

13,159 INTERVIEWS WERE CONDUCTED IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY TO 6 NOVEMBER 2016 BY IOM IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, GREECE, HUNGARY, SERBIA, CROATIA, SLOVENIA, BULGARIA AND ITALY.

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Visit IOM's interactive map to view data on flows: migration.iom.int/europe

ABOUT DTM'S FLOW MONITORING SURVEYS

This report contains the findings of IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) from surveys conducted from January to November 2016. This research started in October 2015, and is being conducted within the framework of IOM's research on populations on the move through the Mediterranean and Western Balkan Routes to Europe. This is a summary analysis of surveys that has been carried out by IOM field staff in Greece, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Croatia, Slovenia, Serbia, Hungary, Bulgaria and Italy

The survey gathers information about migrants' profiles, including age, sex, areas of origin, levels of education, key transit points on their route, cost of journey, motives, and intentions.

FLOW MONITORING DATA ANALYSIS OVERVIEW

Between January 2016 and 6 November 2016 IOM field staff in Greece, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia, Hungary, Bulgaria and Italy conducted interviews with 13,159 migrants and refugees. The aforementioned survey was structured to capture more qualitative data pertaining to the current situation of migrants and refugees stranded in the Western Balkan route.

This week's report focuses on providing an analysis on the responses provided by migrants and refugees travelling along the Central Mediterranean Route and the Eastern Mediterranean Route.

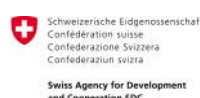
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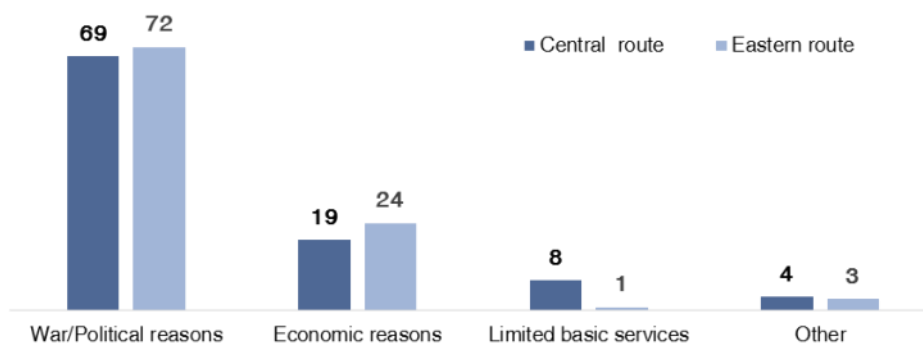
COMPARISON OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTES

Profile of migrants and refugees interviewed:

The main national groups that use the Central Mediterranean route and the Eastern Mediterranean route are different. While the top nationalities of respondents in Italy were Nigerians, Eritreans, Gambians, Senegalese, Bangladeshis (55% of the total), in the Eastern Mediterranean route they were primarily Syrians, Afghans, Iraqis, Pakistanis, and Iranians (89% of the total). The range of countries from which people travel was more diverse along the Central Mediterranean route. Over 38 different nationalities were recorded among those surveyed in Italy, while 30 different nationalities were recorded among migrants and refugees travelling along the Eastern Mediterranean route.

On the Central Mediterranean route, the majority of respondents left because of war or political reasons (69%) and economic reasons (19%), while 8% reported limited basic services as a reason for leaving and the remaining 4% reported other reasons for leaving. On the Eastern Mediterranean route, a larger percentage of respondents left because of war and conflict (72%), 24% mentioned economic reasons, and 4% indicated other reasons.

Percentage of respondents by reasons for leaving



The average age of respondents on the Central Mediterranean route is lower (23 years) than the average age of respondents in Eastern Mediterranean route (28 years). In addition, the large majority of respondents interviewed on the Central Mediterranean route was single (80%), and the rest married (19%), or widowed (under 1%), or divorced (under 1%). On the Eastern Mediterranean route 52% of the respondents were single, 45% were married, and the rest were widowed or divorced.

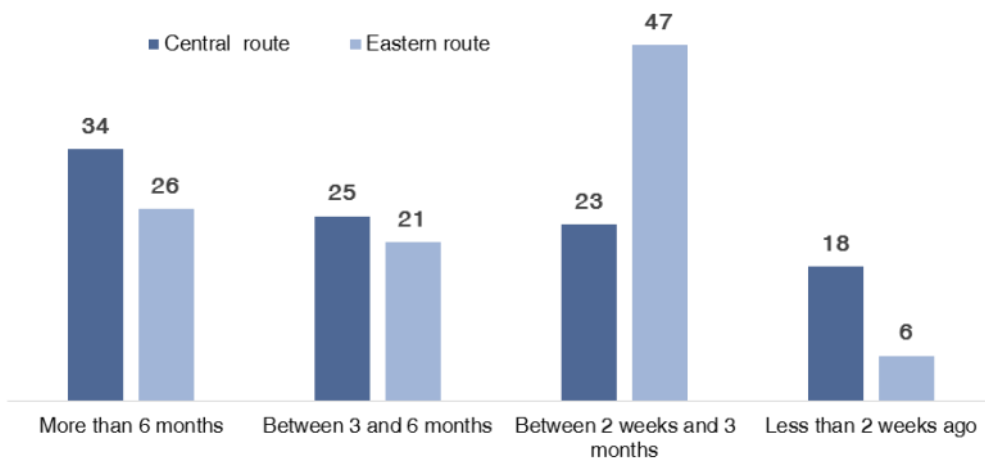
The migration route and the characteristics of the journey

The Eastern Mediterranean Route is generally used by migrants and refugees travelling with a group (84% of respondents), and 65% of these travel with their families. 73% of migrants and refugees interviewed on the Central Mediterranean were travelling alone, compared to only 21% of migrants and refugees that use Eastern Mediterranean route.

Migrants and refugees interviewed on the Central Mediterranean route reported a longer journey to Europe that involves different means of transport and longer transit in more than one country. For example, 34% of respondents surveyed in Italy left their country of origin or habitual residence more than 6 months before the survey was conducted and 25% left the country between 3 and 6 months before the survey was conducted. The remaining 41% left between 2 weeks and 3 months or less than 2 weeks before the survey was conducted.

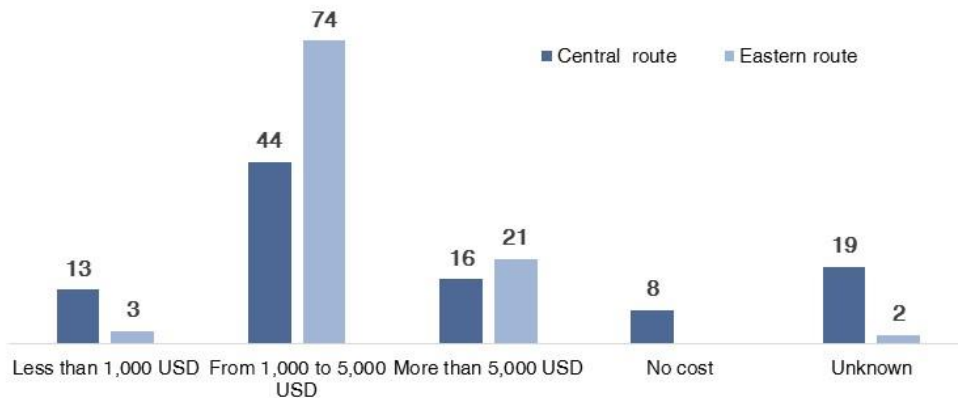
Respondents on the Eastern Mediterranean route have different circumstances of travel; almost half of the migrants (47%) left their country of habitual residence between 2 weeks and 3 months prior to the survey. The other half reported more than 3 months since they left their country (21% mention between 3 and 6 months and 25% mentioned more than 6 months before the survey) with exception of 6% of migrants that have less than 2 weeks travelling.

Percentage of respondents by the time of departure



Migrants and refugees interviewed on the Eastern Mediterranean route also reported higher estimated cost of their journey. 21% of migrants and refugees on the Eastern Mediterranean route reported the estimated cost of their journey more than 5,000 USD per person, as compared to 16% of respondents surveyed on the Central Mediterranean route. The breakdown of the reported cost of journey by respondents travelling along two routes is presented on the graph below.

Percentage of respondents by the estimated cost of journey



Destination countries

There is a significant difference between the countries of intended destination that respondents travelling along Central and Eastern Mediterranean routes reported.

Approximately half (53%) of migrants and refugees interviewed along the Central Mediterranean route reported Italy as their intended country of destination. Others reported destinations were Germany (11%), United Kingdom (5%), France (5%), Norway (2%), Sweden (2%), Netherlands (2%). 12% of the respondents didn't have any specific destination in mind. The remaining share of migrants (8%) reported other different destinations in Europe.

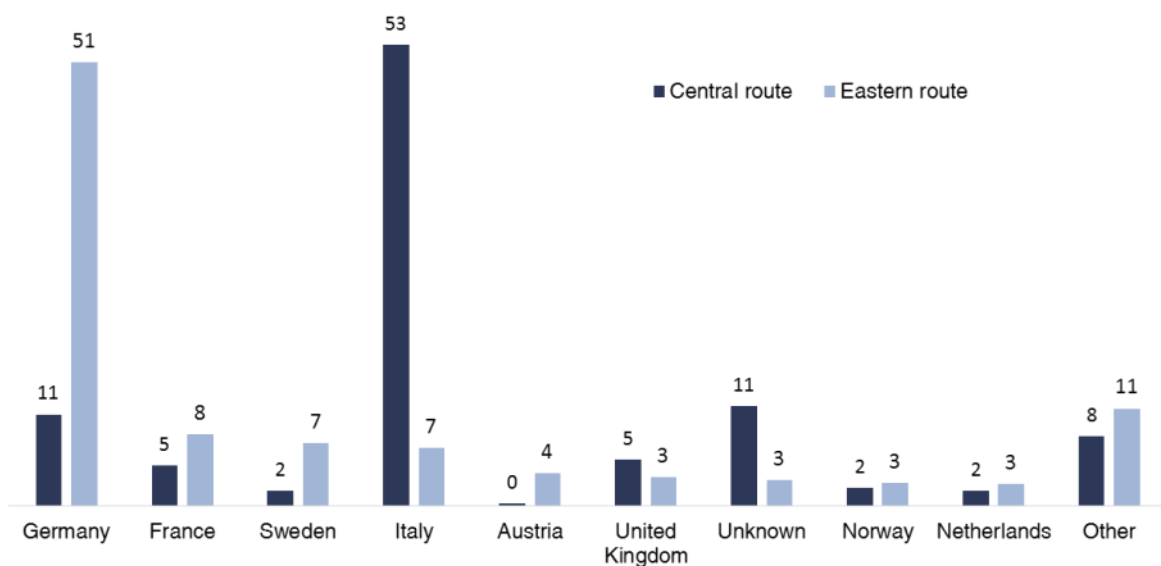
The countries of intended destination also vary among different national groups within the flow. Italy is the preferred destination country for the majority of Nigerians (76%) and Gambians (74%). However Eritreans reported Germany (24%), the United Kingdom (17%), and other countries in Northern Europe as their intended destination.

Moreover, the predominant majority of Nigerians (91%) and Gambians (90%) who reported Italy as their intended country of destination reported not having any relatives there. Almost half of Eritreans who reported Germany as their intended country of destination reported having non-first line relatives there, while 13% reported having first-line relatives and the rest reported not having any relatives in Germany.

Almost half of migrants and refugees (51%) interviewed along the Eastern Mediterranean route reported Germany as their intended country of destination. Amongst the top five nationalities of the respondents, Germany is the preferred destination for the majority of Iraqis (78%), Afghans (57%), Syrians (67%), and Pakistanis (43%). However 68% of Iranians mentioned wide variety of European countries as their preferred destination.

Moreover, almost half of Syrians (40%), Afghans (48%), Iraqis (44%) surveyed along the Eastern Mediterranean route who reported Germany as their country of intended destination reported not having any relatives there.

Destination countries per Route



EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE: TOP 5 NATIONALITIES

This section presents results of the DTM Flow Monitoring Survey conducted from January until November 2016 in Greece, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia and Bulgaria. The sample comprises 7,914 valid responses.

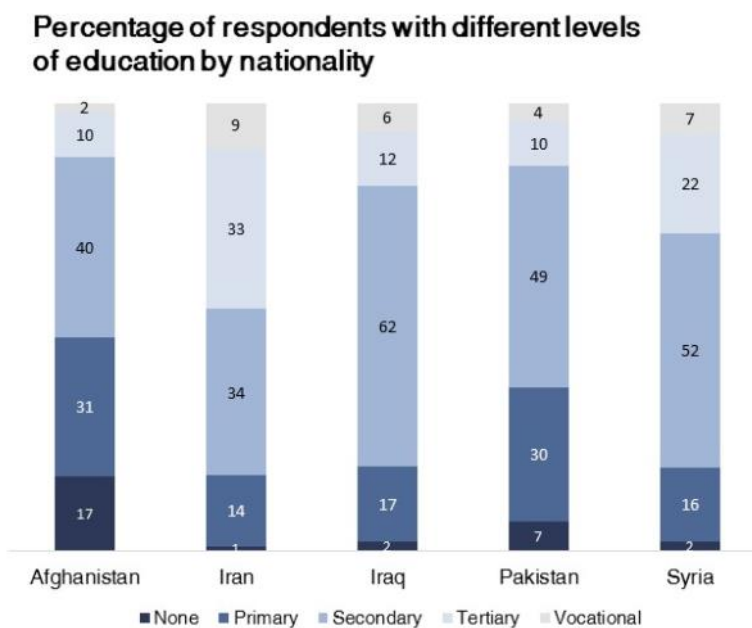
This section provides analysis on demographic profile of migrants and refugees travelling along the Eastern Mediterranean route and focuses on the demographic profile of migrants, duration and cost of journey, and the migration route. The analysis is top nationalities travelling along Eastern Mediterranean route: Syrians (29%), Afghans (27%), Iraqis (17%), Pakistanis (9%) , and Iranians (7%).

Demographic profile and education levels

The average respondent was 28 years old. Women were slightly older than men. Average age for women was 30 years, while average age for men was 28. Men comprised 81% of all individuals surveyed. Almost half of respondents were single (52%), while 45% were married and the rest were divorced or widowed. Men were more likely to be single as compared to women. 59% of male respondents were single, versus only 21% of female respondents. Pakistani and Afghan respondents were more likely to be single as compared to other nationals. 71% of Pakistani and 56% of Afghan respondents surveyed were single, as compared to 45% of Iranian respondents, 36% of Syrian respondents and 34% of Iraqi respondents.

Half of the respondents reported having obtained secondary level of education, while 20% reported having obtained primary education and 17% - tertiary education. The remaining 17% of respondents reported not having obtained any formal level of education or having obtained vocation education.

Iranian and Syrian respondents were more likely to report having obtained tertiary education, as compared to respondents of other nationalities. 33% of Iranian and 22% of Syrian respondents reported having obtained tertiary education, as compared to 12% of Iraqi respondents, 10% of Pakistani respondents, and 10% of Afghan respondents.

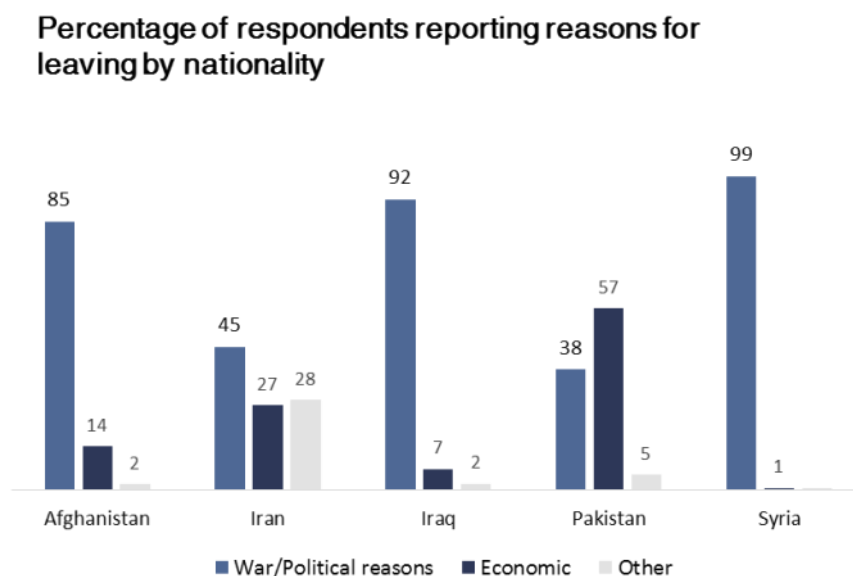


Journey

Eastern Mediterranean Route is generally used by migrants and refugees travelling with a group (84%). The proportion of those travelling with a group is higher among women, as compared to men. The predominant majority of all female respondents surveyed (95%) reported travelling with a group. Out of those individuals travelling with a group, the majority (65%) were travelling with family members. Iraqi and Syrian respondents were less likely to travel alone, as compared to respondents of other nationalities. 9% of Iraqis and 11% of Syrians were travelling alone versus 20% of Afghan respondents, 22% of Pakistani respondents and 25% Iranian respondents.

Reasons for leaving

The majority of respondents reported having left their countries of origin or habitual residence because of war or political reasons. Pakistani respondents, however, were much more likely than respondents of other nationalities to report economic reasons for leaving. The breakdown of nationalities by the reported reasons for leaving is shown on a graph below.



Time of departure and cost of journey

47% of the respondents surveyed travelling along Eastern Mediterranean route left their country of origin or habitual residence between 2 weeks and 3 months before the survey was conducted, 21% - left between 3 and 6 months, 26% left more than 6 months before the survey was conducted, the remaining 6% left less than 2 weeks before the survey was conducted. Syrians were slightly more likely to report having left more than 6 months ago, as compared to other nationalities. 32% of Syrians reported having left more than 6 months before the survey was conducted, versus 23% of Iraqis, 22% of Iranians, 20% of Afghans, and 20% of Pakistanis.

Pakistani respondents were more likely to report having spent larger amounts of money on their journeys. 40% of Pakistani respondents reported the estimated cost of their journey more than 5,000 USD per person of their journey, as compared to 31% of Afghan respondents, 23% of Iranian respondents, 14% of Iraqis respondents, and 8% of Syrian respondents. In total, the proportion of respondents reporting the estimated cost of their journey more than 5,000 USD has increased from approximately 5% in July to 15% in September and October 2016.

Transit Routes: Syrians

This section provides analysis on governorates of origin and most common transit routes for the top nationality surveyed travelling along Central Mediterranean route. The predominant majority of Syrian respondents (92%) departed from Syria. Among those 92% Syrians, 31% reported departing from the governorate of Aleppo, 23% from Damascus, 7% from Homs, 7% from Deir-es-Zor and the remainder from other governorates within Syria. The remaining 8% reported departing from other countries, notably Turkey, Lebanon, and Jordan.

The map below shows the popular routes Syrian respondents took to reach Europe and proceed onto their intended country of destination. 88% of the respondents reported leaving from Syria travelled through Turkey, and Greece, followed by the Western Balkans. The average number of days for this route was 60. 9% of respondents leaving from Syria travelled through Lebanon, Turkey, and Greece, followed by the Western Balkans.



Transit routes of Syrian respondents

Comparison between male and female respondents:

- Men comprised 81% of all respondents surveyed travelling along the Eastern Mediterranean route.
- The average age of female respondents was slightly higher than the average age of male respondents. The average of women surveyed was 30 years, while the average age of men surveyed was 28 years.
- Women were more likely to be married, as compared to men. 71% of female respondents reported to be married, as compared to 38% of men.
- Men seem to travel more alone, as compared to women. 5% of female respondents reported travelling alone versus 24% of men.
- Male respondents comprised a larger proportion of migrants reporting economic reasons for leaving their countries of origin or habitual residence. 26% of men reported having left their countries of origin due to economic reasons versus 13% of women. A larger proportion of women reported war or political reasons for leaving countries of origin or habitual residence, as compared to proportion of male respondents. 80% of women surveyed reported war or political reasons for leaving versus 71% of men surveyed.
- Men were slightly more likely to report the estimated cost of journey more than 5,000 USD. (20% vs 15%)
- Male respondents were more likely to leave their countries of origin or habitual residence more than 6 months ago. 37% of men surveyed travelling along Eastern Mediterranean route reported having left more than 6 months prior to the surveys, as compared to 23% of women.
- Half of all respondents (52%) reported Germany as their country of intended destination. Women were slightly more likely to have relatives at destination countries. 68% of women reported having first-line or non-first-line relatives at the destination countries versus 53% of men.

Comparison between minors (between 14 and 18 years old) and adults:

- 25% of all respondents were minors between 14 and 18 years old. The average age of minors surveyed along the Eastern Mediterranean route was 17 years.
- Majority of minors surveyed reported having obtained secondary education (65%)
- The majority (76%) of minors surveyed along Eastern Mediterranean route were travelling with a group. Over a half (59%) of those who were travelling with a group were travelling with their families.
- The majority of the respondents between 14 and 18 years (77%) reported having left their countries of origin or habitual residence because of war or political reasons, 29% - economic reasons for leaving, and the rest reported other reasons.
- Half of all minors surveyed reported the estimated cost of their journey between 1,000 and 5,000 USD. Minors were much more likely to report the estimated cost of their journey more than 5,000 USD, as compared to adults. 45% of minors reported the estimated cost of their journey more than 5,000 USD versus 19% of adults.
- Majority of minors (63%) reported not having any relatives at the countries of intended destination.

CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE: TOP 5 NATIONALITIES

This section presents results of the DTM Flow Monitoring Survey conducted from the end of June until November 2016 in Italy, Sicily. The sample comprises 5,245 valid responses.

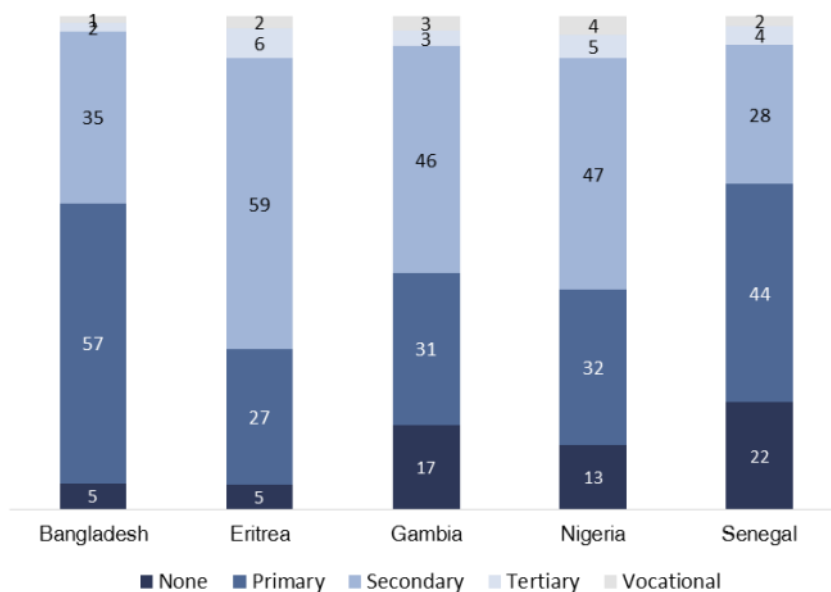
This section provides analysis on demographic profile of migrants and refugees travelling along the Eastern Mediterranean route and focuses on the demographic profile of migrants, duration and cost of journey, and the migration route. The analysis focuses on top nationalities travelling along Central Mediterranean route: Nigerians (19%), Eritreans (14%), Gambians(10%), Senegalese (6%), and Bangladeshis (6%).

Demographic profile, education levels and employment status

The average respondent was 28 years old. Men comprised 87% of all individuals surveyed. The predominant majority of respondents were single (80%), and the rest married (19%), or widowed (under 1%), or divorced (under 1%). Eritrean respondents were more likely to be married, as compared to other top nationalities. 32% of Eritrean respondents were married as versus 18% of Nigerian respondents, 15% of Bangladeshis, 14% of Senegalese, and 9% of Gambians.

Almost half of the respondents (45%) reported having obtained secondary level of education, while 34% reported having obtained primary education, 7% - tertiary education, 12% reported not having obtained any formal levels of education, and the rest reported other levels of education. Senegalese (22%) and Gambians (17%) were more likely to report not having obtained any formal levels of education, as compared to other nationalities.

Percentage of respondents with different levels of education by nationality



Almost half of the respondents (46%) reported being employed at the time of leaving countries of departure, while 30% were reported being unemployed and the remaining 24% of respondents reported studying at the time of leaving their countries of departure. Out of those respondents who reported being employed at the time departure, the most common professional occupation was agriculture, retail services and construction/electricity services. The percentage of those respondents who reported to studying at the time of departure was higher among Eritreans (33%) and Gambians (33%).

Journey

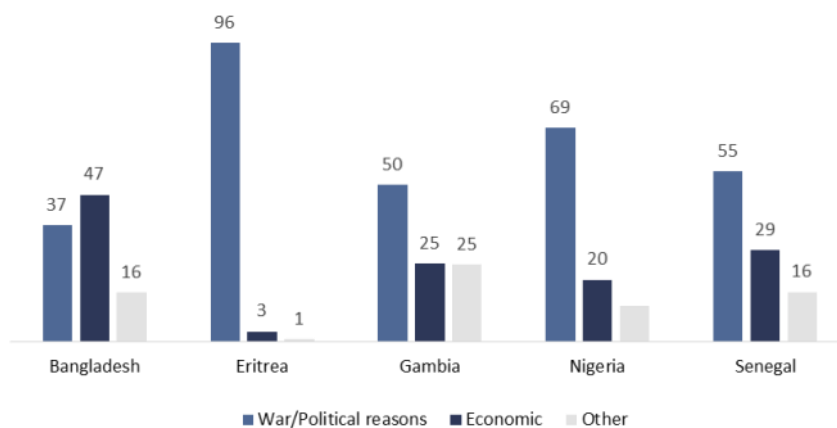
Central Mediterranean Route is generally used by migrants and refugees travelling alone (73%). 23% of those respondents who were travelling with a group, mostly reported travelling with non-family members. Eritreans and Nigerians were slightly more likely to travel with a group, as compared to other the respondents of other nationalities. 21% of Eritrean and 29% of Nigerian respondents reported travelling with a group, as compared to 20% of Gambians, 13% of Senegalese and 6% of Bangladeshis,

Reasons for leaving

The majority of respondents (69%) reported having left their countries of origin or habitual residence because of war or political reasons. However, almost half (47%) of Bangladeshi respondents reported economic reasons for leaving. Moreover, Eritrean respondents were much less likely to report economic reasons for leaving their countries of origin or habitual residents, as compared to the respondents of other nationalities. 3% of Eritrean respondents reported economic reasons for leaving, as compared to 20% of Nigerians, 25% Gambians, and 29% of Senegalese.

The breakdown of nationalities by the reported reasons for leaving is shown on a graph below.

Percentage of respondents reporting various reasons for leaving by nationality



Time of departure and cost of journey

Eritreans and Gambians were more likely to leave their countries of origin or habitual residence more than 6 months before the survey was conducted. 51% of Eritrean and 42% of Gambian respondents reported having left more than 6 months prior to the survey, as compared to 33% of Senegalese, 28% of Bangladeshis, and 27% of Nigerian respondents. Bangladeshi respondents were more likely having left less than 2 weeks prior to the survey, as compared to the respondents of other nationalities. 33% of Bangladeshi respondents reported having left less than 2 weeks before the survey was conducted, versus 13% of Senegalese, 12% of Nigerians, 12% of Gambians, and 4% of Eritreans.

Bangladeshi and Eritrean respondents were more likely to report higher estimated cost of their journeys. Half of Bangladeshi (51%) and Eritreans (55%) reported the estimated cost of their journey more than 5,000 USD per person, as compared to just 1% of Gambians, 1% Nigerians, and 2% of Senegalese respondents.

Transit Routes: Nigerians

This section provides analysis on states of origin and most common transit routes for the top nationality surveyed travelling along Eastern Mediterranean route. 80% of Nigerians departed from Nigeria, while 19% departed from Libya. Out of those 19% that departed from Libya, more than a half (69%) have stayed in Libya from 1 to 2 years, while 15% have stayed in the country from 2 to 3 years and 16% - more than 3 years.

Among those 80% of Nigerians who departed from Nigeria, 65% departed from Edo state, 13% departed from Delta state and 6% - from Lagos, and the remainder from other states within Nigeria.

The map shows the most common routes Nigerian respondents took to reach Italy. The majority of migrants travelled through the same or similar countries. 92% of Nigerian respondents travelled through Niger, followed Libya to reach Italy. 1% of the respondents travelled through Benin and Niger, followed by Libya. The remaining 8% did not accurately report their journeys across the transit countries they went through, therefore, the route they used remains unclear. The average number of days that migrants spent on the route was 115, with a median of 83 days.



Comparison between male and female respondents:

- Men comprised 87% of all respondents surveyed in Italy.
- Women were more likely to report being married, as compared to men. 33% of female respondents reported being married versus 17% of male respondents. Women comprised a larger share of respondents who reported being unemployed at the time of leaving their countries of origin or habitual residence. 44% of women reported being unemployed, as compared to 27% of men.
- Men tend to travel more alone. 74% of men reported travelling alone versus 58% of women.
- Men were slightly more likely to report economic reasons for leaving. 20% of male respondents reported economic reasons for leaving as compared to 14% of female respondents. Female respondents were more likely to report war or political reasons for leaving their countries of origin or habitual residence. 75% of women surveyed reported war or political reasons for leaving versus 68% of male respondents.
- Male respondents comprised a larger share of respondents who reported having left their countries of origin or habitual residence more than 6 months ago. 34% of men surveyed reported having left more than 6 months prior to the survey, as compared to 28% of women. A slightly larger share of female respondents reported having left less than 2 weeks before the survey was conducted as compared to the share of male respondents. 13% of women surveyed reported having left less than 2 weeks ago versus 19% of men.
- Male respondents were slightly more likely to report Italy as their country of intended destination (55% of men versus 43% of women). Majority of men and women reported not having relatives at the destination countries. However, women were slightly more likely to have first-line relatives and non-first line at the countries of intended destination. 8% of women reported having first-line relatives and 18% reported having non-first line relatives at the destination countries versus 4% of men reporting having first-line relatives and 19% of men reporting having non-first line relatives.

Comparison between minors (between 14 and 18 years old) and adults:

- Minors between 14 and 18 years old comprised 24% of respondents surveyed in Italy. The average age of minors was 17 years. Predominant majority of minors surveyed (91%) were male.
- Almost half of all minors (45%) surveyed reported having obtained secondary education, while 43% reported having obtained primary education and 12% reported not having obtained any formal level of education. Moreover, women were more likely to be unemployed at the time of departure, as compared to men. 44% of women surveyed in Italy reported being unemployed at the time of departure versus 27% of men.
- Majority of minors surveyed (72%) were travelling alone. Approximately the same proportion of adults were travelling alone. Out of those 28% that were traveling with a group, half were travelling with their siblings only.
- Approximately half (61%) of minors surveyed reported having left their countries of origin or habitual residence because of war or political reasons, which constitutes a smaller share comparing to adults reporting war or political reasons for leaving (71%). Children were three times more likely to report limited basic services as a reason for leaving their country of origin or habitual residence, as compared to adults. 15% of children reported limited basic services as a reason for leaving versus 6% of adults.
- Half of all minors surveyed reported the estimated cost of their journey between 1,000 and 5,000 USD. Minors were more likely not being aware of the cost of their journey, as compared to adults (25% versus 17%, respectively).
- 79% of minors did not have any relatives at the countries of intended destination.

METHODOLOGY

The survey was conducted by IOM field staff in locations of entry, transit, and exit in Greece, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Italy and Hungary including locations and centers of various types (transit, accommodation, open/closed) and including hotspots (in Greece and Italy). The hotspots are first reception facilities with high capacity for the purpose of identification and registration of migrants soon after arrival.

In all locations, data collectors approached respondents in an ad hoc manner to explain the purpose of the survey and to obtain the explicit consent to be interviewed. With those who give their consent to be interviewed, IOM data collectors proceeded with the remainder of the questions.

The survey sample compares well to the population, considering the sample selection challenges in the context of migrants' arrival by sea and the planned the onwards journey towards other European countries. The sample is large enough to gather evidence about migrants with different demographic profiles, and it is broadly reflective of the population.

There are however a few limitations to the data collected. Children and women are under-sampled. Women are slightly underrepresented in the sample relative to men, as women are more likely to decline to participate in the survey. Only children older than 14 years old are eligible for the survey.

Everywhere it was possible considering the crowded nature of some of the surveyed points, migrants were interviewed in a separate/private area in order to ensure privacy. While anonymity of respondents has been always a pre-requisite for an interview to start, in some cases and under respondent's consent, the help of a family member or of a friend was key to facilitate translation. Especially at official entry points, data collection was undertaken only after the initial administrative procedures for identification and registration of arrivals was completed by the relevant authorities.

While in the sampling phase some purposive quotas by nationalities were planned to cover only the main nationalities in each of the two routes, fieldwork operations turned out to be more efficient in terms of migrants reached out without excluding any nationality a priori. The sample is then composed by all those migrants above 14 years of age met by data collectors at selected flow monitoring points and who were willing to participate and answer the questionnaire