

MIGRATION FLOWS TRENDS DASHBOARD FEBRUARY 2023

20,237 migration movements observed,¹ including **19%** at the Obock Flow Monitoring Point (FMP)

-16%² movements compared to January 2023

13,146 migrant flows from Ethiopia

493 spontaneous returns from Yemen³

13 exits to Ethiopia

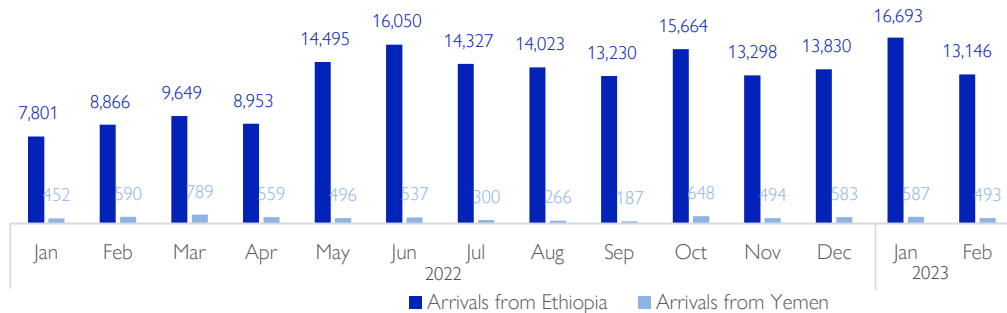
733 stranded migrants in Djibouti as of 23 February 2023⁴

OVERVIEW

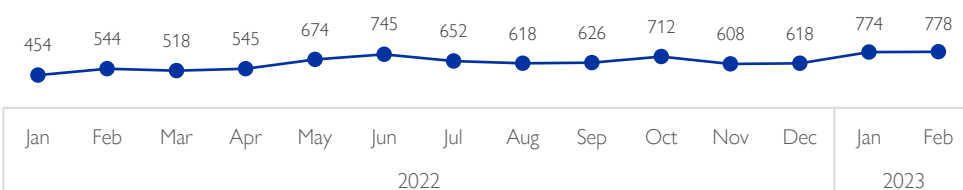
In February 2023, 20,237 migratory movements were observed at flow monitoring points (FMP) in Djibouti with a daily average of 778 migratory movements. The migratory flows observed on all the FMPs decreased by 16% compared to January 2023 during which 24,001 movements were recorded.

In February, migrant flows were significant at the FMP level in Obock (19%), Tadjourah (15%), Ali-Sabieh (14%) and Yoboki (13%). Across all FMPs, the daily average increased from 774 to 778 daily movements compared to the previous month. This could be related to the traditional seasonal migration at the start of the fasting month of Ramadan. Migrants mainly from Ethiopia cross the regions of Dikhil (36%) and Ali Sabieh (19%) through the regions of Tadjourah (25%) and Obock (19%) towards the Arabian Peninsula.

MIGRATORY FLOWS ARRIVING IN DJIBOUTI SINCE 2022



AVERAGE DAILY MOVEMENTS OBSERVED AT FMPs SINCE 2022



¹As of March 2022, the movements of Djiboutian nationals (transiting, leaving or returning to the country) are included in the data except for internal movements.

²The decrease is related to the 4 to 5 days stoppage of data collection of enumerators invited to Djibouti for a capacity building session on the FMP data collection approach.

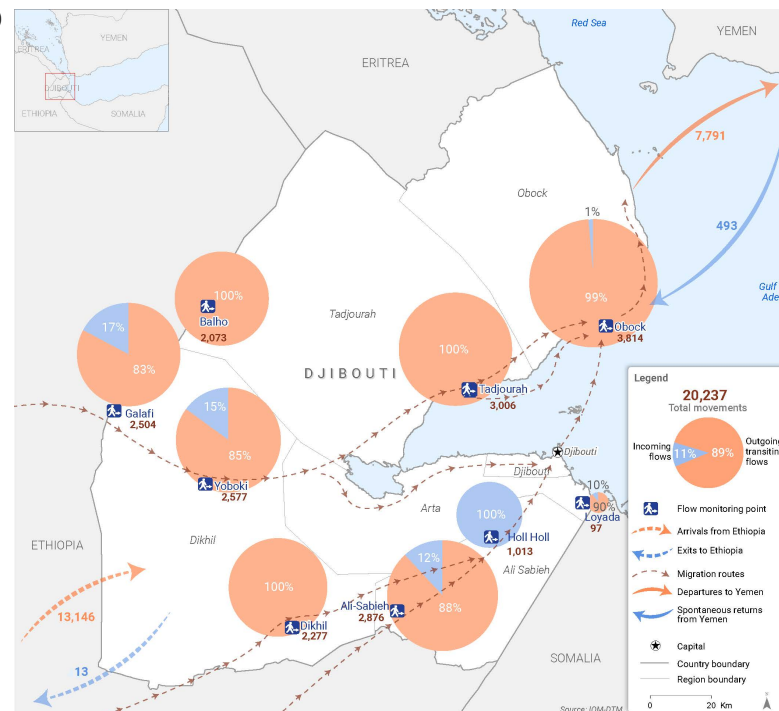
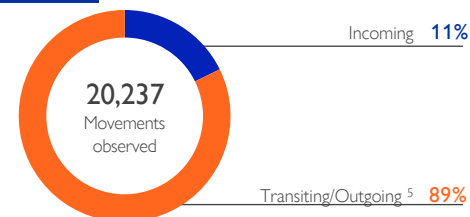
³The data on returns from Yemen were collected through key informants.

⁴Information on the definition and methodology for counting stranded migrants in Djibouti is available on the last page of this Dashboard.

⁵In the framework of this report, incoming flows only include flows coming from a country other than Djibouti and headed to Djibouti. Outgoing flows cover the flows departing from Djibouti to reach another country, while transiting flows are those which pass through Djibouti, but whose departure and final destination countries are different from Djibouti.

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TYPE OF FLOWS



Disclaimer: This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

MIGRATION MOVEMENTS FROM ETHIOPIA

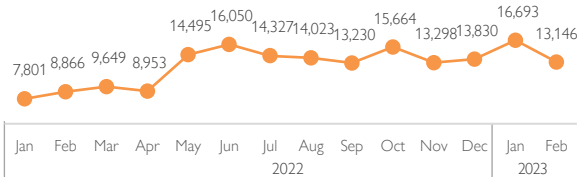
180,085

Arrivals from Ethiopia since 2022

13,146

Arrivals from Ethiopia in February 2023

ARRIVALS FROM ETHIOPIA SINCE 2022

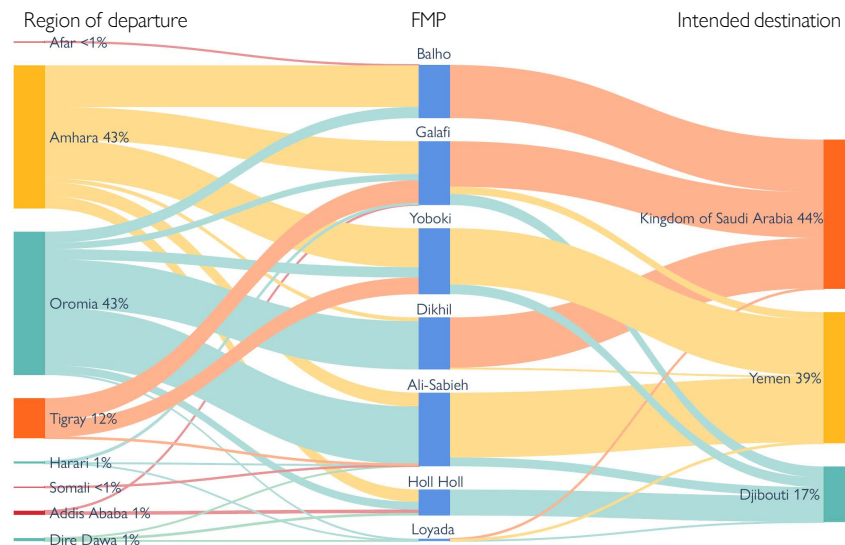


In February 2023, the FMPs observed 13,146 arrivals from Ethiopia, a decrease of 21% compared to January 2023. This could be attributed to the stoppage of data collection activities at the FMP level due to the participation of enumerators at the capacity building session on data collection in Djibouti.

In February, more than half of the movements of migrants observed from Ethiopia (54%) passed through the Dikhil region, in particular through the FMPs of Dikhil, Yoboki and Galafi, 30% through the FMPs of Ali-Sabieh and Holl Holl in the Ali-Sabieh region, 16% through the FMPs of Balho and Tadjourah in the Tadjourah region and 1% through the FMP of Loyada in the Arta region.

The main regions of departure for migrants from Ethiopia were Oromia (43%), followed by Amhara (43%) and Tigray (12%). Most migrants intended to reach the Arabian Peninsula, mainly in Saudi Arabia (44%) and Yemen (39%), while 17% had Djibouti as their destination country.

ARRIVALS FROM ETHIOPIA IN FEBRUARY 2023 BY REGION OF DEPARTURE AND INTENDED DESTINATION



RETURNS FROM YEMEN

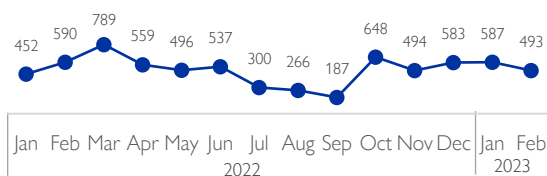
6,981

Returns from Yemen since 2022

493

Returns from Yemen in February 2023

RETURNS FROM YEMEN SINCE 2022



Male • 92%



Female • 8%

In Obock, the coastal region of Djibouti where migrants cross the Gulf of Aden to the Arabian Peninsula via the eastern route, spontaneous returns of Ethiopian migrants from Yemen continue to be observed. In February 2023, 493 returns were recorded, a decrease of 16% compared to January 2023.

In addition, according to the DTM in Yemen, 7,791 migrants from the Obock region arrived in Yemen in February 2023, which represents a decrease of 1% compared to January 2023 (7,904). This decrease can be explained by the difficulties encountered by the migrants during their journey since several of them were reported stranded in Djibouti without money after the smugglers abandoned them.

EXITS TO ETHIOPIA ⁵

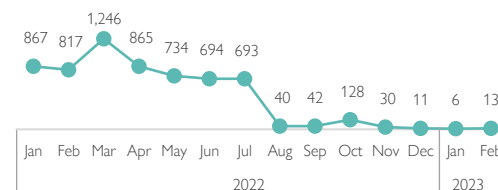
6,186

Exits to Ethiopia since 2022

13

Exits to Ethiopia in February 2023

EXITS TO ETHIOPIA SINCE 2022



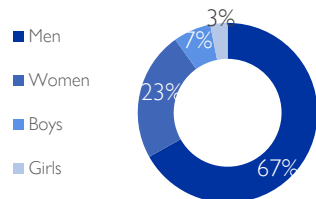
⁵ It should be kept in mind that the means of transport used by Ethiopian migrants vary; while most of them move from Obock to Ali-Sabieh on foot, the majority of Tigrayan migrants returning from Yemen cross the border at Balho and Galafi by car or by bus, which makes it more difficult to record their movements.

Since 2022, 6,186 exits to Ethiopia have been recorded. However, these numbers have seen a steady decline since March 2022 (1,246) and a steep decline since July 2022 (693). With the exception of October (128), migrant outflows to Ethiopia hardly exceeded 50, while December (11) recorded the lowest number of the year 2022. In February, 13 outflows were observed.

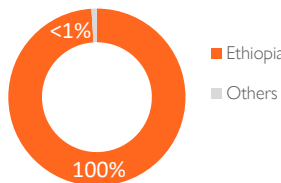
All migrants who headed to Ethiopia in February 2023 were identified in the Dikhil region and were heading to the Oromia region.

DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE

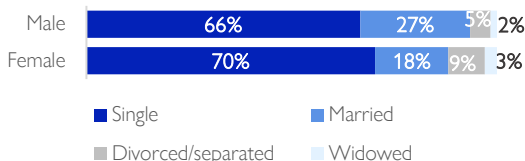
SEX AND AGE GROUP



NATIONALITIES



MARITAL STATUS, BY SEX



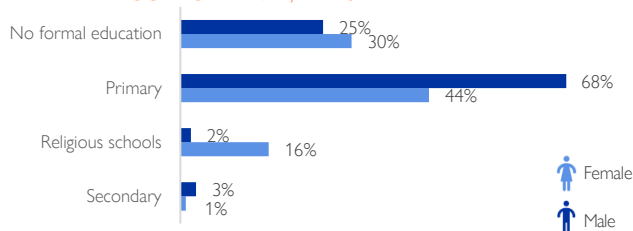
In February, most of the migrants identified in the FMPs were adults (67% men and 23% women), while 10% were children (7% boys and 3% girls). All of them (100%) were Ethiopian nationals.

Of the 422 respondents (76% men and 24% women) to the Flow Monitoring Surveys (FMS), more than half were single (67%), while 24% were married (including 27% men and 18% women), 6% divorced or separated and 2% are widowed.

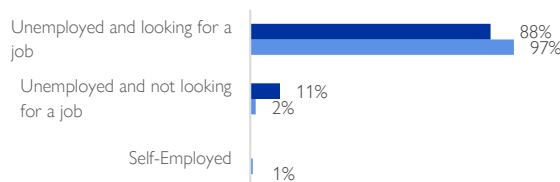
Moreover, more than half of the migrants surveyed (63%) had received a primary education (including 44% of women) and 27% had received no formal education (including 25% of men and 30% of women). It should also be noted that more than one woman in ten (16%) has attended a religious school.

Moreover, most of the migrant women interviewed (97%) were unemployed and looking for work.

EDUCATION LEVEL, BY SEX



PROFESSIONAL STATUS, BY SEX

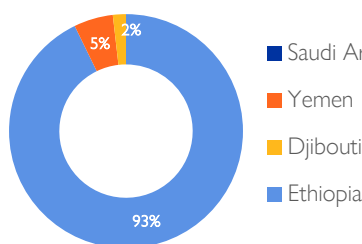


TRAVEL CHARACTERISTICS

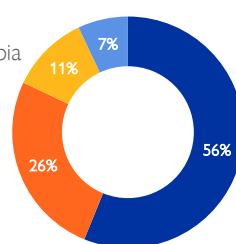
In February, most individuals identified at the FMPs level had departed from Ethiopia (93%), Yemen (5%) or Djibouti (2%). Most of the migrants observed intended to reach the Arabian Peninsula (56% to Saudi Arabia and 26% to Yemen). The migrants observed traveled mainly for economic reasons (82%) and on foot (59%).

In addition, of the 422 people questioned via the FMS, 80% declared having encountered difficulties during their journey. Male migrants are more likely to encounter or report difficulties (86%) than female migrants (62%). The most recurrent challenges mentioned were lack of shelter (81%) and lack of food and water (72%). More than a quarter of respondents who encountered difficulties while traveling also reported financial hardship (29%), while others reported physical abuse (28%).

DEPARTURE COUNTRIES



INTENDED DESTINATIONS



REASON FOR TRAVEL



MEANS OF TRANSPORT



MIGRANTS STRANDED IN DJIBOUTI

733

Migrants stranded in Djibouti as of 23 February 2023



4

Informal sites



Several migrants transiting through Djibouti on their way to or returning from the Arabian Peninsula remain stranded in Djibouti, mainly due to the lack of resources to continue their migratory journey. These migrants find themselves stranded in informal sites along the eastern route in Djibouti, where they have little or no access to basic services and are exposed to protection risks. Their priority needs are access to drinking water, food, hygiene kits and non-food items.

As of February 23, 2023, 733 migrants were stranded in 4 informal sites. Half of the migrants were in Obock (45%), followed by those in Tadjourah (30%), Ali-Sabieh (15%) and Dikhil (11%).

DTM in Djibouti

IOM works in collaboration with the Government of Djibouti to better understand the migratory dynamics in Djibouti as well as the profile of migrants passing through the country. IOM implements Flow Monitoring, a DTM component which consists in collecting data in the localities through which migrants transit (Flow Monitoring Points). The data presented in this monthly report provides an overview of the movements and profiles of the migrant population in Djibouti.

Flow Monitoring

Flow Monitoring is a component of the IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). The objective of this component is to regularly provide updated information on population flows and on the profile of populations on the move (migrants, internally displaced persons, returnees, etc.). The information and analyses obtained through the Flow Monitoring methodology provide a better understanding of the difficulties encountered by migrants throughout their migratory route or forced displacement in order to better define priorities in terms of assistance.

Spontaneous returns from Yemen

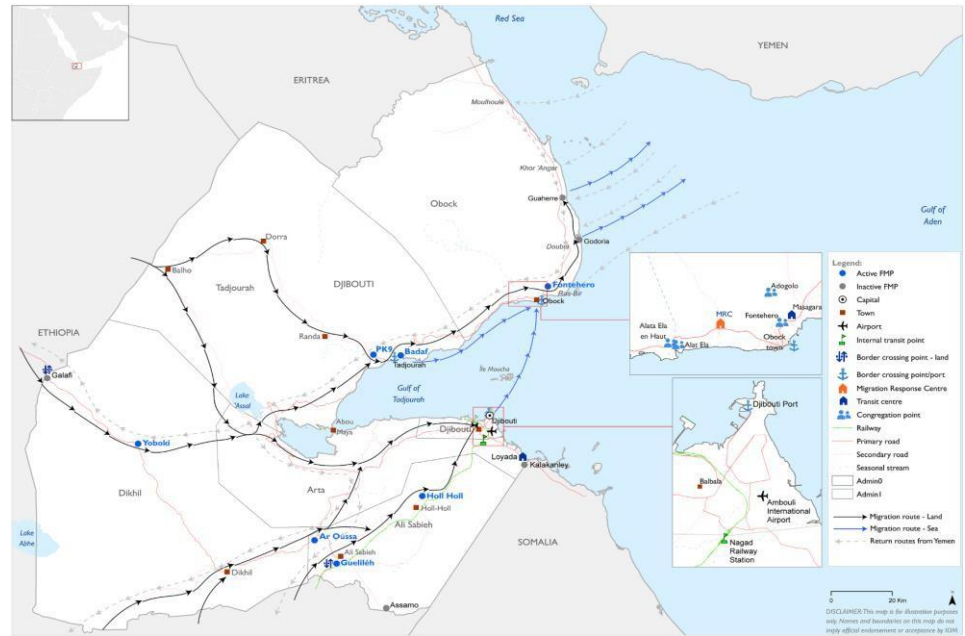
Spontaneous returns from Yemen are a component of IOM's DTM which started in May 2020. The objective of this data collection tool is to provide updated information on population flows returning from Yemen following COVID-19 movement restrictions in Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The information and analyses offered by DTM provide a better understanding of the current difficulties encountered by migrants throughout their migratory route. While the number of arrivals is gathered through a well-established system, not all returns can be captured due to their coastal location. Thus, the number of arrivals from Yemen is most probably higher than reported.

Migrants stranded in Djibouti

Information on migrants stranded in Djibouti as well as on informal sites is collected through enumerators deployed at key transit points. Data is collected on a daily basis, during time slots when the flows are most acute. Data in this dashboard does not include flows observed in Djibouti City.

Limitations

The spatial and temporal coverage of the surveys carried out is partial and does not allow all migratory flows in the country to be captured. The data presented in this report mainly shows migration trends. Furthermore, it is possible that migrants crossing several FMPs may be counted for more than once. Thus, the total number of migrants observed at the FMPs does not necessarily reflect the true migratory flows in each region. It is also worth highlighting that the number of enumerators responsible for data collection can change from one month to the other, which can partly explain some changes in the flows observed. In addition, the data on the vulnerabilities are based on direct observations by the enumerators and should only be taken as an indication. All data included in this report are based on partial observations and are not representative of the entire migrant population. IOM assures that the data included in this report is reliable, but stresses that it does not provide a complete picture of migration movements in Djibouti.



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