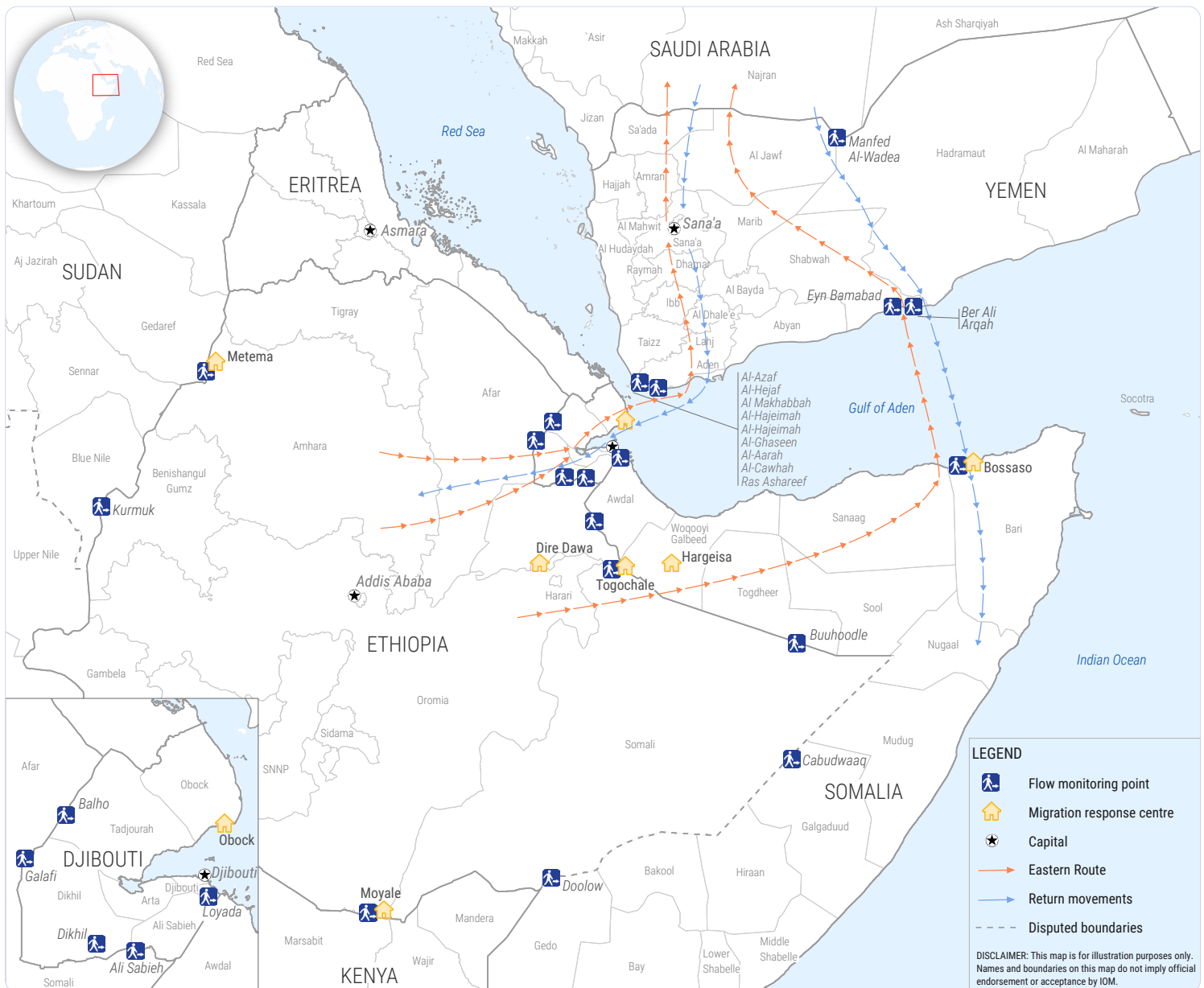


About the report

The Horn of Africa and Yemen is one of the busiest and riskiest migration corridors in the world travelled by hundreds of thousands of migrants, the majority of whom travel in an irregular manner, often relying on smugglers to facilitate movement along the Eastern Route. This regional report provides monthly updates on the complex migratory dynamics through [Djibouti](#), [Somalia](#), [Yemen](#) and [Ethiopia](#) based on diverse data sources and consultations with key informants in the four countries. Moreover, it provides information on the main protection concerns for migrants along the journey, information on [spillover effects of the conflict in the Sudan](#) observed at the border with Ethiopia, [a specific focus on children](#) and information on the [returns from Saudi Arabia](#) to Ethiopia, Somalia and Yemen.

Data sources:

- [Displacement Tracking Matrix \(DTM\)](#) data collected at flow monitoring points (FMPs), which includes flow monitoring registry (group level) and flow monitoring survey (individual level) data
- [Migration Response Centre \(MRC\)](#) data on migrants seeking assistance in Djibouti, Somalia and Ethiopia, including information on [assisted voluntary return and reintegration \(AVRR\)](#)
- Voluntary humanitarian returns (VHR) from Yemen
- [Returns from Saudi Arabia](#)
- [Missing Migrants Project \(MMP\)](#) data on migrant deaths and disappearances (reporting based on those that could be verified)



Migration Through Djibouti

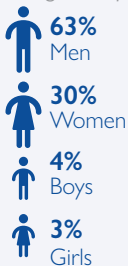
- Migrant entries into Djibouti decreased by 3% from May. This decrease was due to strong heat conditions and the advent of Khamsin – a hot, dry and dusty wind – which causes turbulent and rough sea conditions, in addition to more regular checks by the Coast Guard.
- Women and children represented more than one third (37%) of all entries. 18% of all children were travelling alone, most of whom were boys (96%).
- Although journeys were mostly economically driven, around one third (32%) of movements originating in the Oromia region were due to slow environmental change.
- Due to the difficult weather conditions, many migrants were abandoned by their smugglers, increasing the number of stranded migrants by 35% from May (from 914 to 1,233), many of whom were women (13%) and children (28%). Most were stranded along the Ethiopian border in Dikhil (49%) and Ali-Sabieh (10%) as well as in the coastal areas of Tadjourah (23%) and Obock (18%).
- The number of spontaneous returns from Yemen to Djibouti increased by 6% in the past month, with boys representing 7% of all returns.
- The number of people seeking assistance at the MRC in Obock increased by 38% from May and 255 migrants received AVRR assistance to return to Ethiopia.
- 10 people died from a range of causes while migrating through Djibouti, including illness/limited of access to medical care; lack of adequate shelter, food, or water while journeying through a harsh environment; and unknown causes for those found in remote areas. One person's body who was found in the desert was believed to have been returning from Yemen to Ethiopia on foot.

Entries into Djibouti

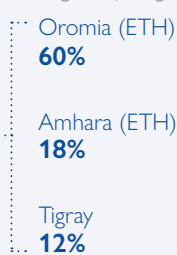
Cumulative 2023
71,824

10,846
Entries
June 2023

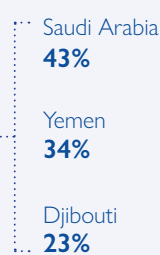
Sex & Age Group



Region of Origin



Intended Destination



Migrants surveyed in June 2023

309

Migration Drivers



Spontaneous Returns from Yemen to Djibouti

Cumulative 2023
2,952

547
Returns
June 2023

Sex & Age Group



Migrants Seeking Assistance

Cumulative 2023
1,074

289
MRC
registrations
June 2023

Sex & Age Group



1,233 Stranded migrants
June 2023

10 Dead/missing migrants
June 2023

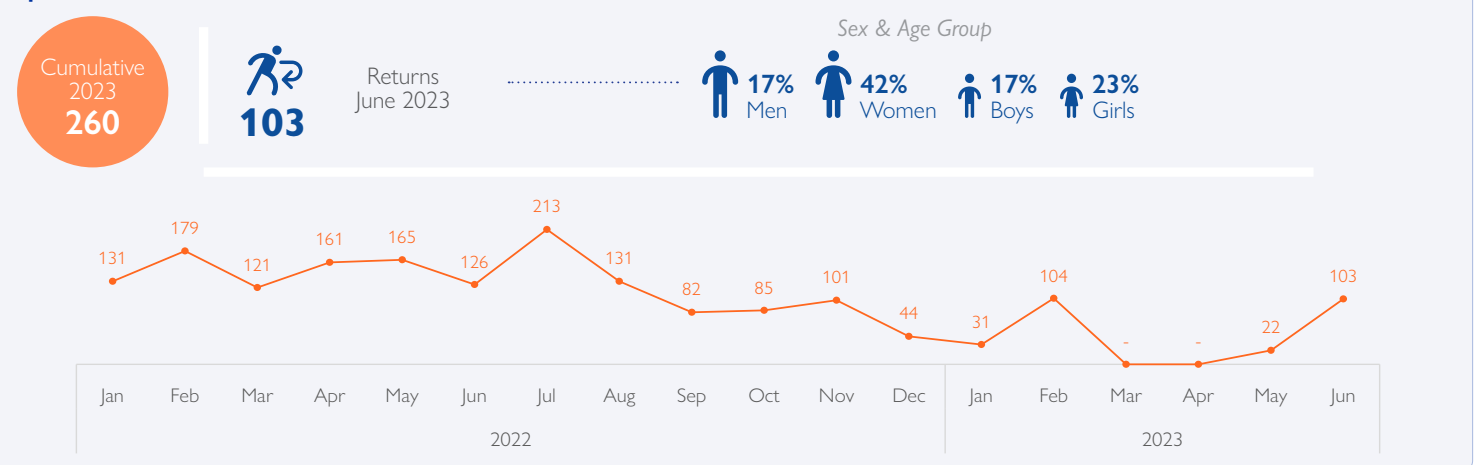
Migration Through Somalia

- Migrant entries into Somalia increased by 9% from May.
- Tensions in Las Anod, located on one of the main migratory routes to Bossaso, continued to persist and disrupt migrant movements, with new clashes erupting in late June. Despite the ongoing armed violence, large numbers of people continue to journey through the area. The number of migrants passing through Buuhoodle – the main entry point for those transiting through Las Anod and Bossaso before heading to the Arabian Peninsula – increased by 25% in the past month.
- The number of spontaneous returns from Yemen in June were similar to those recorded in February, prior to the suspension of flow monitoring activities.
- People registered at MRCs have increasingly reported being driven by disasters, with gendered variation. In June 2023, 26% of female and 13% of male migrants were driven by environmental conditions, compared to 12% and 6% in June 2022.
- Migrants transiting through Somalia, especially in uncontrolled areas around Las Anod, continue to face very abusive smuggling practices and remain at a high risk of becoming victims of trafficking as their journey can become nonconsensual or coercive, such as through practices of physical/sexual abuse, forced labour to pay debts or extortion. While smugglers are known to take advantage of people who move irregularly, migrants can be even more vulnerable to exploitation during conflict and this combination creates great protection concerns.
- The Ethiopia Community Centre reported the death of one person who died in Garowe while heading to Bossaso after being hit by a stray bullet from the Las Anod conflict.

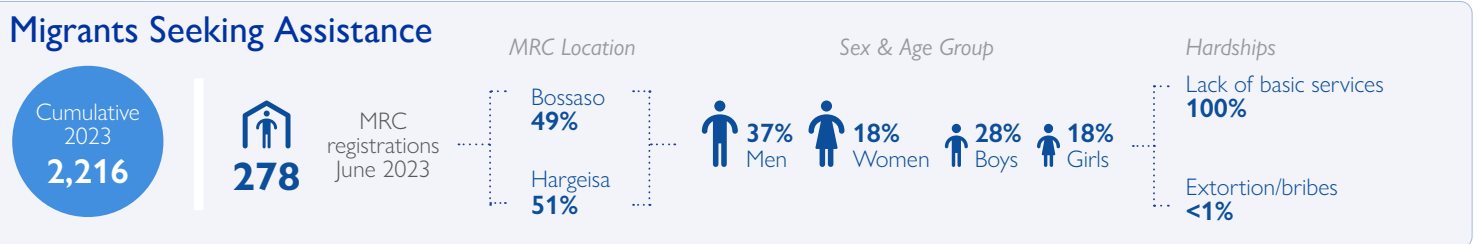
Entries into Somalia



Spontaneous Returns from Yemen to Somalia



Migrants Seeking Assistance



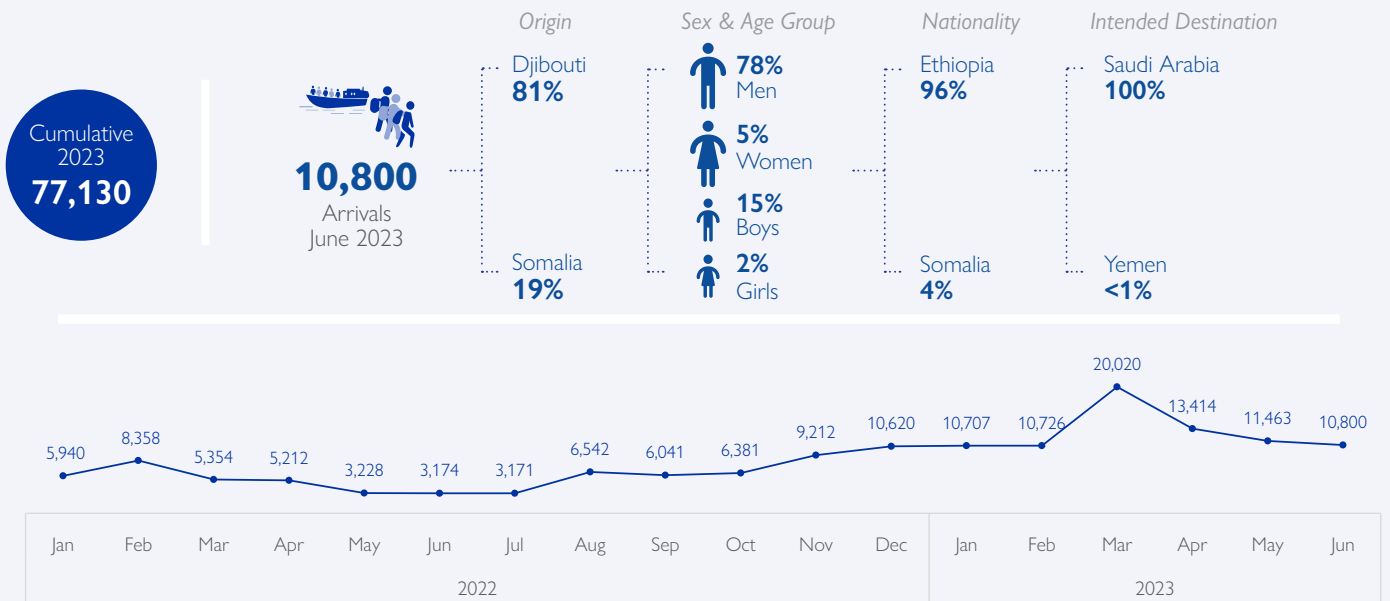
5,400 Stranded migrants June 2023

1 Dead/missing migrants June 2023

Migration Through Yemen

- Migrant arrivals in Yemen decreased by 6% from May due to harsh weather conditions at sea, which made it difficult for migrants to travel through high tides and strong winds. Arrivals at the Shabwah coast from Somalia decreased by 28%, while arrivals at the Lahj coast from Djibouti remained similar to May (+1%).
- Women and children represented around a quarter of all arrivals (5% and 17%, respectively).
- Most migrants were looking for better economic opportunities (85%) while 15% were moving due to conflict, violence or persecution.
- The number of Yemeni returnees from Saudi Arabia through the Al Wade'ah land border significantly decreased, by 58%, in the past month as the Saudi authorities postponed deportations during the period around the Hajj pilgrimage.
- Migrants in northern Yemen are persistently targeted and forcibly prevented from crossing the Yemeni–Saudi border and a considerable number remain stranded, enduring varying degrees of injuries and suffering. In Lahj, migrants' extortion and exploitation by smugglers who had abandoned them upon arrival in Ras Al-Ara continues, leaving them without means of support. In both Lahj and Aden, migrants are sometimes forcibly relocated by authorities from public areas to remote locations. A distressing incident occurred in Aden where a group of migrants was forcibly transported and abandoned at the Migrants Response Point. In Marib, Ethiopian migrants are in dire circumstances and have thus requested assistance to return to their home country.
- 10 people lost their lives while travelling to Shabwah in overcrowded boats.

Arrivals in Yemen from the Horn of Africa



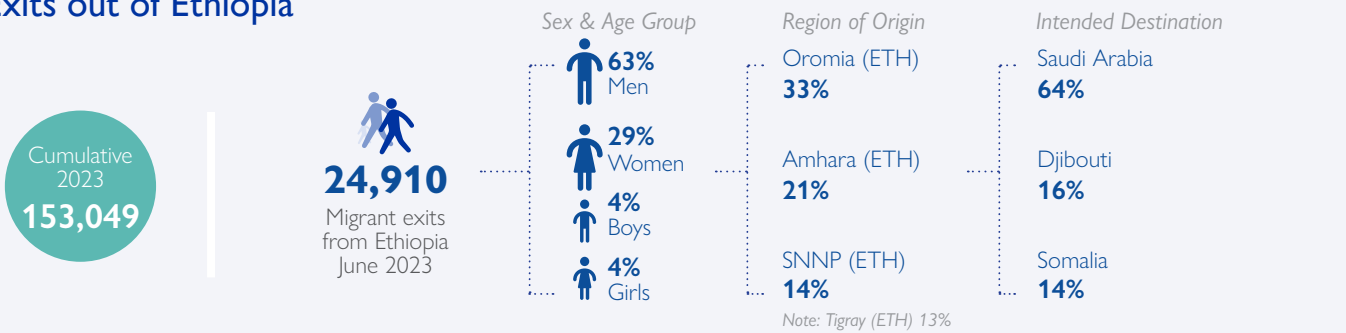
43,000 Stranded migrants June 2023

10 Dead/missing migrants June 2023

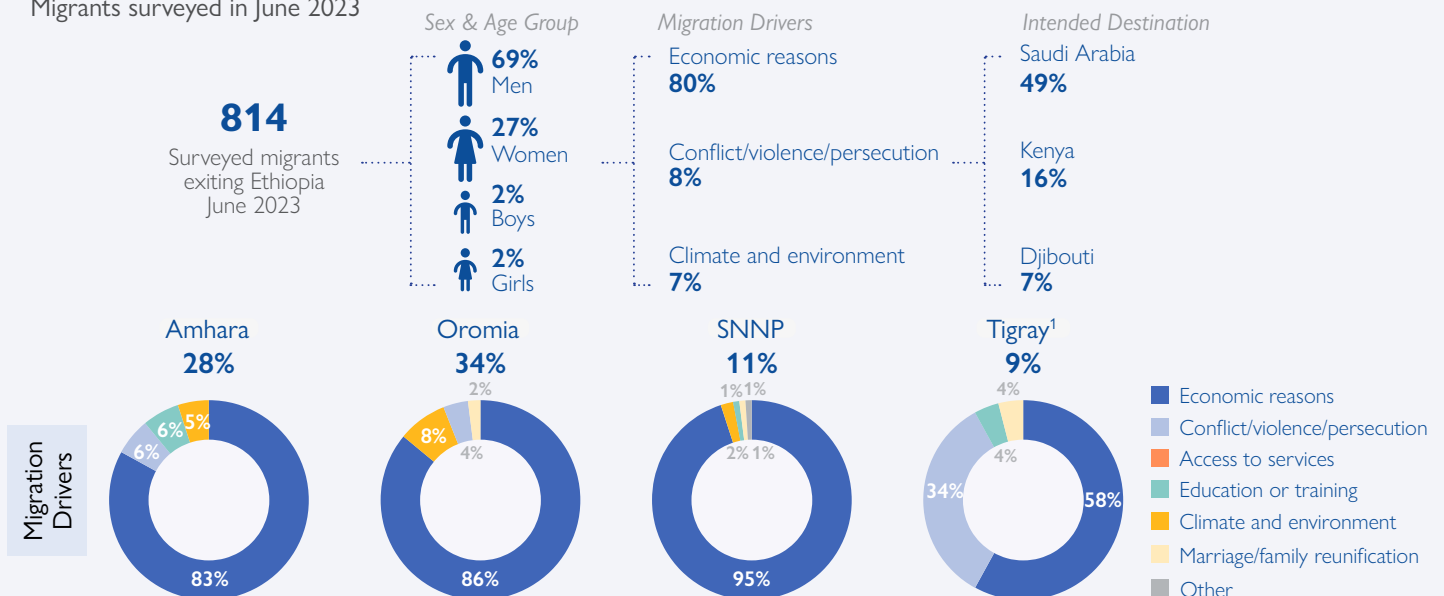
Migration Through Ethiopia

- Despite a 26% decrease between May and June, migrant entries into Ethiopia through the Metema border point continued to be high (20,100) due to the Sudan conflict. In addition, 1,800 entries were recorded through the Kurmuk border point.
- Although most entries into Ethiopia were of Sudanese (43%) and Ethiopian (40%) nationals, there were also 3,800 people (17%) of 37 other nationalities leaving the Sudan via Metema and Kurmuk, mostly Eritreans (15%).
- Women and children fleeing the Sudan represented more than half of all movements (29% and 23%, respectively). 47% of all children were younger than five years and more than 600 pregnant or lactating women were also on the move.
- The number of people seeking assistance at the MRC in Metema significantly decreased from May (13,000) to June (20) due to the increased operational presence of humanitarian actors addressing the needs of affected people, decreasing surge demand from the MRC. In Dire Dawa, although many sought assistance in May due to deportations from Djibouti, fewer returnees were seen in June due to limited onward transportation to the MRC from the Djibouti–Ethiopia border.
- Returns from Saudi Arabia remained suspended. There is no clear indication of when returns might resume or at what rate.
- 1,407 migrants (86% male and 14% female) were returned from Aden, Marib and Sana'a in Yemen to Ethiopia through VHR, mainly to the Oromia region. So far in 2023, around 5,600 Ethiopian nationals received VHR assistance, which is a higher number compared to previous years, underscoring the increasing demand for VHR.

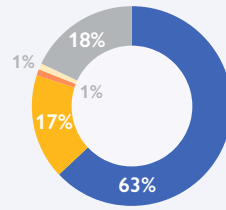
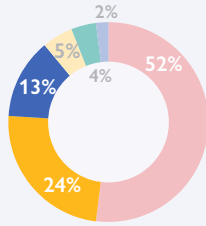
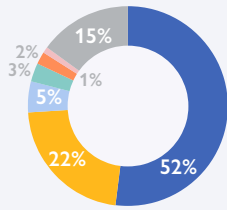
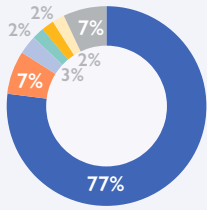
Exits out of Ethiopia



Migrants surveyed in June 2023



Intended Destination



- Saudi Arabia
- Yemen
- Djibouti
- Somalia
- Kenya
- United Arab Emirates
- South Africa
- Other

Migrants Seeking Assistance

Cumulative 2023
21,727

434
MRC registrations
June 2023

MRC Location

- Dire Dawa **50%**
- Metema **5%**
- Moyale **8%**
- Togochale **38%**

Sex & Age Group

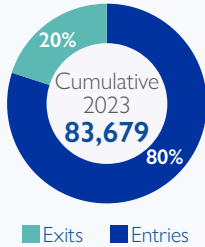
- 80%** Men
- 5%** Women
- 13%** Boys
- 2%** Girls

Hardships

- Lack of basic services **50%**
- Imprisonment/detention **25%**
- Physical/psychological abuse **20%**

Impact of the Sudan Conflict Along the Border with Ethiopia

Metema Border Point



Exits

6
Migrant exits from Ethiopia
June 2023

0
Surveyed migrants exiting Ethiopia
June 2023

Entries

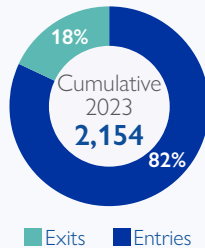
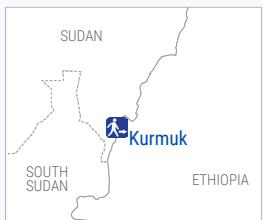
20,143
Migrant entries into Ethiopia
June 2023

1,644
Surveyed migrants entering Ethiopia
June 2023

Migration Drivers

- Economic reasons **-**
- Conflict/violence/persecution **-**
- Conflict/violence/persecution **89%**
- Access to services **11%**
- Others **<1%**

Kurmuk Border Point



Exits

379
Migrant exits from Ethiopia
June 2023

5
Surveyed migrants exiting Ethiopia
June 2023

Entries

1,775
Migrant entries into Ethiopia
June 2023

14
Surveyed migrants entering Ethiopia
June 2023

Migration Drivers

- Marriage/family reunification **100%**
- Conflict/violence/persecution **93%**
- Marriage/family reunification **7%**

Note: A new flow monitoring point was established in Kurmuk on 11 May 2023 to increase coverage.

Migrant Children Along the Eastern Corridor

Cumulative 2023
13,592

1,959
Migrant children entries
June 2023

Into Djibouti **37%**
Into Somalia **30%**
Into Yemen **33%**

65% Boys
35% Girls
24% Unaccompanied

221
Migrant children seeking assistance
June 2023

In Djibouti **15%**
In Ethiopia **28%**
In Somalia **57%**

52% Boys
48% Girls

355
Migrants surveyed who are caring for children (18% of all respondents)
June 2023

Travelling with children **39%**
Having children in the country of intended destination **7%**
Who left children behind in the country of origin **54%**

Caretakers of migrant children not travelling with the migrant parent

My spouse/partner **69%**
Grandparents or extended family **26%**
My older children (18 and over) **5%**
Other **0%**

Returns from Saudi Arabia



2,322

Returns June 2023

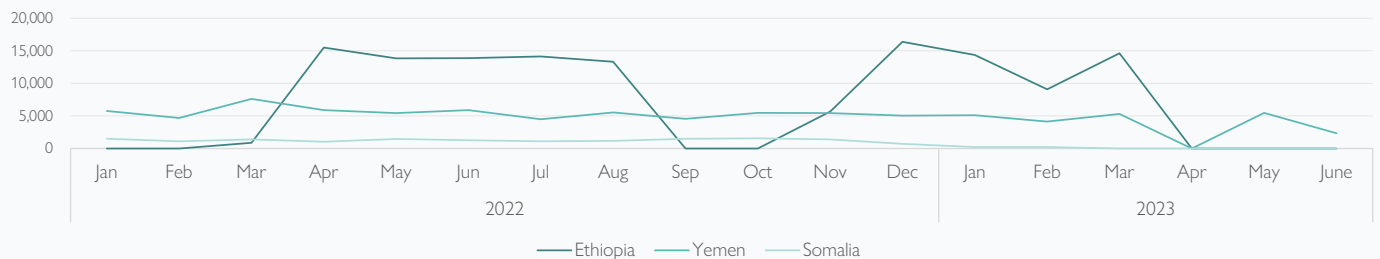
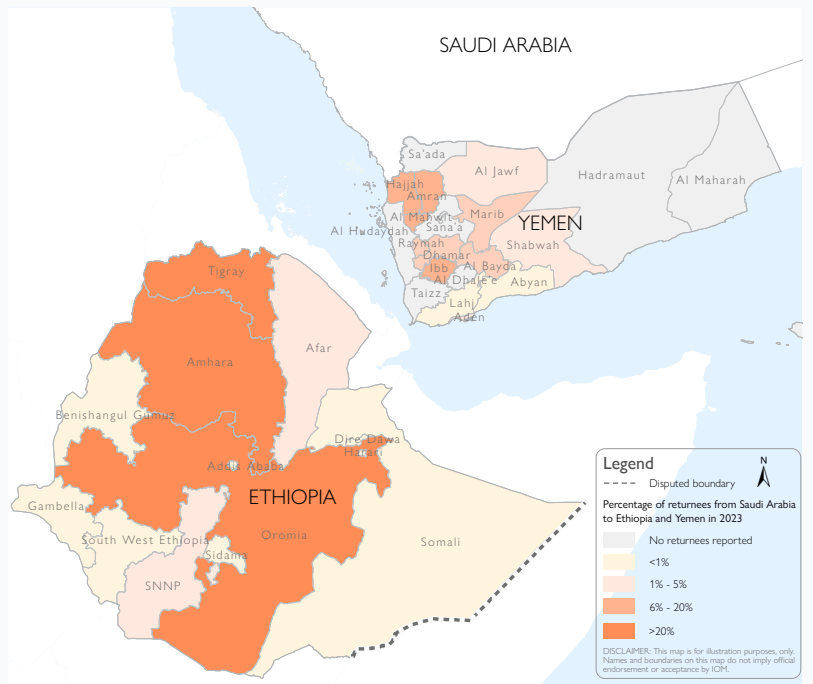
Cumulative 2023
72,617

Returns to

Ethiopia	Yemen	Somalia	Ethiopia	Yemen	Somalia
-	2,322	-	39,218	26,878	6,521

Region of intended return in Ethiopia 2023

Amhara	Oromia	Tigray	SNNP	Afar
35%	34%	25%	3%	1%



Note: From December 2021 to February 2022 and from September to October 2022, returns to Ethiopia were suspended due to the conflict in northern Ethiopia. These returns were also suspended from early April 2023 and it is unclear if and when returns will resume. IOM has only partial information on returns to Somalia for 2023 and data were not available for June 2023.

Contact

Regional Data Hub (RDH), IOM Regional Office for East and Horn of Africa
rdhronairobi@iom.int

For more information on the RDH products:
eastandhornofafrica.iom.int/regional-data-hub