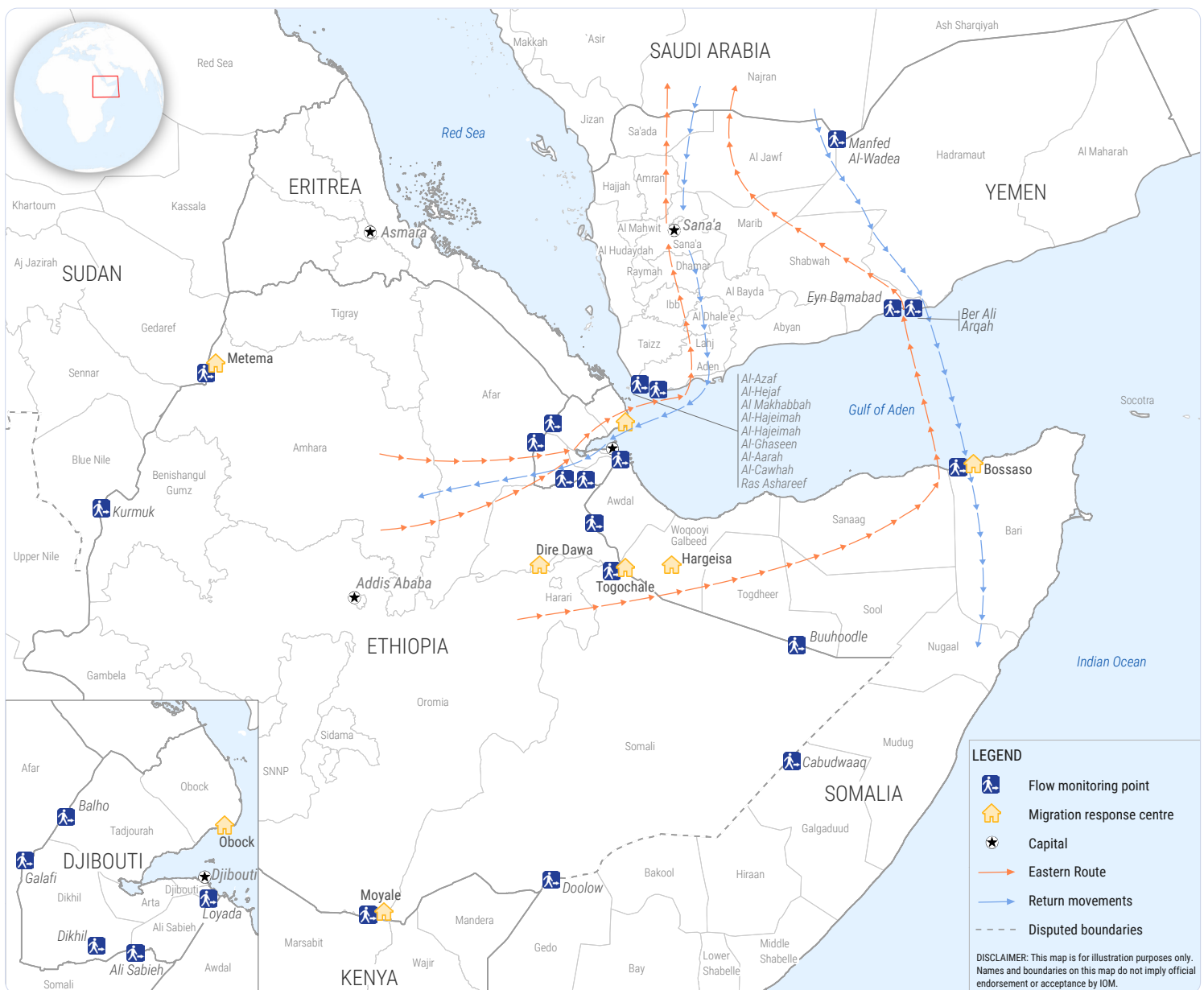


About the report

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

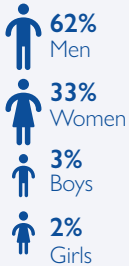
- Migrant entries into Djibouti increased by 6% from June, which might be attributed to more favorable weather conditions.
- Women and children represented more than one third (38%) of all entries and 21% of all children were travelling alone (96% boys).
- Although overall migration continues to be economically driven, almost half of migrants departing from the Somali region of Ethiopia were traveling due to food insecurity (48%), while the remaining 52% were doing so due to conflict (28%) and climate induced (24%).
- The number of spontaneous returns from Yemen increased by 47% from June, being the highest number reported since July 2021 (950).
- Vulnerable groups (women 18% and children 34%) still represent more than half of the stranded migrants despite the 34% decrease in the past month (from 1,233 to 812).
- The MRC in Obock facilitated AVR for 158 people to support the safe and dignified return to their place of origin.
- In July, 19 people were found to have died from a range of causes while migrating, including dehydration, arduous travel, and illness with lack of access to adequate medical care. Bodies were identified in remote areas by local communities and the MRC mobile patrol.

Entries into Djibouti

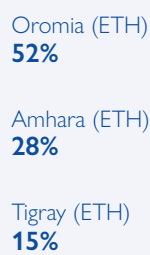
Cumulative 2023
83,334

11,510
Entries
July 2023

Sex & Age Group



Region of Origin



Intended Destination



Migrants surveyed in July 2023

348

Migration Drivers



Spontaneous Returns from Yemen to Djibouti

Cumulative 2023
3,757

805
Returns
July 2023

Sex & Age Group

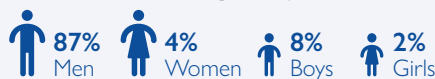


Migrants Seeking Assistance

Cumulative 2023
1,457

383
MRC registrations
July 2023

Sex & Age Group



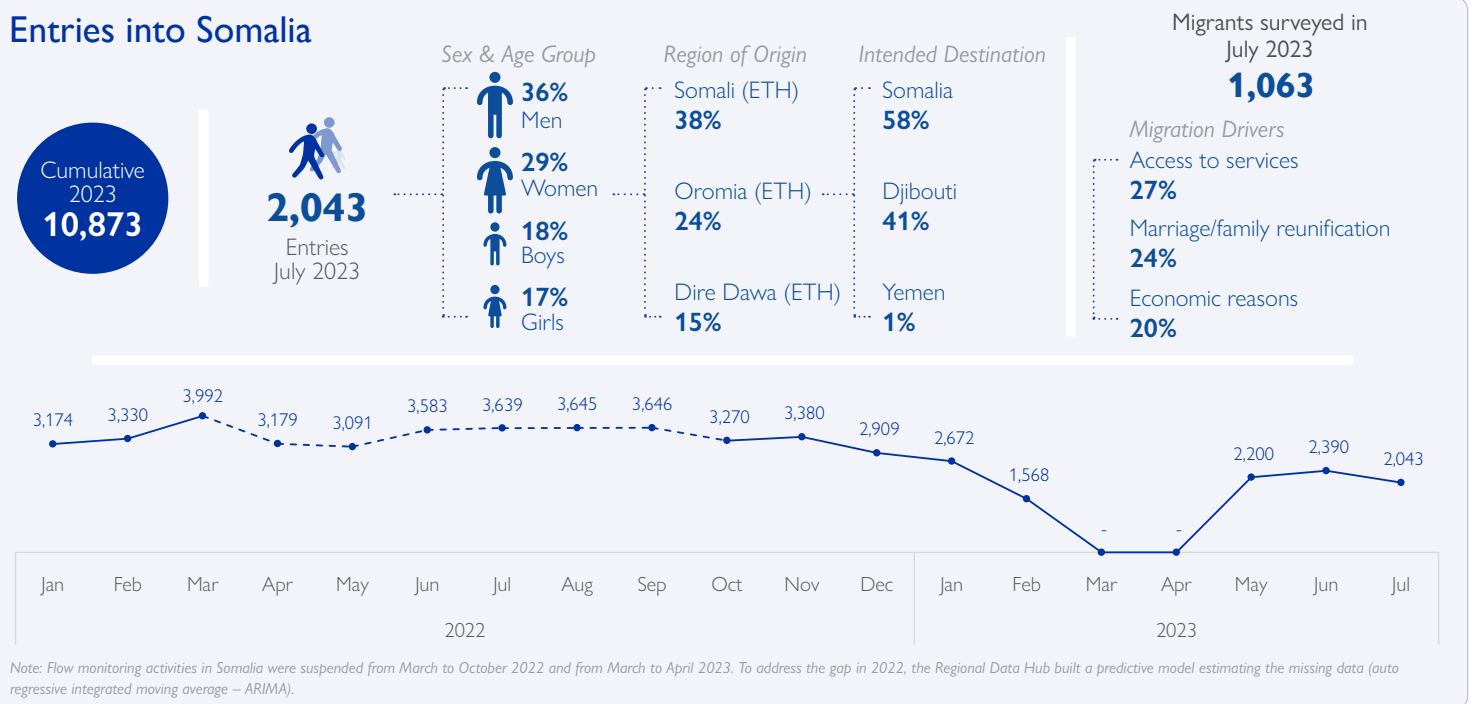
812 Stranded migrants
July 2023

19 Dead/missing migrants
July 2023

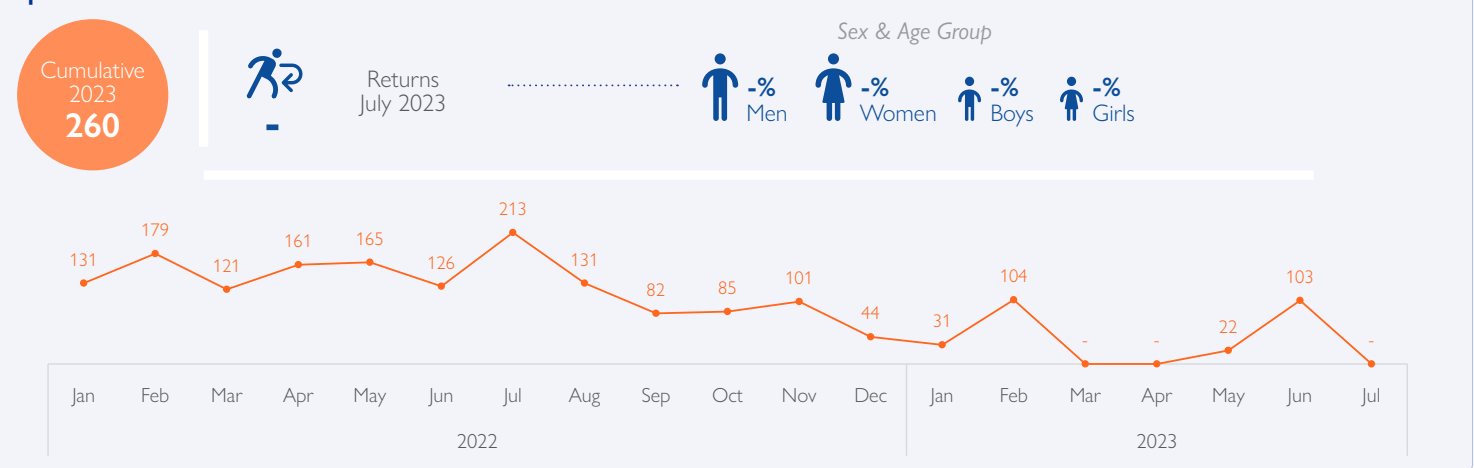
Migration Through Somalia

- Migrant entries into Somalia decreased by 15% from June.
- Around 5,000 Ethiopian migrants arrived to Bossaso, the main coastal crossing location to Yemen, despite reports of increased conflict in late July in Las Anod, one of the key transit cities for Ethiopian migrants travelling towards the northern coasts of Somalia.
- In Lowyacado, migrant women, some of whom were pregnant, were reported facing challenges on their journey, including sickness due to overcrowded vehicles.
- The number of stranded migrants observed a 16% increase between June (5,400) and July (6,250), mostly in Bossaso, where migrants await more favorable weather conditions to cross the Gulf of Aden.
- In Bossaso, three people died while on the move due to thirst, hunger and extreme fatigue. In Hargeisa, a group of migrants transiting through Harirad, Awdal suffered from extreme heat, and two people died from dehydration.
- The MRC in Hargeisa often served stranded migrants who visit the centre to receive Non Food Items (NFIs) and has also supported increasing numbers of migrants with AVR. Of all people seeking assistance in Hargeisa in July, 58% were children.
- Female migrants seeking assistance in Somalia were predominantly driven by economic motivations (59%), climate drivers (25%) and armed violence (13%, mostly in the Oromo and Amhara regions of Ethiopia), while male migrants were driven by economic motivations (68%), climate drivers (15%) and education (9%).

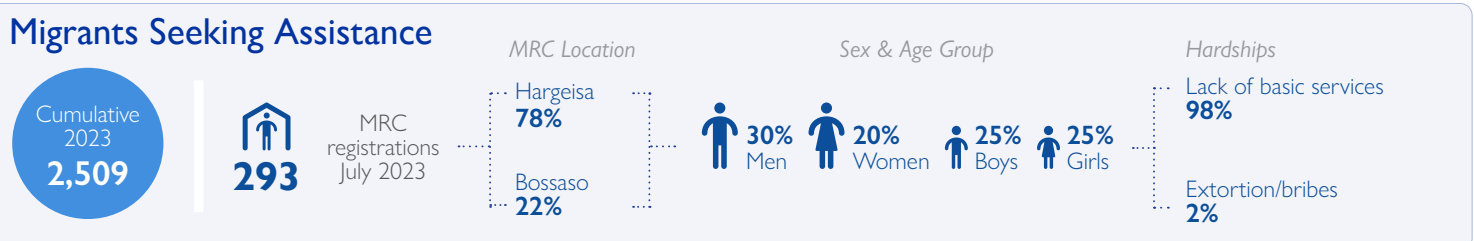
Entries into Somalia



Spontaneous Returns from Yemen to Somalia



Migrants Seeking Assistance



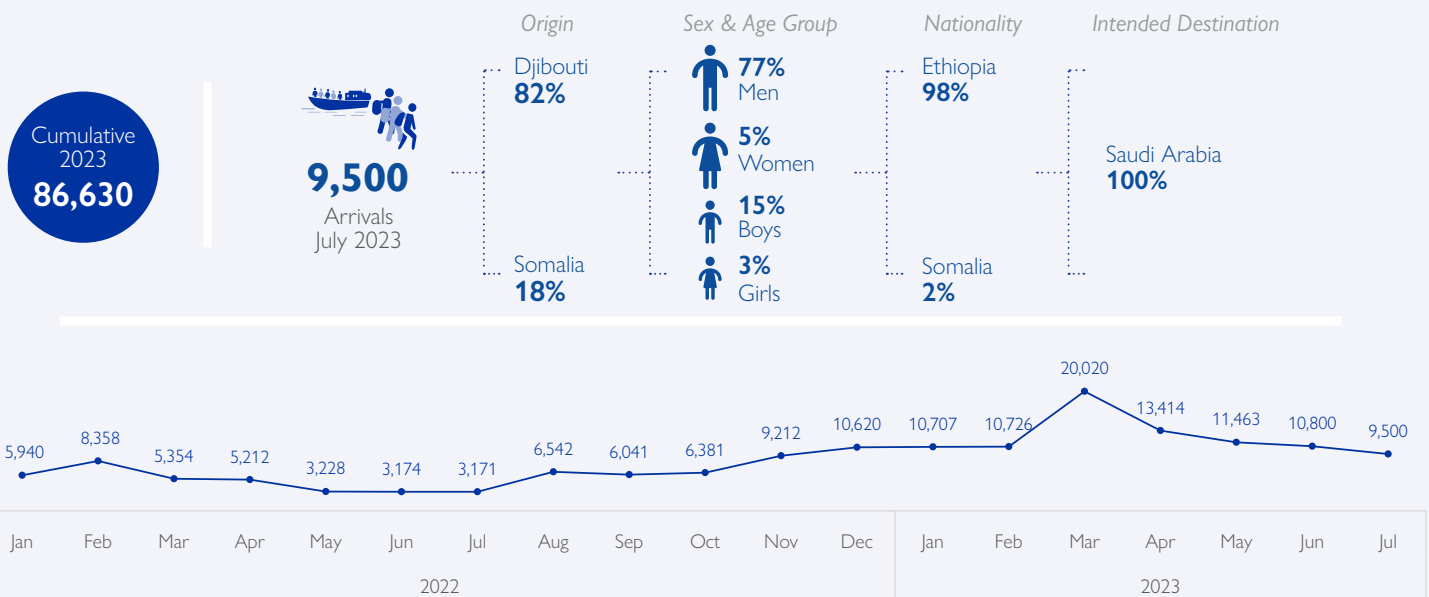
6,250 Stranded migrants July 2023

5 Dead/missing migrants July 2023

Migration Through Yemen

- Migrant arrivals in Yemen **decreased by 12%** from June due to **harsh weather conditions at sea**, which made it difficult to travel through high tides and strong winds. Arrivals at the Shabwah coast from Somalia decreased by 17%, while arrivals at the Lahj coast from Djibouti decreased by 11%.
- **Women and children** represented around a quarter of all arrivals (5% and 18%, respectively).
- Most migrants were looking for better economic opportunities (83%) while **17%** were moving due to **conflict, violence or persecution**.
- There was a significant increase (+ 85%) in the number of **Yemeni returnees from Saudi Arabia** through Al Wadea'ah land border in the last month (from 2,322 in June to 4,286 in July). This increase can be attributed to the Saudi authorities' emphasis on facilitating the travel of Pilgrimage (Al Haj) participants, resulting in the **resumption of deportation** efforts after this timeframe.
- The average **number of migrants** approaching the MRCs **requesting assistance has increased** compared to previous months in Sana'a (around 60 migrants/day) and Munabbih Hospital in Sa'dah (around 50 migrants/day). Many of them were **vulnerable and in need of assistance**. Most vulnerabilities were **medical cases, Gender Based Violence survivors, and unaccompanied minors**.
- In Sana'a, migrants approaching the MRC are coming mainly from the border and other locations, trying to find assistance and **often requesting to return home**. These migrants are generally arriving in very poor physical condition and lack basic needs.
- **Munabbih Hospital received daily between 10 to 15 injured migrants coming from the border**. Moreover, between 40 to 60 migrants visited the hospital daily to get basic services such as food and NFIs, and around 10 were looking for medical treatment. During July, **more than 100 vulnerable children were assisted** in Munabbih Hospital (82) and in the MRC in Sana'a (24).

Arrivals in Yemen from the Horn of Africa



43,000 Total stranded migrants July 2023

0 Total dead/missing migrants July 2023

Migration Through Ethiopia

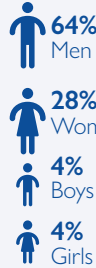
- Despite a 24% decrease between June and July, migrant entries into Ethiopia through Metema continued to be high (15,300) due to the Sudan conflict. Similarly, Kurmuk observed a significant drop (-77%) of entries into Ethiopia from Sudan in the last month.
- Although most entries into Ethiopia were of Sudanese (61%) and Ethiopian (32%) nationals, there were also 1,180 people (8%) of other 32 nationalities leaving the Sudan via Metema and Kurmuk.
- Women and children fleeing the conflict in the Sudan continue to represent around half of all movements (19% and 26% respectively), while 42% of all children were younger than five years.
- Returns from Saudi Arabia remained suspended. There is no clear indication of when returns might resume or at what rate.
- Registrations at MRCs spiked (+68%), largely by people who voluntarily returned from Yemen (Dire Dawa and Togochale), were forcibly returned by authorities (Dire Dawa and Moyale) or fled conflict in the Sudan (Metema). People sought assistance by way of dignity kits (63), onward transportation assistance (638) and psychosocial support (499). Due to limited resources, assistance for people fleeing from the Sudan was reduced, but is expected to upscale in August.

Exits out of Ethiopia

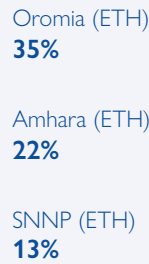
Cumulative 2023
180,120

27,071
Migrant exits from Ethiopia July 2023

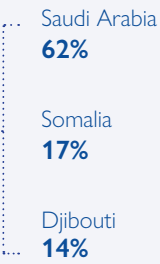
Sex & Age Group



Region of Origin



Intended Destination



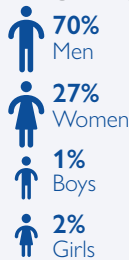
Note: Tigray (ETH) 12%



Migrants surveyed in July 2023

802
Surveyed migrants exiting Ethiopia July 2023

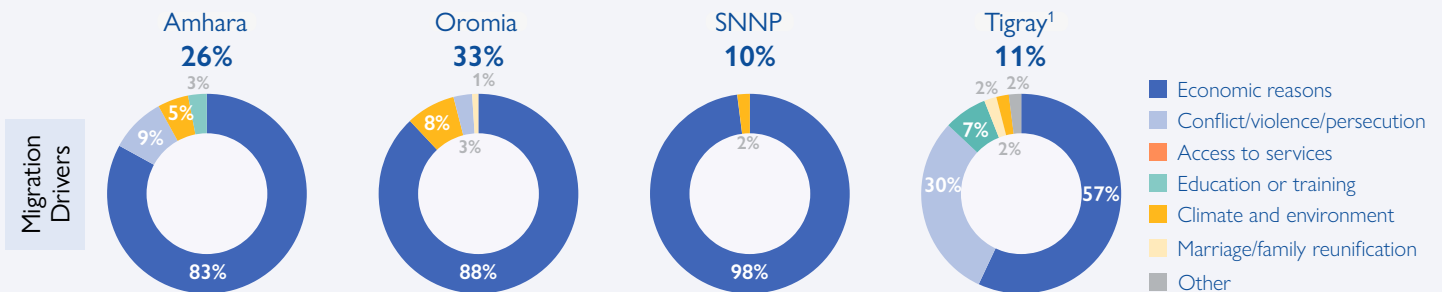
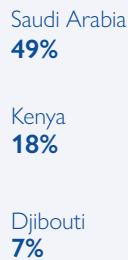
Sex & Age Group



Migration Drivers

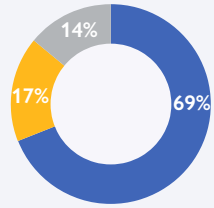
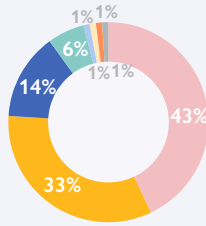
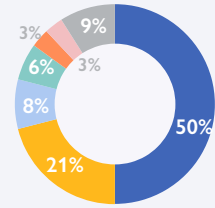
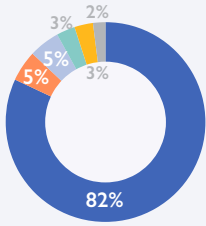


Intended Destination



¹ Only respondents surveyed from Tigray.

Intended Destination



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

Migrants Seeking Assistance

Cumulative 2023
22,458

731
MRC registrations
July 2023

MRC Location

- Dire Dawa **55%**
- Metema **13%**
- Moyale **5%**
- Togochale **27%**

Sex & Age Group

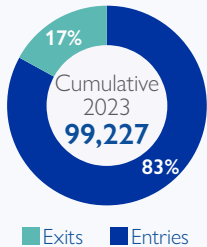
- 72%** Men
- 8%** Women
- 18%** Boys
- 2%** Girls

Hardships

- Lack of basic services **55%**
- Imprisonment/detention **24%**
- Physical/psychological abuse **17%**

Impact of the Sudan Conflict Along the Border with Ethiopia

Metema Border Point



Exits
253
Migrant exits from Ethiopia
July 2023

0
Surveyed migrants exiting Ethiopia
July 2023

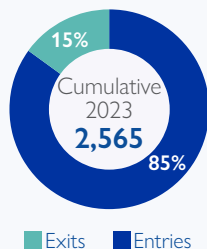
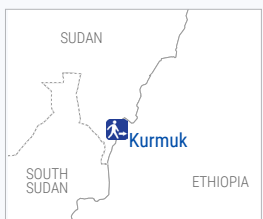
Entries
15,295
Migrant entries into Ethiopia
July 2023

1,432
Surveyed migrants entering Ethiopia
July 2023

Migration Drivers

- Conflict/violence/persecution **74%**
- Access to services **23%**
- Others **3%**

Kurmuk Border Point



Exits
7
Migrant exits from Ethiopia
July 2023

0
Surveyed migrants exiting Ethiopia
July 2023

Entries
404
Migrant entries into Ethiopia
July 2023

6
Surveyed migrants entering Ethiopia
July 2023

Migration Drivers

- Conflict/violence/persecution **100%**

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
15,333

1,741
Migrant children entries July 2023

Into Djibouti **32%**
Into Somalia **39%**
Into Yemen **29%**

62% Boys
38% Girls
27% Unaccompanied

326
Migrant children seeking assistance July 2023

In Djibouti **11%**
In Ethiopia **44%**
In Somalia **44%**

71% Boys
29% Girls

388

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

Travelling with children **38%**
Having children in the country of intended destination **9%**
Who left children behind in the country of origin **53%**

Caretakers of migrant children not travelling with the migrant parent

My spouse/partner **62%**
Grandparents or extended family **33%**
My older children (18 and over) **3%**
Other **2%**

Returns from Saudi Arabia



4,286

Returns July 2023

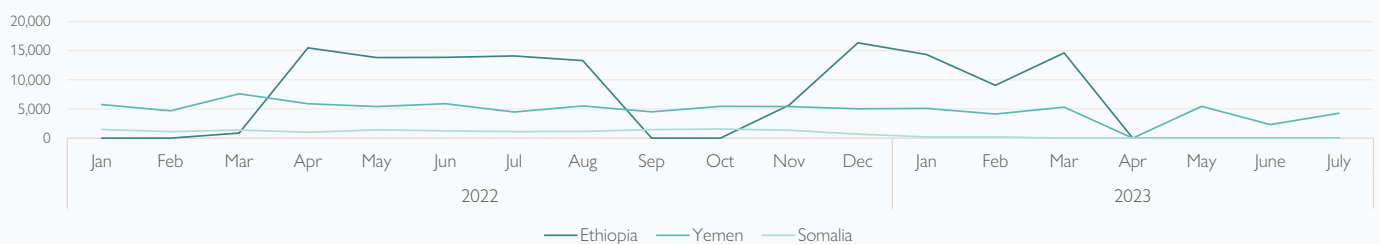
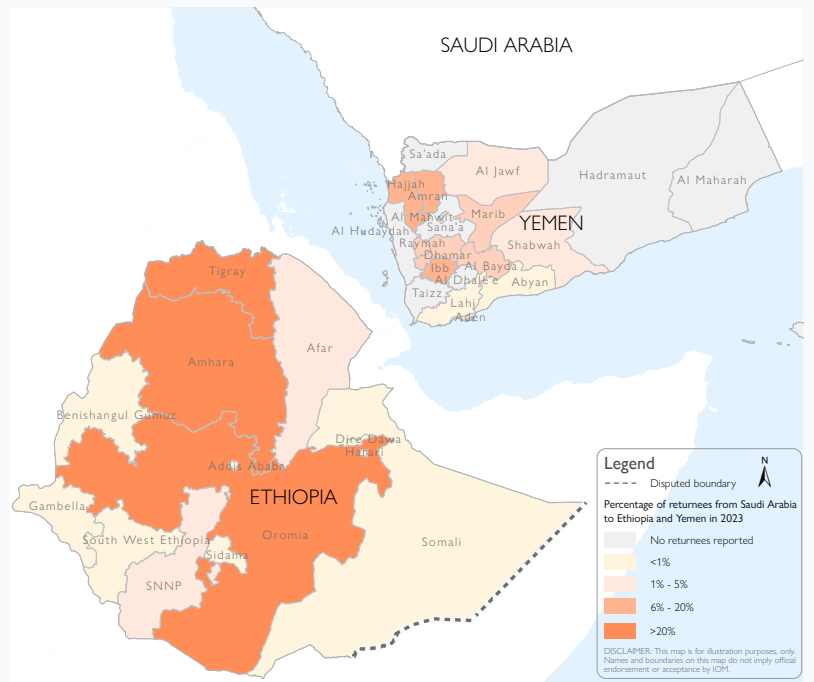
Cumulative 2023
76,903

Returns to

Ethiopia	Yemen	Somalia	Ethiopia	Yemen	Somalia
-	4,286	-	39,218	31,164	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 July 2023.

Contact

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eastandhornofafrica.iom.int/regional-data-hub