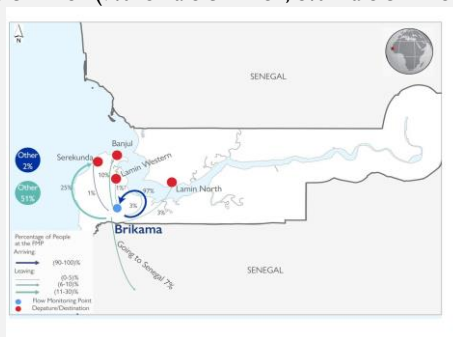
Mobility trends: Over the reporting period, at the Brikama FMP, on average of 1022 individual, an increase of 12 per cent were observed daily representing the second highest daily average movement at FMP level. Resumption of schools after the summer break is the main factor linked to the increase in travellers.

Types of flows: The internal movements account for the major part of the flows observed at Brikama FMP (91%) followed by outgoing flows (7%) and incoming flows at (2%).

Departure/Origin and destination: During the collection period, the main country from which individuals travelled from was The Gambia (100%) of which (91%) per cent originated from Brikama and others places including Serekunda (3%). The main destination cities were Serrekunda (45%), Brusubi (17%), Banjul (10%), Latrikunda Sabiji (6%), Coastal Road (4%), Brikama (3%) and Lamin (3%) among others. Travellers leaving The Gambia (outflow) were mainly headed to Senegal (7%) with the main destination cities Seleti (4%) and Kafountine (2%).

The mode of transportation observed for all travellers was car or taxi (100%).

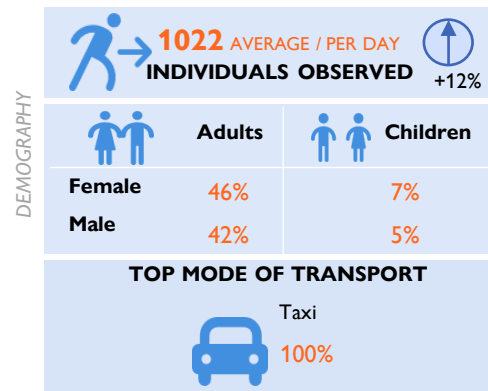
Traveller profiles: While 46 per cent of travellers were adult female, 42 per cent were adult male and 12 per cent were children (7% female children, 5% male children).



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DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

(Obtained through direct observation and through interviews with passengers and drivers)



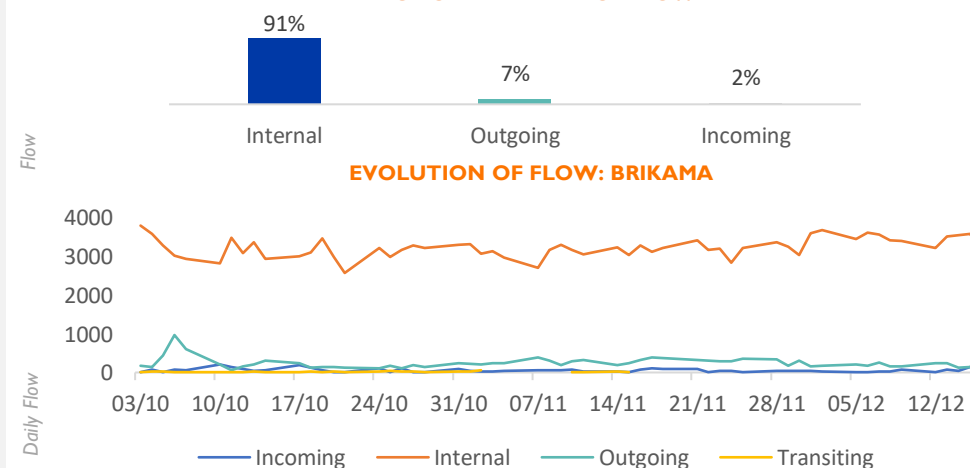
ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF FLOW

Origin of flow	
Country	% of flow
Gambia	100%

Destination of flow	
Country	% of flow
Gambia	93%
Senegal	7%



DIRECTION AND TYPE OF FLOW



TRAVELLER PROFILES AND MOBILITY TRENDS

Presentation of FMP: The Farafenni FMP was set up in June 2021. The Flow Monitoring Point is a multi-dynamic location as it is found in a multi-cultural setting, populated by different nationalities and serves as a business and transit centre, and very close to Senegal. The FMP has five main points with a high density of movement namely: Farafenni main garage, Farafenni Ballan-Ghar garage, Farafenni McCarthy and Sanjally garage, Farafenni turntable garage and the truck garage

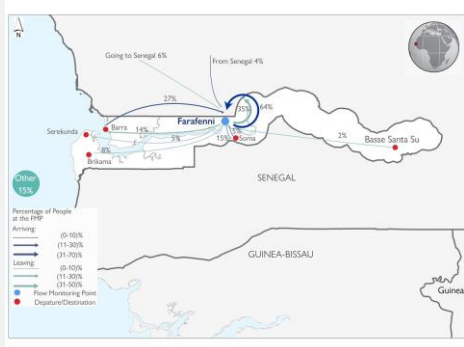
Mobility trends: The daily average travellers at Farafenni during this period was 554, the lowest across all FMPs. The increase during this period is linked to resumption of schools and cross-border religious activities.

Types of flows: The internal movements account for the major part of the flows at (89%), outgoing flows (6%) while incoming flows were (3%) and transiting flows (2%).

Departure/Origin and destination: The main country from which individuals travelled was The Gambia (96%) and Senegal (4%). While the majority of the travellers started their journey in Farafenni (64%), Barra followed with (27%), Soma (5%) and from Poste in Senegal (2%). The main destination countries were The Gambia (94%) and Senegal (6%) with the main destination cities Farafenni (35%), Soma (15%), Barra (14%), Brikama (8%) and Serekunda (5%). Travellers leaving The Gambia (outflow) were mainly headed to Poste in Senegal (3%).

The most popular mode of travel was by care or taxi (95%), three-wheel (2%), truck (1%), motorbike (1%) and others (1%).

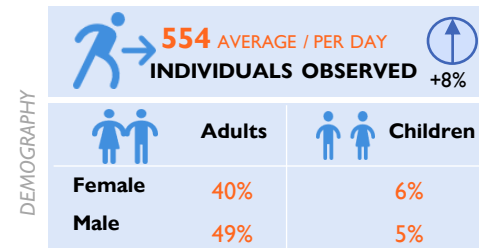
Traveller profiles: Of the total number of travellers observed, (49%) were adult male and (40%) were adult female. Children were and (11%) with 6 per cent being female and 5 per cent male.



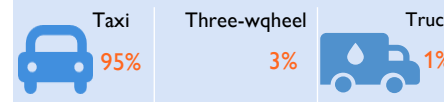
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DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

(Obtained through direct observation and through interviews with passengers and drivers)



TOP MODES OF TRANSPORT



Percentage point change compared to the first quarter

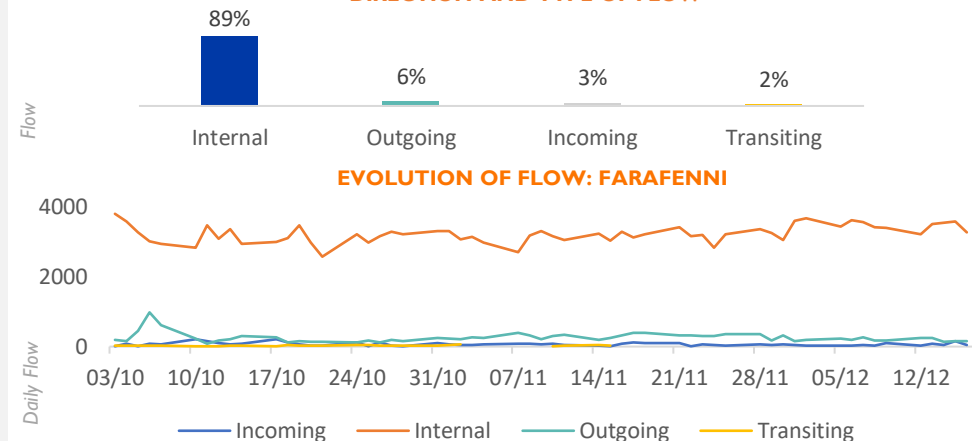


ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF FLOW

Origin of flow	
Country	% of flow
Gambia	96%
Senegal	4%

Destination of flow	
Country	% of flow
Gambia	94%
Senegal	6%

DIRECTION AND TYPE OF FLOW



MIGRATION JOURNEY

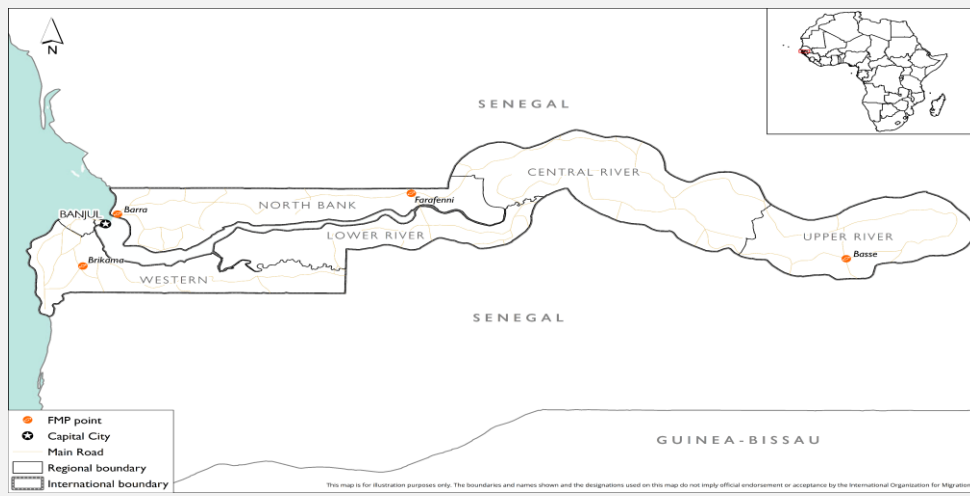
Introduction: Between October and 16th December 2022, 5,383 Flow Monitoring Surveys were conducted at the four Flow Monitoring Points (Brikama, Barra, Farafenni and Basse.) in The Gambia.

Number of surveys by FMP: The largest number of surveys were conducted at Brikama (27%). FMPs. Brikama reported high number of travelers because it is one of the biggest commercial cities in The Gambia, and the second largest city in terms of population. Barra reported 27%, as a main transit center for people travelling to the North Bank Region of The Gambia and Senegal, followed by Farafenni (23%) and Basse (22%) despite recording the highest number of travellers.

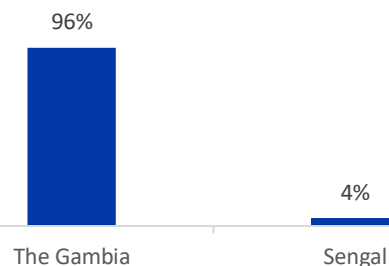
Country of departure and destination: The majority of surveyed travellers began their journeys from The Gambia (96%) and Senegal (4%). The main destination countries were The Gambia (94%) and Senegal (6%). This again highlights that majority of the travellers were migrating internally within The Gambia or engaged in crossborder movements between The Gambia and Senegal, further reflecting the significant commercial and social ties that exists between the two countries.

Reasons for travel: The main reasons for travel for the vast majority of surveyed travellers was for marriage and/or to reunite with family (40%). This is followed by travel for economic reasons (28%), educational purposes (18%), while others were travelling for access to health service such as meeting specialist amongst others. The survey also showed that most of the travellers go to The Gambia and Senegal for social activities (marriage and naming ceremonies, funerals etc.) and for economic activities (petty trading, construction, domestic work, etc.). This period also saw travellers moving both internally and towards Senegal for celebration of the Prophet Muhammad's birthday locally known as "Gamo", across villages, town and cities in the two countries.

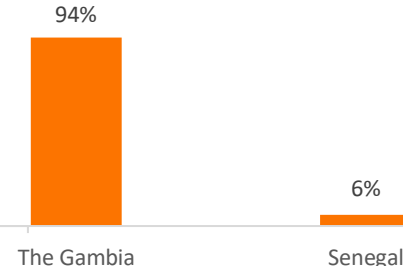
Location of Flow Monitoring Points in The Gambia



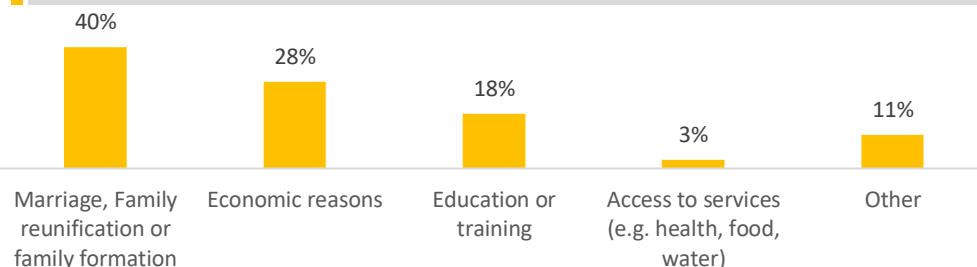
MAIN COUNTRIES OF DEPARTURE



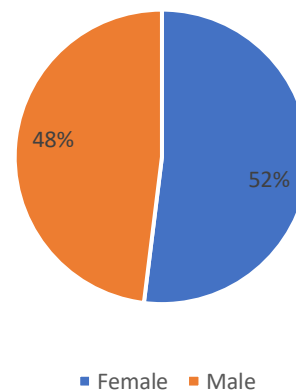
MAIN COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION



PRIMARY REASONS FOR TRAVEL

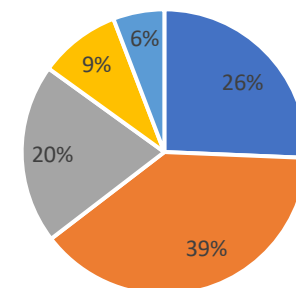


SEX OF INTERVIEWEE

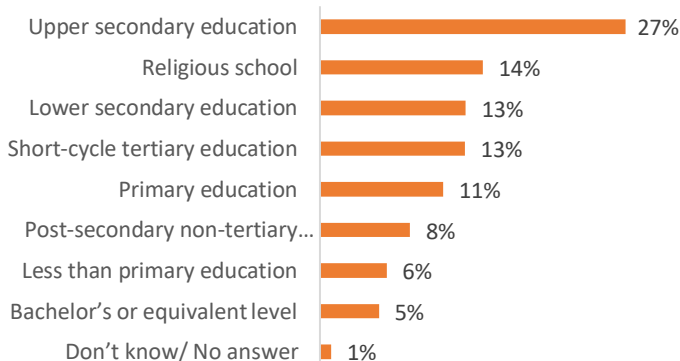
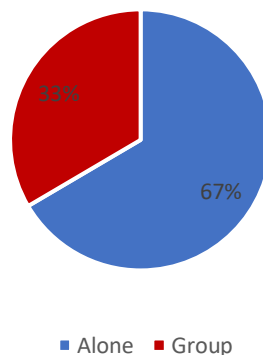
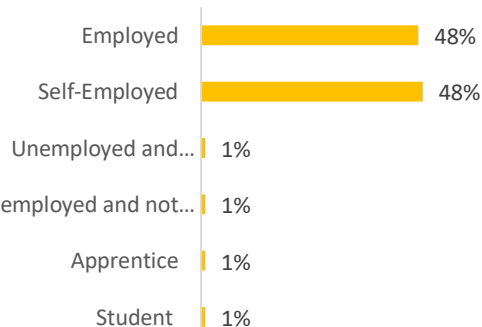
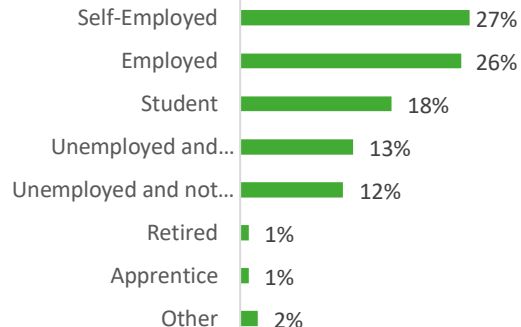


AGES

- 14 to 25 years
- 26 to 35 years
- 36 to 45 years
- 46 to 55 years
- >55 years



FIELD OF WORK

EDUCATION LEVEL

TYPE OF TRAVEL

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS PRIOR TO MIGRATION

CURRENT OCCUPATIONAL STATUS

NATIONALITY

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE AND NATIONALITY

Nationality: The majority of surveyed travellers were Gambian nationals (90%). Senegalese nationals form the second largest (7%), then Guinean (1%) and other nationalities (2%).

Occupational status (prior to travel and current): Prior to starting their migration journey, (48%) were self-employed and another (48%) were employed. Unemployed travellers looking for a job were (1%) while unemployed and not looking for a job stood at (1%) as well. Apprentice and student were (1%) each.

At the time of the survey, however, the most common occupational statuses of travellers were self-employed at (27%), employed (26%), student (18%), unemployed and looking for a job (13%) and unemployed and not looking for a job (12%). The difference in occupational statuses before travel and at the time of the survey show that more than half (53%) of the travellers were employed in the process of migration. Almost equal number of travellers were either employed or self-employed at the time of travel. The occupational status of employed and self-employed travellers before and during travel didn't show significant change. The survey also highlighted that the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak still continues to affect business.

Field of work: The largest group of those surveyed worked in the professional field (23%) and closely followed by agricultural field sector workers at (20%). Surveyed travellers with elementary occupation accounted for (13%), services and sales workers (6%) and plant and machine operators (6%) among others. Other fields of work accounted for (18%) of the surveyed travellers.

Education level: The largest number of migrants completed secondary school with (27%) of the total. Religious education follows with (14%) and lower secondary (13%). Tertiary education represented (13%), primary (11%), post-secondary (8%) and less than primary (6%). Bachelor's education was completed by only (6%) of the surveyed travellers. Additionally, of those surveyed, (6%) either said they do not know their education level or declined to answer.

INTRODUCTION: Flow Monitoring, a tool of IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), was set up to provide a better understanding and an overview of mobility through West and Central Africa, through the collection of key data on the magnitude, provenance and destination and profiles of flows in areas of high mobility throughout the region. In November 2020, IOM The Gambia officially launched DTM through a national consultative process in coordination with The Gambia Bureau of Statistics. During the launching four (4) FMPs were identified, namely: Barra, Basse, Farafenni, and Brikama, which was followed by a regional consultation, in the identified FMPs. In June 2021, IOM The Gambia officially recruited and trained 15 enumerators and deployed them to the respective FMPs.

METHODOLOGY: Flow Monitoring is a data collection activity which seeks to gather key information on mobility. It begins by identifying regions of large mobility flows and highlighting the characteristics and journeys of travellers in these regions. Areas of high mobility are identified with the help of national authorities. DTM teams, with the support of local authorities and partners, then identify strategic points of transit, at which Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) are set up. At each FMP, DTM conducts two main activities: Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR) and Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS).

The **FMR** done for this report collects data at FMP through direct observation and interviews with key FMPs informants, including drivers, local authorities, garage chiefs and travellers. The FMR gathered data on the number of travellers crossing FMPs, as well as the provenance, next destination, and means of transport of travellers.

At each of the four FMPs, data was collected by a team of at least three enumerators. Data collection was carried out daily, between 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. This corresponds to the peak hours of mobility. Enumerators collect data via a form filled out using information provided by key informants or gathered through direct observation.

The purpose of the **FMS** is to collect detailed information on the profiles, migration journeys, vulnerabilities and intentions of migrants. Data is collected through interviews with a random sample of travellers. Migrant interviews are conducted daily with a randomly chosen sample of travellers crossing FMPs.

LIMITS: Since data collection under Flow Monitoring activities is conducted by direct observation and between 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, the data are not representative of all migration flows in the country. They only reflect the situation observed or surveyed individuals and cannot be generalized. While data is collected daily, Flow Monitoring activities do not capture all flows transiting through FMPs. Data on vulnerability is based on direct observation and should be understood as mainly indicative. Data collected for these exercises should be understood as estimations only. IOM does not make any warranties or representations as the appropriateness, reliability, timeliness, accuracy or completeness of the data included in this report.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, IOM has adapted its data collection methods in the field by implementing preventing risk mitigation in data collection. The data enumerators have been trained to observe the COVID-19 precautionary protocols given by the World Health Organization (WHO) and Ministry of Health (MoH). The Gambia. These protocols include but are not limited to wearing face masks covering the nose and mouth, physical distancing of at least two metres, washing hands regularly or using of alcohol-based hand sanitizer, etc.

DEFINITIONS:

Flow Monitoring Point: Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) are points set up by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix in high mobility areas in each country covered (near borders or main travel routes)

Incoming flow: Refers to migrants who arrive at a Flow Monitoring Point with the intention of travelling further into The Gambia.

Outgoing flow: refers to migrants who arrive at a Flow Monitoring Point with the intention of travelling out of the Gambia

Internal flow: refers to migrants who are conducting a movement within the boundaries of a single country.

Migrant: An umbrella term, not defined under international law, reflecting the common lay understanding of a person who moves away from his or her place of usual residence, whether within a country or across an international border, temporarily or permanently, and for a variety of reasons.

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The maps displayed in this report are for illustration purposes only. The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names and related data shown on maps and included in this report are not warranted to be error free nor do they imply judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries by IOM.